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Caverly (Irvin C.) Papers, 1917-2023

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Caverly (Irvin C.) Papers

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

University of Maine

Orono, ME 04469-5729

Business Number: 207-581-1686

URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections
Creator:	Caverly, Buzz, 1939-
Title:	Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Papers
ID:	SpC MS 1827
Date [inclusive]:	20th century
Physical Description:	1 linear foot (1 box)
Physical Description:	1 folio folder (1 oversize folder)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Included are the personal correspondence and papers of former Governor Percival P. Baxter (born 1876 - died 1969) and former director of Baxter State Park Irvin "Buzz" Caverly, Jr. regarding Baxter State Park.

Preferred Citation

Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Papers, SpC MS 1827, [Box No.], [Folder No.], Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

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Biographical Note

Irvin "Buzz" Caverly, Jr. began working at Baxter State Park in 1960 as Park Ranger I immediately after graduating from Lee Academy in Lee, Maine. A year later he met Janice Thompson at Cold Stream Pond in Enfield, Maine, and they married in 1963. Jan was Caverly's partner in more ways than one, becoming instrumental in preserving the park and managing its office. In 1982, 22 years after first being hired as a ranger, Caverly was selected to be the Baxter State Park Director, a position he would remain in until his retirement in 2005. Upon hearing of Caverly's plan to retire, Governor John Baldacci declared October 30 as "Buzz Caverly Day" in Maine and presided over a celebratory dinner at the University of Maine at Orono. The Baxter State Park Authority renamed two sections of the park after Caverly

as well in honor of his commitment to preserving Baxter's vision. In June of 2006, Caverly accepted the position of honorary co-chair of the Katahdin Lake Campaign with Governor Baldacci. In this position, he successfully lobbied in support of LD 2015, which allowed for the incorporation of Katahdin Lake and surrounding areas into Baxter State Park. Caverly remained active with the park, accepting an appointment from Governor Baldacci in 2007 to serve as the Baxter Park Wilderness Trust Fund Commissioner. His term expires in August of 2023.

(Austin, Phyllis. *Wilderness Partners: Buzz Caverly and Baxter State Park*. Maine: Tilbury House Publishers, 2008.) ("Janice T. Caverly." *Bangor Daily News*. August 16, 2016. Accessed June 26, 2023. <https://obituaries.bangordailynews.com/obituary/janice-caverly-822408571>.) ("What We Do." *Baxter Park Wilderness Fund Trust*. Accessed June 23, 2023. <https://www.baxterparkwildernessfundtrust.org/what-we-do>.)

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Historical Note

Governor Percival P. Baxter served as the Governor of Maine from 1921-1924. Baxter was known for his strong love of the outdoors, and spent much of his sizable fortune on preservation of the Maine wilderness. These purchases culminated into what would become known as Baxter State Park, which Baxter donated to the state of Maine in 1931. Baxter continued to add land to the park until the early 1960s, with the goal of expanding the park to over 200,000 acres. By the time he passed away in 1969, Baxter State Park covered 201,018 acres, spelling out the success of Baxter's preservation work. Three figures were given authority by Governor Baxter to maintain the park: the Commissioner of Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Director of Maine State Forest Services, and the Maine Attorney General. In the deeds, Baxter held the state to maintaining the natural, wild state of the park and to preserving it as a wildlife sanctuary. Hunting and trapping was explicitly prohibited, except in small sections that Baxter added in the mid-fifties through the early sixties. Baxter gave authority to restore, protect, and clean the park in order to promote forest growth in the event of some natural disaster, but otherwise insisted that the park must be kept wild. Currently, 75% of the park serves as a wildlife sanctuary, with 25% of it allowing hunting and trapping. Within that 25% lies 3,569 acres donated by Baxter to become the Scientific Forestry Management Area. The former governor felt that it was important for the state to use this land to study reforestation, production, and forest control. The Baxter State Park Authority, composed of 15 citizens, assists with the affairs of the park and protects Governor Baxter's wishes outlined in the deeds. In 2006, the Authority teamed up with the Trust for Public Land, a non-profit based in Portland, Maine, and began the Katahdin Lake Campaign. Katahdin Lake was once described by Baxter as "one of the most beautiful of all Maine lakes." He had tried to incorporate the lake into the park, but without success. The 717-acre lake, along with another 3,323 acres surrounding it, would complete Baxter's vision for the park. In December of 2006, LD 2015, which would allow for the state to purchase the land, passed with the required 2/3rds majority in the Maine State Congress. With the addition of the Katahdin Lake purchase, Baxter State

Park currently covers 209,644 acres. This makes it one of the largest contiguous blocks of preserved wilderness in New England.

(Austin, Phyllis. *Wilderness Partners: Buzz Caverly and Baxter State Park*. Maine: Tilbury House Publishers, 2008.) ("Baxter State Park: Scientific Forest Management Area." Baxter State Park. October 5, 1998. <https://baxterstatepark.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/SFMA-Forest-Management-Plan-1998.pdf>.) ("Focus Areas of Statewide Ecological Significance: Baxter Region." *Beginning with Habitat*. March 21, 2013. https://www1.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/focusarea/baxter_region_focus_area.pdf.) ("History." Baxter State Park. Last modified October 12, 2017. <https://baxterstatepark.org/shortcodes/history/>.) ("Katahdin Lake." Trust for Public Land. Last modified April 17, 2023. <https://www.tpl.org/our-work/katahdin-lake>.)

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Scope and Contents

Collection, (1917-2023) includes papers, personal correspondence, and publications regarding former Governor Percival P. Baxter (born 1876-died 1969) and Baxter State Park. Also included are the office papers, ranger logs, monthly planners, and personal correspondences of Irvin "Buzz" Caverly, Jr., who worked in Baxter State Park for 46 years. Among the office papers are publications, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and legislative documents on the Katahdin Lake Campaign of 2006, in which Caverly played a major role as honorary co-chair of the project. There is also personal correspondence between Caverly and Frank Trautmann, the donor behind the Baxter Park Wilderness Trust Fund and papers regarding the Trust's creation in 2007.

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Arrangement

The collection came with a loose organization imposed by the creator, and donor, Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. This organization was maintained and expanded by the cataloger. Duplicates and extraneous material were removed. The collection was moved into archival folders with minimal preservation.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

Kept at Fogler Library's offsite storage facility. One week's notice required for retrieval.

Use Restrictions

Rights assessment remains the responsibility of the researcher. No known restrictions.

Processing Information

Photocopies of excerpts from the texts listed below were removed as they are available in the Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department at the University of Maine:

- "Routes to Ktaadn," Charles E. Hamlin, 1881.
- "The dedication of the memorial erected on Baxter Boulevard, Portland, Maine: in honor of James Phinney Baxter 1831-1921," 1925.
- "The Keep Path and Its Successors: The History of Katahdin from the East and North," Myron H. Avery, 1928.
- "James Phinney Baxter," Percival P. Baxter, 1924.
- "Legacy of a Lifetime: The Story of Baxter State Park," John W. Hakola, 1981.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Baxter State Park (Me.)
- Environmental policy -- Maine
- Environmental protection -- Maine
- Wildlife management -- Maine
- Maine -- Politics and government -- 20th century
- Maine -- Politics and government
- Outdoor recreation -- Maine
- Political campaigns -- Maine
- Park rangers -- Maine -- Baxter State Park
- Surveying -- Maine
- Logbooks -- Maine
- Office files
- Governors -- Correspondence -- Maine
- Letters (Correspondence)
- Clippings
- Financial records
- Outdoor life -- Maine -- Photographs
- Forests and forestry -- History -- Maine
- Baxter, Percival Proctor, 1876-1969
- Baxter Park Wilderness Fund Trust
- Trautmann, Frank
- Katahdin Lake Campaign

Collection Inventory

Series I : Governor Percival P. Baxter Material, 1917-1968

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Governor Percival P. Baxter Personal Correspondences, 1939-1968	Box 1	Folder 1
Publications Related to Governor Percival P. Baxter (folder 1 of 2), 1917-1923	Box 1	Folder 2
Publications Related to Governor Percival P. Baxter (folder 2 of 2), undated	Box 1	Folder 3

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Series II : Baxter State Park Material, 1952-2015

Title/Description	Instances	
Miscellaneous Photographs of Baxter State Park figures, undated	Box 1	Folder 4
Baxter State Park Papers, 1966-2001, 2007-2015	Box 1	Folder 5
Baxter State Park Clippings, 1952-1998	Box 1	Folder 6
122nd Maine State Legislature Publications on LD 2015, 2006	Box 1	Folder 7
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Publications Regarding Legislative Documents, 2006-2023	Box 1	Folder 8

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Series III : Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Papers, 1960-2018

Title/Description	Instances	
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences (folder 1 of 4), 1960-1997	Box 1	Folder 9
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences (folder 2 of 4), 2000-2005	Box 1	Folder 10
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences (folder 3 of 4), 2006-2015	Box 1	Folder 11
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences (folder 4 of 4), undated	Box 1	Folder 12
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Records , 2001-2018	Box 1	Folder 13
Maine Hiking Resources, 1988-2000	Box 1	Folder 14
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr Park Ranger Logs, 1969-1970	Box 1	Folder 15
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Monthly Planners (folder 1 of 2), 1988-1993	Box 1	Folder 16
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Monthly Planners (folder 2 of 2), 1994-2004	Box 1	Folder 17

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Series IV : Katahdin Lake Campaign Material, 2004-2008

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Katahdin Lake Campaign Publications, 2006	Box 1	Folder 18

Katahdin Lake Campaign Financials and Cabinet Records, 2006	Box 1	Folder 19
Katahdin Lake Campaign Clippings, 2006-2008	Box 1	Folder 20
Katahdin Lake Surveying Records, 2004-2007	Box 1	Folder 21
Katahdin Lake Deed, 2006	Box 1	Folder 22
Katahdin Lake Campaign and Baxter State Park Stationary , undated	Box 1	Folder 23
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences regarding the Katahdin Lake Campaign , 2003-2006	Box 1	Folder 24
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences regarding the Katahdin Lake Campaign Ad, 2006	Box 1	Folder 25
Irvin C. Caverly, Jr. Personal Correspondences regarding Katahdin Lake Field Trips, 2006	Box 1	Folder 26

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Series V : Miscellaneous, 2006-2011

Title/Description	Instances	
Presentation by Buzz Caverly at the AMC Search and Rescue Meeting, Pinkham Notch, NH, March 5, 2006	Box 1	item 1
Speech to the Baxter State Park Authority, Buzz Caverly , January 1, 2011	Box 1	item 2

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Series VII : Oversize Material

Title/Description	Instances	
Map of Mt. Katahdin State Park, January 20, 1921	Folder Oversize Folder	Item 1
Maine Katahdin Quadrangle, United State Department of the Interior Geological Survey, 1950	Folder Oversize Folder	item 2
DeLORME map of ITS Sled Trails into and within Baxter State Park, 2004	Folder Oversize Folder	item 3
Map of the Katahdin Lake Acquisition, Maine Department of Conservation, December 2005		

Caverly (Irvin C.) Papers

	Folder Oversize Folder	item 4
Map of Wyman Township Ownership, Maine Department of Conservation Bureau of Parks and Lands, January 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 5
Map of the Katahdin Lake Acquisition, Maine Department of Conservation , January 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 6
Map of Wyman Township Ownership, Maine Department of Conservation Bureau of Parks and Lands, March 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 7
Map of the Katahdin Lake Acquisition, Maine Department of Conservation, October 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 8
GMO Lands Purchased by Gardner: Katahdin Lake Project, March 6, 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 9
Maine's Wildlife Management Districts , May 2006	Folder Oversize Folder	item 10
Land Retained By GLC, undated	Folder Oversize Folder	item 11
Map of the Proposed Lease Site for Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camps, undated	Folder Oversize Folder	item 12
Maps of the Scientific Forest Management Area , undated	Folder Oversize Folder	item 13
Maps of Various Trails Surrounding Katahdin Lake, undated	Folder Oversize Folder	item 14

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