

Blue Ridge Parkway Research Guide

This is a listing of some of the places researchers should look when researching the development and construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The list is by no means complete. Researchers should also bear in mind that, as a project of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the vast majority of records dealing with the Blue Ridge Parkway are federal records in the custody of the National Archives and Records Administration.

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Governor's Papers

Group	Title	Location	MARS ID	Description
Governor's Papers—John Christoph Blucher Ehringhaus	General Correspondence—State Agencies, Boards, and Commissions	Box 152	361.2 (Series)	Appointments and Endorsements, Correspondence (1933-1936): Park-to-Park Highway.
Governor's Papers—John Christoph Blucher Ehringhaus	General Correspondence—State Agencies, Boards, and Commissions	Box 160	361.2 (Series)	Appointments and Endorsements, Correspondence (1933-1936): Shenandoah-Great Smoky Mountains Parkway.
Governor's Papers—Robert Walker Scott	Miscellaneous Correspondence, Newspaper Clippings, Speeches, and Etc.	Box 575.1 and 575.2	370.20 (Series)	Newspaper clippings about the Blue Ridge Parkway and suggested comments for the Governor.
Governor's Papers—James Grubb Martin	Blue Ridge Parkway Dedication Plan for White House Staff, June 24 1987	VR.22	373.4.44.22	Videotape dealing with the plans for the dedication of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1987.

Governor's Papers— James Grubb Martin	Communications Office: Proclamations and Letters of Greeting— Proclamations: July-September 1987	Box 24	373.5.24 (Box)	Photocopy of the Governor's proclamation of "Blue Ridge Parkway Dedication Day" on September 11, 1987, the date the Parkway was officially completed and opened.
Governor's Papers— James Grubb Martin	Communications Office: Speeches, Press Releases, Press Conferences, and Miscellaneous— Linn Cove Viaduct	Box 28	373.4.28.4	Material on the 1987 final completion of the Linn Cove Viaduct, the last sections of the Blue Ridge Parkway to be completed.
Governor's Papers— James Grubb Martin	Communications Office: Speeches, Press Releases, Press Conferences, and Miscellaneous— 50 th Anniversary Blue Ridge Parkway	Box 6	373.4.6.6	Contains material on the celebration of the 50 th anniversary of the start of construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway, including drafts of speeches, correspondence, memoranda, and videotape recordings.
Governor's Papers— James Grubb Martin	Boards and Commissions Office: Appointments to Boards and Commissions: Blue Ridge Parkway Committee	Box 22	373.14.22.7	Letters of appointments, certificates, and press releases.
Governor's Papers— James Grubb Martin	Boards and Commissions Office: Appointments to Boards and Commissions: Blue Ridge Parkway Film Committee	Box 22	373.14.22.8	Letters of appointments, certificates, and press releases.

Governor's Papers— James Baxter Hunt, Jr	Office of Citizen Affairs, Correspondence Unit: General Correspondence: Parks	Box 74	374.1.74.9	Letter from a citizen requesting that state funds be dedicated to building a Blue Ridge Parkway headquarters building near Asheville.
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Supreme Court Cases

The cases listed below are primarily land disputes, and researchers may access the original case files. For cases marked by an asterisk, researchers can find the final decisions in published form in *North Carolina Reports*.

Group	Case Number and Name	MARS ID	Term
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	37F-171. Clark Hall (admr. of Lee Hall) v. Kentucky-Virginia Stone Co. et al*	69.2.58.72	Fall 1937
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	37F-172. Agnes Allen (by next friend H. A. Allen) v. Kentucky-Virginia Stone Co. et al*	69.2.58.73	Fall 1937
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	38F-250. Switzerland Co. v. State Highway and Public Works Commission	69.2.60.110	Fall 1938
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	39F-235. Switzerland Co. v. State Highway and Public Works Commission*	69.2.62.93	Fall 1939
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	40F-240. State Highway and Public Works Commission v. Frank J. Harley*	69.2.64.57	Fall 1940
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	42S-167. John Yancey et als v. State Highway and Public Works Commission*	69.2.67.61	Spring 1942
Supreme Court Record Group: Original Cases File	42F-165. John Yancey and J. W. Winborne (exr. And trustee of W. W. Guy, deceased) v. State Highway and Public Works Commission*	69.2.68.54	Fall 1942

Other State Agency Records

Group	Title	Location	MARS ID	Description
Highways Record Group	Right-of-Way Section: Blue Ridge Parkway General Correspondence	Box 1-6	64.65 (Series)	Correspondences concerning the parkway; also includes a few plats and maps.

	File, 1934-1959			
Highways Record Group	Right-of-Way Section: Blue Ridge Parkway General Correspondence File, 1934-1959	Box 17-15	64.66 (Series)	Correspondence, agreements, maps, newspaper clippings, and related material on specific sections of the parkway; arranged by section number.
Highways Record Group	Right-of-Way Section, Property Management Unit: Blue Ridge Parkway Residue File (Claims File), 1933-1977	Box 1-29	64.33 (Series)	Correspondence, reports, deeds, land appraisals, maps, photographs, and other material concerning the acquisition of land for the Blue Ridge Parkway; grouped by section, then numerical by file number.
Highways Record Group	Right-of-Way Section, Property Management Unit: Blue Ridge Parkway (Property Maps) File, 1926-1968	28 Bundles (unprocessed)	64.54 (Series)	Maps of the parkway with details on property lines, proposed corridor, and other related details.
Highways Record Group	Project Control Section: Blue Ridge Parkway Deeds File	Box 16-17	64.67 (Series)	Deeds and land title information for property acquired for parkway construction (after it was completed, the land was deeded to the federal government).
Highways Record Group	Blue Ridge Parkway Claim Files, Sections 2-R, 2-P, 2-Q	Box 8	64.33.8 (Box)	Agreements, correspondence, appraisals, report, deeds, maps, and photographs.
Highways Record Group	Location Section: Maps of Proposed Scenic Parkway Through North Carolina (Blue Ridge Parkway)	2 maps (unprocessed)	64.58 (Series)	Maps of the proposed route of the Blue Ridge Parkway prepared by the commission's engineers for use by the state. One of the maps is a panoramic, multicolor drawing of the skyline

				along the proposed route, and identifies the various gaps and peaks.
National Park, Parkway, and Forest Development Commission	Miscellaneous Records	9 Record Center Boxes (unprocessed)	90.2 (Series)	Minutes and other undescribed records of the commission. May contain correspondence, newspaper clippings, resolutions and legislations, photographs, public hearings, briefs, and press releases.
Utilities Commission Record Group	Case #249. Queen City Coach Co. To the Commission, 1934	Util. II.5.234	6.6.234.12	Correspondence, petitions, applications forms, and orders concerning an application for a franchise to operate a bus line over the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Federal Records

For the most complete descriptions of the Federal Records in the custody of the NCSA, please see the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration finding aids in the Search Room. Information about the Blue Ridge Parkway may be scattered throughout the two record groups. These groups have not been indexed in MARS.

Group	Title	Location
Works Progress Administration	General Records, 1936-1942: North Carolina Writers' Project: North Carolina Pamphlets	Box 36—Blue Ridge Parkway
Works Progress Administration	General Records, 1936-1942: North Carolina Writers' Project: North Carolina Clippings, General File	Box 75—Blue Ridge Parkway

Private Collections

Collection Name	Collection Number	MARS ID	Description
Heriot Clarkson (1863-1942) Paper	PC 175	684 (Group)	The collection contains letters, papers, and photographs concerning the McDowell County real estate development Little Switzerland (founded 1910),

			and some relate to its battle with the Blue Ridge Parkway. Box 175.5 contains a letter from F. O. Clarkson, President of the Switzerland Company, to the editor of the <i>News and Observer</i> dated 1939. It details land battles with the highway commission and the difficulties the Blue Ridge Parkway caused for Little Switzerland.
James Philander Dodge, Jr. Paper	PC 1684.1	2194 (Group)	Collection contains a little correspondence about the Parkway, pamphlets, photographic negatives, a 1976 Environmental Action Plan Report by the Federal Highway Administration, and map of a proposed extension of the Parkway through Georgia dated 1938.

North Carolina Maps

There are at least 27 maps that feature the Blue Ridge Parkway prominently. Most of these are editions of the North Carolina Official Highway Map. There are also highway maintenance maps for Alleghany, Surry, and Wilkes Counties.

Audio Visual and Iconographic Materials

There are a few photographs of the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway indexed in MARS, but the vast majority of photographs have not been indexed. Photograph collection number 66 deals exclusively with the Blue Ridge Parkway and contains several thousand photographs and negatives. A finding aid for this collection is available online.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is also heavily represented in the Conservation and Development photograph collection, especially the Travel Information series. Please contact the Audio Visual and Iconographic Archivist for more specific information and assistance using the photograph collections.