



ArchivesSpace

## Wolcott, John; Papers

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M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
<b>Title:</b>	John Wolcott Papers
<b>ID:</b>	apap294
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1954-1992
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.7 cubic ft. processed to date
<b>Physical Location:</b>	The materials are located onsite in the department.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The John Wolcott Papers document the revival of the historic Pinxter Festival in Albany, New York between 1972-1992.

### Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, John Wolcott Papers, 1954-1992. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Wolcott Papers).

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## Biographical Sketch

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John Wolcott was chairman of the Pinxter Committee of Albany, also called the People's Pinxter Festival Committee, which coordinated the annual Pinxter Festival. The festival is known as Pinxter, Pinxter Sunday or Pinkster, Dutch for Pentecost, and as Whitsuntide, the English term for Pentecost.

During the colonial period, Pinxter celebrations were held throughout eastern New York in communities of Dutch origins. Africans played a major role in organizing Pinxter, adding African music and dance to the festivities. In 1811 the Common Council of the City of Albany passed a Whitsuntide Holiday law which banned the essential elements of the festival and, as a result, the festival died out.

In 1971, Pinxter was revived in Albany and celebrated on Sundays during Tulip Fest in Washington Park with craft vendors and musicians. It was often advertised as an illegal festival. Wolcott wrote

several letters asking the 1811 law be repealed. The Whitsuntide Holiday Law was repealed in 2011, two hundred years after it was enacted.

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## Scope and Contents

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The John Wolcott Papers contain materials related to the planning and advertising of Pinxter Festivals in Albany, New York. The collection includes festival posters, fliers, photographs, news clippings, hand written notes, correspondence and programs of similar festivals, including a early souvenir Tulip Fest envelope. Craft vendors were a major part of the festivities and the contact information for many of them is included. Information about historic Pinxter festivals, Albany's relevant laws and policies, and a small collection of colonial Dutch recipes were used in the planning process.

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## Arrangement of the Collection

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The collection is organized chronologically. There are no series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

### Revision Description

Encoded in EAD by Kathleen Broeder 2012

### Processing Information

Processed in 2012 by Kathleen Broeder.

## Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

## Copyright

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming with the laws of copyright. Whenever possible, the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives will provide information about copyright owners and other restrictions, but the legal determination ultimately rests with the researcher. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the Head of Special Collections and Archives.

## Acquisition Information

John Wolcott donated his materials in 2007 to the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives. In 2013 Wolcott donated an additional 26 cubic feet of materials which will be processed at a later date.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Neighborhood and Community Associations
- Albany, New York
- Folk festivals New York (State)
- Pentecost Festival
- Albany (N.Y.)
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Correspondence
- Fliers (printed matter)
- Posters
- Black-and-white photographs
- Programs (documents)
- Newspapers
- Wolcott, John R.

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances
Tulip Fest, 1954	

	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 1
Pinxter Fest, 1972	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 2
<i>KITE</i> News Clippings, 1972-1980	Oversized 1	Folder 1
Pinxter Fest, 1973	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 3
Pinxter Fest, 1976	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 4
Pinxter Fest Posters, 1976-1982Undated	Oversized 1	Folder 2
Niskayuna Folk Festival, 1977	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 5
Northeast Craft Fair, 1977	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 6
Pinxter Fest, 1977	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 7
Pinxter Fest, 1978	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 8
Pinxter Fest, 1979	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 9
<i>The Entertainer</i> News Clippings, 1979-1980	Oversized 1	Folder 3
Pinxter Fest, 1980	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 10
Pinxter Fest, 1981	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 11
Pinxter Fest, 1982	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 12
Pinxter Fest, 1983	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 13
Pinxter Fest, 1984		

	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 14
Pinxter Fest, 1985	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 15
Pinxter Fest, 1992	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 16
Albany City Special Event Policy Statement, Undated	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 17
Craft Vendor Business Cards and Flyers, Undated	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 18
Craft Vendor Notebook, Undated	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 19
Loose Leaf Notes, Undated	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 20
Pinxter Fest, Undated	Box 1 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 21
Pinxter Fest Photographs, Undated	Box 2 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 1
Planning Notebook, Undated	Box 2 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 2-3
Recipes, Undated	Box 2 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 4
Research Materials, Undated	Box 2 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 5
Treasures from Eleanor Skelton Cash, Poetry, Undated	Box 2 (John Wolcott Papers )	Folder 6