

Archives & Manuscript Collections  
National Sporting Library  
Middleburg, VA

**Peter Winants  
Papers  
1907-2000**

Name: **Winants, Peter (b. 1926)** **MC0005**

Materials: Papers

Dates: 1907-2000 (bulk 1995-2000)

Volume: 1.50 cubic feet

Donation: Peter Winants, 2002

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

**Biographical Note**

Peter Winants, a native of Maryland, has been involved with horses, steeplechasing, and foxhunting his entire life, beginning at age 12 with his first foxhunt. He has lived in Middleburg, Virginia since around 1970, pursuing a career as a race photographer, amateur jockey, and magazine publisher. He became the field master of the Bath County Hounds in Warm Springs, Virginia in 1992.

Winants joined the staff of *The Chronicle of the Horse* in 1972; he also served as editor and publisher during his 19 year tenure with the journal. Upon his retirement at age 65 in 1991, Winants became director of the National Sporting Library, a position he held until 1999. He is now director emeritus of the Library.

He is the author of four books, including two biographies of the great steeplechase horses Jay Trump and Flatterer, as well as *Foxhunting With Melvin Poe* (2002). His third book, *Steeplechasing: A Complete History of the Sport in North America* (2000), is the basis for this collection.

**Collection Description**

The Peter Winants Papers consists of materials related to the researching and writing of Winants' book on steeplechasing. These papers, which include photographs, correspondence, and biographical and historical information on numerous subjects, have been arranged into five series based upon Winants' original organization:

Illustrations, Correspondence, Invoices and Expenses, Research Material, and Typescripts.

The first series, Illustrations, contains images gathered by Winants for use in his book. The series has been divided into three subseries by format: Photographs, Colored Illustrations, and Graphics. Not all of the images were used in the final version of the book. Original images, which include three oversized photographs, range in date from 1907 to 2000, while reproductions of images date as far back as 1834.

Correspondence, the second series, contains letters to and from Winants regarding the publication of his book. The correspondence ranges in date from 1995 to 2000, and is contained within one folder.

The third series, Invoices and Expenses, is housed within one folder and consists of bills and invoices, 1996-2000, regarding the research and publication of Winants' book, the majority of which pertain to the reproduction of the images used for the book.

The fourth and largest series, Research Material, includes historical and biographical information gathered by Winants on illustrious persons and horses in the field as well as particular races and other subjects pertinent to the development of the sport. The materials in this series, which include newspaper and magazine clippings, photocopies, excerpts from books, official event publications, and personal accounts, are arranged alphabetically by subject.

The fifth and final series, Typescripts, is comprised of an annotated typescript of *Steeplechasing* as well as two computer disks containing the electronic versions of the book.

### Series and Subseries

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>I. Illustrations, 1907-c2000</b>   | <b>10 folders</b> |
| Photographs, watercolors, and drawings, (original and reproduced) with captions, gathered by Winants for use in his book. Subjects include jockeys, horses, races, owners, and breeders.                        |                   |
| A. Photographs, 1907-c2000  | 6 folders         |
| B. Colored Illustrations, c2000   | 1 folder          |
| C. Graphics, c2000  | 3 folders         |
| <b>II. Correspondence, 1995-2000</b>  | <b>1 folder</b>   |
| Letters written to and from Winants regarding the preparation of his book.  |                   |
| <b>III. Invoices and Expenses, 1996-2000</b>  | <b>1 folder</b>   |
| Invoices and lists of money spent on the preparation and publication of the book.   |                   |
| <b>IV. Research Material, c2000</b>   | <b>45 folders</b> |
| Clippings, photocopies, book excerpts, official publications, and personal accounts of various subjects pertaining to steeplechasing. Subjects include owners, breeders, jockeys, horses, and particular races. |                   |
| <b>V. Typescripts, c2000</b>  | <b>Binder</b>     |
| Annotated typescript of <i>Steeplechasing</i> , with two computer disks containing the electronic versions.   |                   |

**Container List  
MC0005**

**I. Illustrations**

| <u>Box</u>      | <u>Folder</u>                              | <u>Contents</u>         | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------|--------------|
| J34             | 1-5  | Photographs             | 1907-c2000   |
| J34             | 06   | Colored Illustrations   | c2000        |
| J34             | 7-9  | Graphics                | c2000        |
| J34             | 10   | Transparencies          |              |
| L54             | 03   | Photographs (oversized) | 1907-1969    |
| <u>Location</u> | <u>Contents</u>                            |                         | <u>Dates</u> |
| MC0005 02       | Photographs of Peter Winants, Douglas Lees |                         | c2000        |

**II. Correspondence**

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| J34        | 11            | Correspondence  | 1995-2000    |

**III. Invoices and Expenses**

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u>       | <u>Dates</u> |
|------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| J34        | 12            | Invoices and Expenses | 1996-2000    |

**IV. Research Material**

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u>   | <u>Dates</u> |
|------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| J34        | 13-57         | Research subjects | c2000        |

**V. Typescripts**

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Contents</u>                       | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| MC0005 01       | Annotated typescript in 3-ring binder | c2000        |

See also:

Winants, Peter. *Steeplechasing: A Complete History of the Sport in North America* (Lanham, MD: Derrydale Press, 2000).

This collection was processed by Robert Weber, March 2002.