Preliminary Inventory Institute for the Future Records Collection Number: 1000-267

Date: 1964-1970

Number of containers: 1 Hollinger box

Brief description of collection:

The Institute for the Future Records contain founding documents, publications, and proposals produced by or for the Institute for the Future (IFF), a collaborative effort between the Connecticut Research Commission, the Educational Policy Research Center of the Syracuse University Research Commission, and Wesleyan University to engage in long-term predictions about the impact of future technological and societal developments, with an emphasis on urban planning and policy.

The Institute for the Future Records consist of IFF reports on the future, initial planning and founding documents, including blueprints and architectural materials for IFF building design, planning reports on Wesleyan University and Middletown, and correspondence.

Included IFF reports are as follows: Forecasts of Some Technological and Scientific Developments and Their Societal Consequences examines public consensus regarding when and what futuristic technologies would be realized, Development of Long-Range Forecasting Methods for Connecticut: A Summary details the results from several forecasting experiments and subsequent simulation experiments, Some Potential Societal Developments 1970-2000 relies on experts in various intellectual fields to imagine future social shifts. More obviously named reports include Models and Simulations—Some Definitions, Selected Urban Simulations and Games, Simulation of Urban Systems—A Selected Bibliography, and A Report on a Long-Range Forecasting Study, as well as a volume of Futures: The Journal of Forecasting and Planning.

Sonya Sternlieb, Dec. 2, 2016