



**ArchivesSpace**  
a community served by ✦ LYRASIS

## **Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. records ARL.011**

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on June 28, 2019.  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Adirondack Research Library

897 St. David's Lane  
Niskayuna, NY 12309

[arl@union.edu](mailto:arl@union.edu)

URL: <https://www.union.edu/adirondack-research-library>

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Historical Note .....	3
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Administrative Information .....	4
Related Materials .....	5
Controlled Access Headings .....	5
Collection Inventory .....	6
Business Records .....	6
Correspondence .....	7
Financial Records .....	7
Audio Visual Materials .....	8

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	Adirondack Research Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association
<b>Source:</b>	Schaefer, Paul
<b>Title:</b>	Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. records
<b>ID:</b>	ARL.011
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1964-1991
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 Boxes
<b>Physical Description:</b>	9 Reels
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2.75 Cubic Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The records of Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. measure 2.75 cubic feet and date from 1964-1991. The collection includes correspondence, finances, audio-visual materials, and other records of the Association relating to its production of films about the Adirondacks.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Historical Note

---

The Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. evolved in 1974 from the Adirondack Hudson River Association, the group that led the state-wide battle to ban the Gooley Dam from being built on the upper Hudson River. Realizing the need to inform the public as to the value of New York State's wild lands, forests, and waters, the Association was incorporated in 1976 to produce educational materials about the Adirondacks with Paul Schaefer as its Executive Director. Schaefer had successfully used visual images to help educate people about the natural environment and issues endangering the Adirondacks in earlier conservation campaigns. The Association was a small, non-profit organization of volunteers. It produced 16mm motion picture films which were later transferred to various broadcast and home-video formats. After the success of their film, *The Adirondack: The Land Nobody Knows*, the Association began to set-up slide presentations and other forms of outreach. Senior members of the Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. included Walter O. Haas, Thomas L. Cobb, Richard E. Weber, Jr., Ann Wait, Noel Reidinger-Johnson, Edwin J. Niedhammer, Jr., M. Lee Hunt, and Kay Steven. The organization was

dissolved on May 14, 1991 and all property and rights transferred to the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Scope and Contents

---

The records of the Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. consist of business records, correspondence, financial records, and film prints from the 1970s to the early 1990s. As a non-profit film production company, much energy was spent on financing projects and then promoting them accordingly. Business records include founding documents, budgets, outlines, scripts, and marketing materials. Correspondence includes routine communications regarding screenings, funding, and promotion. Financial records contain invoices, receipts, statements, and other materials showing the ongoing struggle of financing projects. Films include original 16 mm prints of documentaries distributed and produced by Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. including *The Adirondack: The Land Nobody Knows* (1980).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

---

The collection is arranged as four series. Materials are arranged alphabetically with the exception of correspondence which is chronological.

Series I. Business Records, 1972-1991

Series II. Correspondence, 1973-1987

Series III. Financial Records, 1964-1991

Series IV. Audio Visual Materials, 1976-1980

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

Adirondack Research Library

897 St. David's Lane  
Niskayuna, NY 12309  
[arl@union.edu](mailto:arl@union.edu)  
URL: <https://www.union.edu/adirondack-research-library>

## Conditions Governing Access

Open for research.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

On April 22, 2011, Protect the Adirondacks! placed the collection on permanent loan with Union College.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Related Materials

---

### Related Materials

The Adirondack Research Library also holds a collection of audio-visual materials produced by the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks containing documentary films and events.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Controlled Access Headings

---

- Documentary films--New York (State)--Adirondack Park Adirondack Park (N.Y.)
- Nature conservation -- New York (State) -- Adirondack Forest Preserve
- Adirondack Forest Preserve (N.Y.)
- Adirondacks (N.Y.)
- Independent films
- Schaefer, Paul

## Collection Inventory

### Business Records, 1972-1991

Physical Description: 0.37 Cubic Feet

#### Scope and Contents

The series contains association records including budgets, scripts, proposals, promotional and marketing materials, founding documents, meeting minutes and other materials documenting Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga's efforts to produce films. Materials are arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Abandoned Script, 1974	box 1	folder 1
"The Adirondack, The Land Nobody Knows" Film Budget, 1976	box 1	folder 2
"The Adirondack, The Land Nobody Knows" Film Outline and Production Notes, 1974-1976	box 1	folder 3
"The Adirondack, The Land Nobody Knows" Film Proposal, 1973-1974	box 1	folder 4
"The Adirondack, The Land Nobody Knows" Promotional Pamphlets , 1979-1980	box 1	folder 5
"The Adirondack, The People's Land" Film Treatment, 1982	box 1	folder 6
Animated Arts Contract, undated	box 1	folder 7
Background Information, 1986	box 1	folder 8
Certificates of Incorporation and Amendment, 1976	box 1	folder 9
Constitution and By-Laws, 1976-1982	box 1	folder 10
Film Screening Guest Book, 1980	box 1	folder 11
Marketing Proposal For Dunham Luttman O'Brien, Inc., 1983	box 1	folder 12
Meeting Minutes, 1982-1983	box 1	folder 13
Miscellaneous, 1977-1987	box 1	folder 14
"Of Rivers and Men" Film, 1973-1982	box 1	folder 15
Photographs, undated	box 1	folder 16
Position Platform for "The Adirondack, The People's Land", 1982	box 1	folder 17
Promotion and Marketing, 1972-1984	box 1	folder 18
Resolutions, 1987-1991	box 1	folder 19
Shooting Scripts, 1987	box 1	folder 20
Stationery, undated	box 1	folder 21

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Correspondence, 1973-1987

Physical Description: 0.37 Cubic Feet

### Scope and Contents

Correspondence of a professional nature between members of the Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. and various State agencies, educational services, museums, libraries, research foundations, organizations, schools and private individuals. Common themes include funding, distribution, sales, promotion, and requests for screenings. Correspondents include Arthur Crocker, Paul Schaefer, John Conde, Harold Jerry, Robert Flacke, Craig Gilborn, Harold Hochschild, Thomas Cobb and William Hennessy. Materials are arranged chronologically. Correspondence is missing for the years 1978-1979.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, 1973-1987	box 2	folder 1-9

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Financial Records, 1964-1991

Physical Description: 0.76 Cubic Feet

### Scope and Contents

Financial records of both the Adirondack Hudson River Association and Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. The records demonstrate the complexity and cost of running a film production company. Funding came from public support and revenue from sales and rentals. Expenses included supplies, equipment, professional services, advertising, and travel. The series includes financial statements, expense forms, invoices, receipts, bank statements, tax information, and other miscellaneous records. Materials are arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Adirondack Hudson River Association, 1964-1976	box 3	folder 1
Film Expenses, 1982-1985	box 3	folder 2
Finances, 1977-1991	box 3	folder 3-8
	box 4	folder 1-9
Jeep Papers, 1977-1979	box 4	folder 10
New York State Tax Exemption Certificates, undated	box 4	folder 11
Miscellaneous, 1978-1986	box 4	folder 12
Taxes, 1987-1991	box 4	folder 13

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Audio Visual Materials, 1976-1980

Physical Description: 1.25 Cubic Feet

### Scope and Contents

16 mm film reels of raw footage and documentaries produced by Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga Association, Inc. Also includes a single U-matic S tape for promotional use. Arranged alphabetically by title.

Title/Description	Instances	
"Adirondack Boundary Tourway", undated <u>Material Specific Details</u> : U-Matic S	box 5	Item 1
"Adirondacks C-Roll", undated <u>Material Specific Details</u> : 16 mm film	box 5	reel 1
"Adirondack Notch", undated <u>Material Specific Details</u> : 16 mm film	box 5	reel 2
"The Adirondack, The Land Nobody Knows", 1980 <u>Material Specific Details</u> : 16 mm film	box 5	reel 3-6
"Couch-Sa-Chra-Ga", undated <u>Material Specific Details</u> : 16 mm film	box 5	reel 7-9
Soundtrack, undated <u>Material Specific Details</u> : 1/4 inch audio reel	box 5	Item 2

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)