



## Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum

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### CORE COLLECTIONS ON ECONOMIC POLICY

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When Gerald Ford became President on August 9, 1974, the government's latest data showed wholesale prices "ripping through the roof" at an annualized rate of 44.4%. The *Washington Post* urged that inflation be the new President's "first and most urgent concern." This inflation had been accompanied by stagnant growth, and a new word "stagflation" had entered popular culture.

Soon, unemployment numbers showed the economy sliding into the worst recession in over a generation. Unemployment peaked at 9% in the spring of 1975. The Republican President and the Democratic Congress contended over budget deficits, taxes, stimulus spending, and deregulation. By the end of the Ford presidency, both inflation and unemployment were clearly subsiding, but the policy debates would only intensify.

Library (Ann Arbor) research room hours are 8:45 am to 4:45 pm, Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. The Library's website, [www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov](http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov), includes a rapidly growing **Digital Library** of materials scanned from our collections. The website also offers a comprehensive Guide to Collections, plus detailed inventories to all "open" collections.

Upon request, Library staff can provide detailed PRESNET database search reports locating files on specific topics. Call (734) 205-0555 or email [ford.library@nara.gov](mailto:ford.library@nara.gov).

**BURNS, ARTHUR F.: Papers, 1969-87** (239 feet) and **Journal, 1969-74** (less than one foot).

Burns was a domestic affairs adviser to President Nixon, 1969-70, and chairman of the Federal Reserve System Board of Governors, 1970-78. The Burns Papers are an exceptional resource on international and domestic monetary and banking policies. Illustrative domestic topics include banking industry innovation and regulation, money supply, Federal Reserve relations with Congress, Federal Open Market Committee meetings, and the Federal government's role as an emergency loan guarantor for corporations and municipalities. Prominent international topics include balance of payments, exchange rates, recycling of dollars earned by oil exporters, and multilateral financial assistance. *Burns' private journal is fully available on-line in our **Digital Library**.*

**COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS: Records, 1974-77** (70 feet)

The CEA under chairman Alan Greenspan and members William Fellner and Gary Seevers, succeeded by Burton Malkiel and Paul MacAvoy, played a key advisory role. The CEA provided analysis and advice on such issues as agricultural and food policy, housing construction, environmental and energy policies, strategic materials supplies, transportation policies and problems, the functioning of the labor market, proposals for health insurance and income maintenance, and improvements in Federal economic statistical measures.

**DOMESTIC COUNCIL STAFF: Files, 1974-77** (approx. 300 feet)

Assistant to the President James Cannon and his staff provided domestic policy advice and support to the President. There are approximately three dozen collections from Domestic Council staff, many of whom specialized in such issues as energy, environment, transportation, de-regulation, labor, capital formation, social security, and agriculture.

**JONES, SIDNEY L.: Papers, (1954) 1969-92 (1995)** (8 feet)

Jones held a variety of high-level economic policy positions in the White House and Cabinet departments in the Nixon, Ford, Reagan, and first Bush administrations. The collection spans his government and non-government career and includes highly substantive policy memoranda, correspondence, academic papers, speeches, and other material.

**McCRACKEN, PAUL W.: Files, 1974** (2 feet)

McCracken, a distinguished economist, served as a consultant in the early weeks of the Ford presidency, assisting with the Conference on Inflation and the President's subsequent special economic address.

**MACDONALD, DAVID R.: Papers, 1973-76** (12 feet)

Macdonald was U.S. Treasury Assistant Secretary for Enforcement, Operations, and Tariff Affairs.

**MOSKOW, MICHAEL: Papers, 1969-92** (7 feet)

The collection contains materials from economist Moskow's work in several posts during the Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and George H.W. Bush administrations. They concern such topics as collective bargaining, labor disputes, employment, economic policies, wage and price policies, and U.S. trade.

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL - ECONOMIC AFFAIRS STAFF: Files, 1975-76** (6 ft.)

Included are files of Robert Hormats and his staff on the groundbreaking Rambouillet and Puerto Rico economic summits, numerous bilateral economic relationships, and U.S. international economic policy. Extensive comparable material is found in the many other NSC and National Security Adviser subcollections that are not included in this handout.

**O'NEILL, PAUL: Papers, 1975-77** (3 feet)

O'Neill, who would become President George W. Bush's first Secretary of the Treasury, was deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget under President Ford. His outgoing memos and letters at OMB comprise this collection.

**PRESIDENT'S HANDWRITING FILE, 1974-77** (41 feet)

Documents initialed or annotated by President Ford comprise this collection, which was created by the White House Staff Secretary's Office. Energy, inflation, employment, budget, taxation, and trade issues are major topics.

**SCHMULTS, EDWARD C.: Files, 1974-77** (16 feet)

As co-chair of the Domestic Council Review Group on Regulatory Reform, Schmults was deeply involved in wide-ranging Federal deregulation efforts in the civil aviation, trucking, and telecommunications industries, among others.

**SEIDMAN, L. WILLIAM: Files, 1974-77** (128 feet)

Seidman was Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs and executive director of the Economic Policy Board, an interagency body of the most senior economic policy advisers. The meeting minutes, briefing papers, and other records of the EPB are included here, as well as much additional material. Topics range from the larger problems of trade, taxation, employment, inflation, energy, and international economic summits, to narrower matters such as product liability or the New York City fiscal crisis.

**SIMON, WILLIAM E.: Microfiche of papers, 1972-77** (ca. 4000 fiche)

Simon was U.S. Treasury Deputy Secretary, 1973-74, and Secretary, 1974-77. This extensive and substantive collection treats most of the trade, fiscal, monetary, energy, and other economic issues of the period. A thousand-page oral history interview is part of the collection and available in paper form. The John M. Olin Foundation funded this complete microfilm edition of the Simon papers at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania.

**UNITED STATES-CHINA BUSINESS COUNCIL: Records, 1973-88** (302 feet)

The USBC is an organization of businesses united to expand U.S. commercial relations with the People's Republic of China through trade fair participation, exchanges of trade delegations, publications, and advisory services. The U.S. government encouraged its formation in the wake of President Nixon's 1972 visit to China.

**WHITE HOUSE CENTRAL FILES, 1974-77** (approx. 2,000 feet)

White House staff shared this vast common filing system. In the **WHCF-Subject File**, which is arranged under an alpha-numeric scheme, material on the economy and economic policy is located under numerous topical categories. Some of the primary categories on economic matters are: BE Business-Economics, CA Civil Aviation, CM Commodities, FA Federal Aid, FG Federal Government departments and agencies, FI Finance, HS Housing, LA Labor-Management, NR Natural Resources, TA Trade, TN Transportation, and UT Utilities. Each primary category have numerous sub-categories, *e.g.* BE 2-1 Deceptive Trade Practices, FG 22 Department of Labor, or FI 11-4 Income Tax. In the **WHCF-Name File**, which is arranged alphabetically, one can search for material by name of person, corporation, or organization (exceptions include Federal Government agencies, appointed officials, and staff).

**WHITE HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE (CRO): Files, 1974-77**

Economic policy in many guises was high on the legislative agenda. There is pertinent material in the files of all CRO staff and in the files of presidential counsellor John Marsh, to whom the CRO reported.

**WHITE HOUSE RECORDS OFFICE. Enrolled bill case files, 1974-77**

Included are the final analyses and recommendations of Federal agencies and White House staff as an enrolled bill went to the President for his signature or veto.

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**AUDIOVISUAL COLLECTIONS**

The White House Communications Agency (WHCA) videotaped, off-the-air, portions of network newscasts, public affairs programs, and news specials. WHCA also created audiotapes of all of the President's public remarks, plus occasional public remarks of others. White House photographers created a rich daily record of the Ford presidency. *All contact sheets of White House photos are available on-line in our **Digital Library**.*

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