



## **Inventory to the Local and State Government Papers of Robert A. Roe**

**By Jack J. Kabrel – Edited by Robert Wolk**

**September 2008**

**Special Collections and University Archives at the  
David and Lorraine Cheng Library,  
William Paterson University**

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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Roe, Robert A. (b1924).  
**Title:** Local and State Government Papers of Robert A. Roe.  
**Dates:** 1958-1970.  
**Quantity:** 45 cubic feet (includes 21 cf. documents/photographs; 6 cf. tapes, reels, and plaques; 18 cf. books).  
**Abstract:** Papers reflecting Robert A. Roe's career in local and state government. Included within the papers are speeches, news releases, engagements, state contracts and photographs. Also included are tapes, reels and plaques that primarily reflect Roe's years as N.J. Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development.  
**Collection No.:**  
**Language:** English.  
**Repository:** William Paterson University

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## Biographical Chronology

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
1924	Born February 28 in Wayne New Jersey.
1940's	Educated at Oregon State University and Washington State University, majoring in engineering and political science.
1942	Served with Army Infantry communications and reconnaissance forces in the European Theatre. He received the Bronze Star Medal for exemplary service in ground combat action during World War II.
1955	Served as Committeeman of Wayne Township.
1956	Elected Mayor of Wayne Township, serving until 1961.
1959	Served as Passaic County Freeholder until 1963 and as the Freeholder Director in 1962 and 1963.
1963	Appointed as the Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development, Cabinet Officer position, until his resignation in 1969.
1969	After the resignation of Congressman Charles S. Joelson, Robert A. Roe was elected as Democrat to the U.S. House of Representatives in a special election to represent the Eighth Congressional District of New Jersey.
1977	Made an unsuccessful bid for the Democratic nomination for Governor.
1987	Served as Chairman of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology until 1991.
1991	Served as Chairman of the Committee on Public Works and Transportation until 1993.
1993	Retired from the House of Representatives after serving 24 years.

Following his career in government, Robert A. Roe presently works as a consultant in Wayne Township.

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## Scope and Content Note

The Local and State Government papers of Robert A. Roe, comprise over 20 cubic feet of documents and photographs; 8 cubic feet of plaques, posters and three dimensional objects; 6 cubic feet of video tapes and reel to reel tapes; and 32 scrapbooks (mainly oversized). The documents span the early political career of Roe from his days as a committeeman in Wayne Township to his Congressional

nomination and appointment by Governor Hughes in 1969. The papers specifically document his work as MAYOR OF WAYNE and SPEECHES AS COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT in addition to numerous case files, engagements, news releases and position papers as head of the CED. The bulk of the documents in the Roe collection are his work as head of the CED. File folders consisting of GREEN ACRES, SKYLANDS, SHEPHERDS LAKE, VERNON VALLEY/GREAT GORGE and LIBERTY PARK document specific facets of Roe's work for the CED.

The collection of photographs range from Robert Roe's early career in the 1960's as Passaic County Freeholder to his last year as Congressman in 1992. Most of the photographs are professional 8x10 black and white. They chronicle the important events in the career of Robert Roe, for example: NASA COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE, NEW JERSEY GOVERNORS CONFERENCE ON BEAUTY in 1966, The 1966 INTERNATIONAL NEW JERSEY TRADE MISSION, RAR RUN FOR GOVERNOR and FAMOUS PEOPLE.

Roe's numerous plaques were removed from their backings, placed in a folder labeled PLAQUES, and are now contained in Photographs Box 1, folder 1. The remaining plaques were either discarded as irrelevant, or have been stored in boxes. The posters are various pieces of artwork, oversized photographs or campaign materials relating to the 40 year career of Robert Roe. The three dimensional objects consist of trophies and career related materials that include clocks, stamps, and pens.

The video tapes and reel to reel tapes chronicle speeches and specific events during the decade of the 1960's.

RAR's 32 scrapbooks are organized by calendar year(s). These books are a compilation of news articles clipped from both local and national papers.

### **Arrangement Note**

The arrangement of the Robert A. Roe collection was primarily established through the Congressman's office. With a few exceptions, the box and folder listings are exactly as written and organized by the Congressman's staff. The photographs all have been labeled according to content; there were no folder headings in the original boxes.

### **Selected Bibliography:**

## Container List

### Photographs

Box	Folder
1	1 Plaques
	2 New Jersey Governors Conference on Beauty, 1966
	3 Building of the Roe Federal Building, 10/1989-2/1990
	4 Various photographs, 1970's a
	5 Various photographs, 1970's b
	6 Various photographs, 1970's c
2	1 Famous People
	2 Presidential photographs
	3 Various photographs, 1967-1968
	4 International New Jersey Trade Mission, 1966
	5 Various photographs, 1960's a
	6 Various photographs, 1960's b
	7 Various photographs, 1960's c
	8 Various photographs, 1960's d
	9 Various photographs, 1960's e
	10 Office of the Commissioner, NJ Department of Conservation and Economic Development, 1969
	11 Office of the Commissioner, NJ Department of Conservation and Economic Development, 1967
	12 Office of the Commissioner, NJ Department of Conservation and Economic Development, 1960's
3	1 Congressman Roe's run for Governor
	2 Various photographs, 1970-1992a
	3 Various photographs, 1970-1992b
	4 Various photographs, 1970-1992c
	5 Various photographs, 1970-1992d
	6 Various photographs, 1970-1992e
	7 Various photographs, 1970-1992f
	8 Various photographs, 1970-1992g
	9 Congressman Roe's run for Governor, 1977 8x10 color
	10 NASA photographs
	11 NASA Columbia Shuttle

- 12 Congressman Roe's re-election campaign, 1970's 3x5
- 13 Various photographs, 1970-1980's
- 14 Various photographs, 1976-1992
- 15 Various photographs, 1976-1980's

Box	Folder
4	1 Various photographs, 1988-1992
	2 Various photographs, 1970's-1980's a
	3 NASA, Space Program
	4 Various photographs, 1976
	5 Various photographs, 1970's a
	6 Various photographs, 1970's b
	7 NJ Manufacturers Association, 1972
	8 Various photographs, 1970-1976
	9 Various photographs, 1970's-1980's b
	10 Congressman Roe's run for Governor, 1977
	11 Congressman Roe's China visit, 1990's
	12 Ceremony unveiling of the portrait of Honorable Congressman Roe, 1992
	13 Westmont Country Club, 1989
	14 Roe Federal Building, 1989-1992
	15 NASA, Report on the Study of the US High Energy Physics Program, 1985, 1995

**Personal**

Box	Folder
5	1 1965-1969
	2 1967-1968
	3 1968
	4 1963-1964
	5 1968-1969
	6 1963-1966
	7 Calendars, 1963-1966, 1968
	8 Presidential Campaign, 1968
	9 1968

**Speech Material, Statements 1964-1968**

Box	Folder
6	1 Statements, 1968
	2 Statements, 1966a

- 3 Statements, 1966b
- 4 Speech Material, 1966
- 5 Speech Material, 1965a
- 6 Speech Material, 1965b
- 7 Speech Material, 1968
- 8 Speech Material, 1967, May – June
- 9 Speech Material, 1964-1967
- 10 Speech Material, 1967-1969
- 11 NJ Publications, 1966

**Speaking Engagements, Reports, News Releases, 1963-1969**

- | Box | Folder  |
|-----|---|
| 7   | 1 Engagements, 1964-1965  |
|     | 2 Engagements, 1965   |
|     | 3 Engagements, 1968   |
|     | 4 Engagements, 1969   |
|     | 5 Green Acres, News Releases  |
|     | 6 New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development<br>(NJCED) News Releases, 1963 |
|     | 7 NJCED, News Releases, 1964  |
|     | 8 NJCED, News Releases, 1967a   |
|     | 9 NJCED, News Releases, 1967b   |
|     | 10 NJCED, News Releases, 1968a  |
|     | 11 NJCED, News Releases, 1968b  |
|     | 12 NJCED, News Releases, 1968c  |
|     | 13 NJCED, News Releases, 1968d  |
|     | 14 NJCED, News Releases, 1966a  |
|     | 15 NJCED, News Releases, 1966b  |
|     | 16 NJCED, Reports, 1963   |
|     | 17 NJCED, Reports, 1964   |

**Speech Material, Statements, Speaking Engagements, 1966-1968**

- | Box | Folder                                  |
|-----|---|
| 8   | 1 Speech Material and Statements, 1966a |
|     | 2 Speech Material and Statements, 1966b |
|     | 3 Speech Material and Statements, 1966c |
|     | 4 Statements, 1967                      |
|     | 5 Engagements, January – March 1967     |
|     | 6 Engagements, April – May 1967         |
|     | 7 Engagements, June – August 1967       |
|     | 8 Engagements, September 1967           |

- 9 Engagements, October 1967
- 10 Engagements, November – December 1967 Engagements, January – February 1968

**Speech Material, Statements, Publications, 1963-1965**

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|-----|--------|---|
| Box | Folder |   |
| 9   | 1      | Speech Material and Statements, 1965a                   |
|     | 2      | Speech Material and Statements, 1965b                   |
|     | 3      | Speech Material and Statements, 1965c                   |
|     | 4      | Speech Material and Statements, 1965d                   |
|     | 5      | Speech Material and Statements, 1964 – 1965             |
|     | 6      | Speech Material and Statements, 1964a                   |
|     | 7      | Speech Material and Statements, 1964b                   |
|     | 8      | Speech Material and Statements, 1964c                   |
|     | 9      | Speech Material and Statements, 1964d                   |
|     | 10     | Speech Material and Statements, 1963-1964               |
|     | 11     | Report on Housing and Urban Renewal in New Jersey, 1964 |
|     | 12     | Commissioner Roe Publications, 1963-1964                |

**News Releases, International Trade Mission, Great Gorge, Democratic National Convention, Campaign for Governor 1969, 1964-1969**

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|-----|--------|---|
| Box | Folder |   |
| 10  | 1      | NJCED, News Releases, 1969a                         |
|     | 2      | NJCED, News Releases, 1969b                         |
|     | 3      | NJCED, News Releases, 1969c                         |
|     | 4      | NJCED, News Releases, 1969d                         |
|     | 5      | International Trade Mission, 1966a                  |
|     | 6      | International Trade Mission, 1966b                  |
|     | 7      | Great Gorge, Maps and Blueprints, 1967              |
|     | 8      | Great Gorge, 1967a                                  |
|     | 9      | Great Gorge, 1967b                                  |
|     | 10     | Democratic National Convention, Atlantic City, 1964 |
|     | 11     | Campaign for Governor, 1969a                        |
|     | 12     | Campaign for Governor, 1969b                        |

**Speaking Engagements, Schedules, 1965-1966**

- |     |        |                                       |
|-----|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Box | Folder |                                       |
| 11  | 1      | Engagements, January – July 1965      |
|     | 2      | Engagements, May 1965                 |
|     | 3      | Engagements, October 1965             |
|     | 4      | Engagements, November – December 1965 |

- 5 Engagements, January – February 1966
- 6 Engagements, March – April 1966
- 7 Engagements, May 1966
- 8 Engagements, June 1966
- 9 Engagements, July – August 1966
- 10 Engagements, September 1966
- 11 Engagements, October 1966
- 12 Engagements, November 1966
- 13 Engagements, December 1966

**College, 1962 – 1969**

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|-----|--------|---|
| Box | Folder |   |
| 12  | 1      | NJCED, 1966 – 1969                                |
|     | 2      | International Trade Mission, 1964-1967            |
|     | 3      | Tri – State Transportation Commission, 1966a      |
|     | 4      | Tri – State Transportation Commission, 1966b      |
|     | 5      | Tri – State Transportation Commission, 1964-1967a |
|     | 6      | Tri – State Transportation Commission, 1964-1967b |
|     | 7      | Water Crab Island Dam, 1968-1969                  |
|     | 8      | South Brand Pumping Station Contract, 1963-1966a  |
|     | 9      | South Brand Pumping Station Contract, 1963-1966b  |
|     | 10     | Water Reservoir Acquisition, 1969                 |
|     | 11     | Waivers of Advertising, July 1963-June 1965       |
|     | 12     | Veterans Service Counsel, 1962-1968               |
|     | 13     | Vernon Valley Blue Prints                         |
|     | 14     | Vernon Valley                                     |
|     | 15     | Uranium Enrichment Facility                       |
|     | 16     | Underground Power lines, 1968                     |
|     | 17     | Water Miscellaneous, 1965-1968a                   |
|     | 18     | Water Miscellaneous, 1965-1968b                   |

**College**

- |     |        |                             |
|-----|--------|-----------------------------|
| Box | Folder |                             |
| 13  | 1      | Pre 1950 Documents          |
|     | 2      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959a |
|     | 3      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959b |
|     | 4      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959c |
|     | 5      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959d |
|     | 6      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959e |
|     | 7      | Wayne Documents, 1950-1959f |

- 8 Wayne Election, 1954
- 9 Lawsuit against Robert Roe, Land Deal, 1969
- 10 Sewage Disposal, 1967-1968
- 11 Wayne Election, 1956
- 12 Water Commissioner, 1961-1965
- 13 Wayne Documents, 1958
- 14 Wayne Documents, 1957
- 15 Board of Freeholders, Elections, 1959
- 16 Board of Freeholders, Elections, 1962-1963

**State Contracts**

- | Box | Folder |                             |
|-----|--------|-----------------------------|
| 14  | 1      | State Contract, 1963-1969a  |
|     | 2      | State Contract, 1964-1969 b |
|     | 3      | State Contract, 1964-1969 c |
|     | 4      | State Contract, 1964-1969 d |
|     | 5      | State Contract, 1964-1969 e |
|     | 6      | State Contract, 1964-1969 f |
|     | 7      | State Contract, 1964-1969 g |

**Case Files**

- | Box | Folder |  |
|-----|--------|--|
| 15  | 1      | Skylands   |
|     | 2      | Skylands Photographs                               |
|     | 3      | Sandy Hook State Park                              |
|     | 4      | Round Water, Spruce Run                            |
|     | 5      | N City of Newark, Water                            |
|     | 6      | Water Drought                                      |
|     | 7      | NJ Dist Water Supply Commission a                  |
|     | 8      | NJDWSC b   |
|     | 9      | NJDWSC c   |
|     | 10     | NJDWSC d   |
|     | 11     | Manasquan Reservoir                                |
|     | 12     | Atlantic City Marinas, Democratic Convention, 1964 |
|     | 13     | World Trade Center                                 |
|     | 14     | Morven, Princeton                                  |
|     | 15     | Motion Picture Industry, "Tom Swift" w/ Gene Kelly |
|     | 16     | Navigation, Riparian Lands Moratorium              |

### Case Files

Box	Folder
16	1 Liberty Park a
	2 Liberty Park b
	3 Liberty Park c
	4 Liberty Park d
	5 Liberty Park e
	6 The Port of NY Authority Possible Site for a New Major Airport Studies, 1965
	7 Jetport a
	8 Jetport b
	9 Jetport c
	10 Spruce Run Round Valley Project, 1966-1967
	11 Master Water Plan a
	12 Master Water Plan b
	13 Green Acres

### Case Files

Box	Folder
17	1 Publication: <i>Our Vanishing Shoreline: Implementing A Master Plan For Highway Construction in NJ</i> , 1964
1965 a	2 Public Hearing to Investigate Acquisition of Land by the State,
	3 Public Hearing to Investigate Acquisition of Land by the State, 1965 b
	4 Public Hearing to Investigate Acquisition of Land by the State, 1965 c
	5 Public Hearing to Investigate Acquisition of Land by the State, 1964-1965, Private
	6 Public Hearing to Investigate Acquisition of Land by the State, 1965 Private
	7 Application for a Grant to Acquire Open Space Land, 1963
	8 Green Acres, Thunder Mountain, 1965
	9 Shepherd Lake, Assembly by Committee
	10 Shepherd Lake, Contracts
	11 Shepherd Lake, Contracts and Reports
	12 Shepherd Lake, 1965
	13 Shelton College a
	14 Shelton College b

### **Case Files**

Box	Folder
18	1 Report on Conservation and Economic Development, May 1963 – Present (1967) a
	2 Report on Conservation and Economic Development, May 1963- Present (1967) b
	3 Drumthwacket
	4 Conservation Environmental Renewal Program (CERP)
	5 Tocks Island
	6 Sunfish Pond a
	7 Sunfish Pond b
	8 Bear swamp Lake
	9 Statehouse Commission a
	10 Statehouse Commission b
	11 Good Neighbor Flood Fund

### **Case Files**

Box	Folder
19	1 Research Center Blue Prints, 1956
	2 Political File, 1958
	3 Ordinances, 1958
	4 Wayne Township Municipal Building, 1956-1960
	5 Sheffield Hills
	6 Wayne Township Committee Minutes, 1958 a
	7 Wayne Township Committee Minutes, 1958 b
	8 New Wayne Town Hall, 1958
	9 Proclamation, 1958-59
	10 Wayne Urban Renewal, 1957-59
	11 Golden Age Circle, 1958
	12 Passaic County Planning Board, 1958
	13 Newspaper Clippings, 1959
	14 Legislature Bulletins, 1959
	15 Wayne Industry, 1961
	16 Planning Board, 1959
	17 Report on Wayne Central Library, 1959
	18 County File and Administration, 1960
	19 Legislative Bulletins, 1960
	20 Welfare Information, 1060
	21 Prosecutors Report, 1960
	22 County Auditor, 1960
	23 Transportation, 1960

- 24 Urban Renewal, 1961
- 25 Passaic River Basin Flood Control Study, 1961
- 26 Passaic County Park Commission/Valley Road, 1962
- 27 Cape Hope, 1963
- 28 Bond Issue, State, 1963
- 29 Speeches, 1963
- 30 Political Information, 1963
- 31 Budget, 1963
- 32 Planning Board Report, 1963
- 33 Political Release, 1963
- 34 Freeholder Newsletter, 1963
- 35 Passaic County Park Commission Audit Report, 1963

**Case Files**

- | Box | Folder  |
|-----|---|
| 20  | 1 Wayne Political Information, 1964 a   |
|     | 2 Financial, 1964   |
|     | 3 Audit Report, 1964  |
|     | 4 Community Council, Passaic County, 1964   |
|     | 5 Passaic County Park Commission, 1964  |
|     | 6 Passaic County Jail, 1964   |
|     | 7 Children's Shelter, 1964  |
|     | 8 Wayne General Information, 1963   |
|     | 9 Freeholder Newsletter, 1964   |
|     | 10 Preakness Hospital, 1964   |
|     | 11 Area Redevelopment Commission, 1964  |
|     | 12 Wayne Voter Registration, 1964   |
|     | 13 Wayne Political Information, 1964 b  |
|     | 14 County of Passaic Audit Report, 1964   |
|     | 15 New Courthouse Information, 1967   |
|     | 16 Road Department, 1967  |
|     | 17 Passaic County Park Commission, 1968   |
|     | 18 Road Projects, 1969  |
|     | 19 Government Nominations, News Releases  |
|     | 20 Preakness Hospital, 1969   |
|     | 21 New Courthouse Correspondence, 1969  |
|     | 22 Wayne Politics, 1969   |
|     | 23 NJ related Newsletters, 1969   |
|     | 24 RAR Statements on a Comprehensive Water Supply Policy and Program to Meet the Long Range Needs of NJ |

- 25 Special Meeting of Passaic County Democratic Committee, 1969
- 26 Wayne Township Master Plan, 1968
- 27 RAR Congressional Information, 1969
- 28 RAR Congressional Nomination, 1969
- 29 County Mental Health Board, 1969