



ArchivesSpace

# **North Country James Bay Group Records; Records**

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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>	North Country James Bay Group Records
<b>ID:</b>	apap327
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1966-1998
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.2 cubic ft.
<b>Physical Location:</b>	The materials are located onsite in the department.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English , French .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The North Country James Bay Group records document efforts of this upstate New York environmental organization to stop Hydro-Quebec's Great Whale (Grande Baleine) River/James Bay II development efforts in the early 1990s.

### Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, North Country James Bay Group Records, 1966-1998. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the North Country James Bay Group Records).

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## Biographical Sketch

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The James Bay hydroelectric project was an extensive build-up of hydroelectric power plants in the James Bay area and other nearby areas of Canada by Hydro-Quebec. This multi-phase project began in 1972 with the construction of the first phase, the LaGrande complex. Nearly two decades later, plans for the multi-billion dollar James Bay II or Great Whale (Grande Baleine) River hydroelectric project called for the construction of dams, dikes, and reservoirs, the flooding of wilderness, removal of forest land, and the diversion of rivers. Similar action occurred with James Bay I. In light of environmental effects of the previous project and its negative impact upon the traditional lifestyle of the Cree people, the plans for James Bay II caused concern among native peoples of the area, scientists and environmental groups

around the world. Plans were eventually stopped in the early 1990s after New York State withdrew from a billion dollar hydroelectric purchase agreement with Hydro-Quebec in 1992 citing changed economic conditions, the Canadian government required Hydro-Quebec to revise its environmental study prepared for James Bay II and the then Premier of Quebec, Jacques Parizeau, announced in 1994 that the project was being put on hold indefinitely.

The North Country James Bay Group was a New York-based grassroots organization dedicated to halting the development of the Great Whale River Project over concerns of a potential impact upon the environment, the rights of indigenous peoples living in the area and the argument that New York State did not need to purchase power from Hydro-Quebec to meet its energy needs. North Country James Bay Group member Margaret Weitzmann, the principal donor of this collection, was a librarian and is now Faculty Emeriti for the State University of New York Potsdam campus. On behalf of the North Country James Bay Group, she spoke at public hearings, wrote articles and letters to the editor, attended and chaired conferences and participated in demonstrations against James Bay II.

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## Scope and Contents

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The North Country James Bay Group Records document efforts of this upstate New York environmental organization to stop Hydro-Quebec's Great Whale (Grande Baleine) River/James Bay II development efforts in the early 1990s. This collection, donated by group members Margaret Weitzmann and Lucia Dailey, includes press releases, manuscripts and writings, fliers for rallies and events, conference materials, U.S. and Canadian newspaper clippings, statements made at public hearings, correspondence and subject files.

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## Arrangement of the Collection

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The collection is organized alphabetically. 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

Jodi Boyle added new files from 2012 accession. Encoded in EAD by James Weis 2012 December 28 2012

### Processing Information

Processed in 2012 by James Weis.

### 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

Margaret Weitzmann and Lucia Dailey donated materials in 2011 and 2012 to the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives.

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## Related Materials

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### Separated Materials

Archivists transferred several multi-volume reports, including the *Great Whale Environmental Assessment* and Hydro-Quebec's *Grande Baleine Complex Feasibility Study* to Cataloging for

inclusion in the University Library's catalog. They now reside in the book division of Special Collections.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Social Activists and Public Advocates
- Native Americans
- Conservation and the Environment
- Conservation of natural resources--Canada
- Cree Indians--James Bay Region--Social life and customs
- Water-power--United States
- Aquatic resources conservation--Canada
- Wildlife conservation--Canada
- James Bay (Nunavut)
- New York (State)
- James Bay Region--Environmental conditions.
- Upstate New York (N.Y.)
- Speeches
- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Official reports
- Fliers (printed matter)
- Press Releases
- North Country James Bay Group
- Hydro-Quebec
- Power Authority of the State of New York
- James Bay Hydroelectric Project

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances	
Background Information on the Conformity and Quality Review of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Great Whale Project, Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 1
Communications and Outreach, 1989-19941997-1998Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay	Folder 2

	Group Records )	
Conference, Albany 1994, 1993-1994Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 3
Conference, Cornell 1991, 1991	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 4
Conferenece, Montreal 1997, 1997Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 5
Correspondence from NYPA to Luke Dailey, 1991-1992	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 6
Correspondence, M. Weitzmann, 1989-19941997-1998Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 7
Current Issues: James Bay, Hydro-Quebec and the Relationship with New York State, 1991	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 8
Draft Guidelines for the Environmental Impact Study of the Great Whale Hydroelectric Project, 1992	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 9
<i>Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Great Whale Hydroelectric Project, 1992</i>	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 10-11
Fliers and Pamphlets, 1990-19921997Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 12
Hydro-Quebec Publications, 1989-19911993	Box 1 (North Country	Folder 13-14

	James Bay Group Records )	
Journal Articles, 1974-1986-1990-1992	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 15
League of Women Voters, 1990-1992 Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 16
<i>Les Lignes a 735KV Baie James</i> , 1977	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 17
New York State Reports and Environmental Review, 1992	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 18-19
Newspaper and Magazine Articles, 1979-1982-1985-1986-1988-1994 Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 20-21
Newspaper, Full Text, 1988-1991-1992 Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 22
Newspaper Items, Quebec/ James Bay, 1990-1994	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 23-26
Press Releases, 1989-1994	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 27
P.R.O.T.E.C.T, 1993-1994	Box 1 (North Country James Bay	Folder 28



	Group Records )	
Public Hearings, Testimony, and Supplemental Materials, 1990-1995Undated	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 29-30
Published Articles by Margaret Weitzmann, 1990-1991	Box 1 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 31
Statement of Concerns and Recommendations for Protection and Enhancement Measures, 1975	Box 2 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 1
<i>Surface Water Data, Ungava Bay Drainage (1954-1963)</i> , 1966	Box 2 (North Country James Bay Group Records )	Folder 2