



# **Guide to the Consumer Reports. Walker Sandbach papers, 1953-1975**

---

This collection guide was produced in **2022 Sept.**

This PDF version was created on **April 2, 2026.**

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

<a href="#">Summary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Background</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Arrangement</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Administrative Information</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Related Materials</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Names and Subjects</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Collection Inventory</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Administrative and personal files</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Correspondence and memoranda</a> .....	8
<a href="#">Grants and fellowships</a> .....	14
<a href="#">Media and consumer</a> .....	15

## Summary

---

**Collection Title:**

Consumer Reports. Walker Sandbach papers, 1953-1975

**Creator:**

Consumer Reports (Firm); Sandbach, Walker, 1916-1975

**Source:**

John W. Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising & Marketing History

**Abstract:**

Consumer Reports is a product testing and consumer advocacy nonprofit organization based in Yonkers, N.Y., founded in 1936 as Consumers Union. Walker Sandbach was an activist in the cooperative movement who served as Executive Director of Consumers Union from 1965-1974. Collection includes articles, clippings, correspondence, research reports, texts of speeches and other printed materials. Topics addressed include automobile design and safety; consumer protection; the cooperative movement; insurance reform; and Consumers Union's financial support for Media and Consumer magazine. Correspondents include Colston Warne, Esther Peterson, Persia Campbell, Rhoda Karpatkin, and Sidney Shainwald. Acquired as part of the John W. Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising & Marketing History.

**Extent:**

9.0 Linear Feet

**Language:**

Materials in English.

**Collection ID:**

RL.12037

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1cq8z>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Consumer Reports. Walker Sandbach papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## **Background**

---

### **Scope and Content**

Collection includes articles, clippings, correspondence, research reports, texts of speeches and other printed materials. Topics addressed include automobile design and safety; consumer protection; the cooperative movement; insurance reform; and Consumers Union's financial support for Media and Consumer magazine. Correspondents include Colston Warne, Esther Peterson, Persia Campbell, Rhoda Karpatkin, and Sidney Shainwald.

### **Biographical/Historical**

Consumer Reports is a product testing and consumer advocacy nonprofit organization based in Yonkers, N.Y., founded in 1936 as Consumers Union. Walker Sandbach was an activist in the cooperative movement who served as Executive Director of Consumers Union from 1965-1974.

Oswald Walker Sandbach was born in 1916 in Minnesota. He attended the University of Iowa (BA Political Science, 1939) and managed cooperative food stores in the midwestern U.S. from 1939-1947. During that time Sandbach also worked as a teacher and was active in the American Friends Service Committee. From 1947-1965 Sandbach served as General Manager for the Hyde Park Cooperative Society in Chicago. In 1965 he was named Executive Director of Consumers Union, a position he held until 1974 when he left to become the CEO of the National Industries for the Severely Handicapped (NISH). He resigned from NISH in early 1975 and died in May of that year.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Arrangement**

---

Organized into the following series: Administrative and Personal Files; Correspondence and Memoranda; Grants and Fellowships; Media and Consumer.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the Rubenstein Library's Citations, Permissions, and Copyright guide.

### Acquisition Information

The Consumer Reports. Walker Sandbach papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift from Consumer Reports in 2019.

### Processing Information

Processed by Richard Collier, Sept. 2022;

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2019-0130.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Related Materials

---

### Related Material

Related materials may be found in the following Hartman Center collections:

Consumer Reports Archives records;  
Consumer Reports. Board of Directors records;  
Consumer Reports. Colston E. Warne papers;  
Consumer Reports. Consumer newsletters collection;  
Consumer Reports. Esther Peterson papers;  
Consumer Reports. Oral history project records;  
Consumer Reports. Persia Campbell papers;  
Consumer Reports. Rhoda Karpatkin papers;  
Consumer Reports. Sidney Shainwald papers.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Names and Subjects

---

- Consumer education
- consumer protection
- International Organization of Consumers' Unions
- Sandbach, Walker, 1916-1975
- John W. Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising & Marketing History
- Warne, Colston E. (Colston Estey), 1900-1987
- Karpatkin, Rhoda
- Peterson, Esther, 1906-1997
- Campbell, Persia Crawford, 1898-1974
- Shainwald, Sidney, 1917-2003

---

## Collection Inventory

---

### Administrative and personal files, 1957-1975

Articles (by Sandbach and others), 1966-1973	Box 1
Articles (by Sandbach and others), 1968-1973	Box 18

Audit Committee, 1973	Box 1
Auto Quarterly survey, 1972	Box 1
Auto Research Center, 1972-1974	Box 1
Auto Research Center, 1974	Box 19
Biographical information, obituaries, 1965-1975	Box 1
Broadcast/Film Division, 1973	Box 1
Broadcast/Film Division, 1973	Box 18
Clarence Ditlow, Carl Nash report on Consumers Union, 1973	Box 1
Clippings, 1965-1970	Box 1
Communications Department/Office of Public Information, 1972-1973	Box 1
Consumer Clip Service, 1971	Box 19
Consumer Product Safety Commission, 1973	Box 1
Editorial Department, 1965-1973	Box 1
Harry Strickling--Implications of the Existence of Consumers Union for Marketers of Major Appliances, 1965	Box 1
Helen Nelson--Consumers Organize for Health Care, 1972	Box 1
Philip Sorenson--Report to Consumers Union Regarding State and Local Consumer Organizations, 1972	Box 1
Report to Board of Directors, 1966, 1969	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Sandra Rifkin--Moving Cities: A Proposal for Migrant Farm Labor, 1967	Box 2
Special Publications Department, 1965-1973	Box 2

Special Publications Department, 1968	Box 18
Speeches, 1965-1973	Box 2
<b>Physical Description:</b> 8 folders	
Speeches--Cooperative League, 1957-1962	Box 2
Speeches and testimony index 1965-1973, 1973	Box 3
Testimony, 1966-1970	Box 3

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Correspondence and memoranda, 1953-1975**

Arch Troelstrup, 1966-1972	Box 3
Arthur Kallet, 1957-1972	Box 3
Arthur Kallet memorial, 1972	Box 18
Auto Quarterly, 1970-1973	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Auto Safety Research Center (Cleveland), 1970-1971	Box 3
Auto Safety Research Center (Cleveland), 1970	Box 18
Automobile design, 1966-1973	Box 3
Automobile safety, 1965-1973	Box 3
Berlin Roisman & Kessler, 1968-1974	Box 3
Berlin Roisman & Kessler, 1973	Box 18
Bernard Reis, 1961-1963	Box 3
Bess Myerson, 1970-1973	Box 3
Better Business Bureau, 1970-1973	Box 3
Betty Furness, 1967-1970	Box 3
Betty Furness, 1970	Box 19

Bronson La Follette, 1968-1973	Box 3
Buyers Laboratory, 1962-1969	Box 3
C. Arthur Williams Jr., 1972, 1974	Box 4
Calvin Kytle, 1964-1970	Box 4
Carberry Marketing Research, 1961-1968	Box 4
Clarence Ditlow, 1973	Box 4
Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), 1964-1971	Box 4
Community Relations Service, 1970 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 4
Consultants, 1968-1969	Box 4
Consultants--Medical--Harold Aaron, 1953-1972 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 4
Consumer Clearing House, 1967-1968	Box 4
Consumer protection, 1960-1973	Box 4
Consumer protection, 1964-1968	Box 18
Consumer protection--Federal, 1960-1968	Box 4
Consumer protection--Federal, 1960-1967	Box 18
Consumer Research Foundation, 1967	Box 5
Consumer Research Foundation, 1967	Box 18
Consumers' Association of Canada, 1958-1971 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 5
Consumers' Association of Canada, 1968	Box 18
Consumers Research, 1965-1973	Box 5
Consumers Research, 1973	Box 18
Consumers Union--30th anniversary, 1965-1966	Box 5

Consumers Union--Policy, 1967-1973	Box 5
Cooperative League, 1964-1973 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 5
Cooperative League, 1967	Box 18
Cresap McCormick & Paget (location study), 1970-1971	Box 5
Cresap McCormick & Paget (location study), 1970-1971	Box 19
Dealerscope, 1971	Box 5
Dean Abrahamson, 1972-1973	Box 5
Dean Abrahamson, 1973-1974 <b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	Box 6
Dean Abrahamson, 1973	Box 18
Dean Abrahamson, 1973	Box 19
Dean Wilson, 1961-1974	Box 6
Dexter Masters, 1965-1973	Box 6
Dexter Masters--Publication proposal, 1973	Box 6
Duke University, 1969	Box 6
E. Scott Maynes, 1968-1973 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 6
Education Department, 1965	Box 19
Education Department, 1965-1973	Box 7
Edward Reich, 1968-1973	Box 7
Emergency Care Research Institute, 1971-1974	Box 7
Esther Peterson, 1964-1973 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 7

Esther Peterson, 1964-1967	Box 18
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Esther Peterson, 1970	Box 19
Florence Mason, 1964-1973	Box 7
Francis (Frank) Pollock, 1965-1974	Box 7
General, 1965-1967	Box 7
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
General, 1967-1972	Box 18
General, 1968-1974	Box 8
<b>Physical Description:</b> 6 folders	
George Brunn, 1966-1973	Box 8
George Hoffman, 1966-1969	Box 8
Gordon Bivens, 1971-1973	Box 9
Hans Thorelli, 1969-1972	Box 9
Harold Aaron, 1969-1973	Box 9
Helen Hall, 1968-1971	Box 9
Helen Nelson, 1964-1973	Box 9
Henry Villard, 1966-1972	Box 9
House Organ (internal newsletter), 1972-1974	Box 9
Illinois Federation of Consumers, 1968-1970	Box 9
International Cooperative Alliance, 1965-1969	Box 9
International Cooperative Training, 1966-1970	Box 9
International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Biennial conferences, 1966-1972	Box 9
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	

International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Biennial conferences, 1968-1970	Box 18
International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Caribbean Seminar, 1969	Box 10
International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Caribbean Seminar, 1969	Box 18
International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Caribbean Seminar, 1969	Box 19
International Organization of Consumers' Unions--Southeast Asia Regional Consumer Conference, 1971	Box 10
Irving Michelson, 1963-1973	Box 10
James Guest/Robert Krughoff proposals (Consumer services evaluation project), 1973	Box 10
James Mendenhall memorial, 1966	Box 10
James Morgan, 1963	Box 10
Jeffrey O'Connell, 1970-1973	Box 10
Jerome Hellerstein, 1966-1972	Box 10
John Banzhaf, 1970	Box 19
John Banzhaf, 1971-1974	Box 10
John Berberian, 1973	Box 10
Life insurance article, 1964-1969, 1972	Box 10
Lydia Altschuler Strong, 1963-1966	Box 10
Marian Minus memorial, 1972	Box 10
Marjorie East, 1966-1973	Box 10
Memoranda, 1965 Jan.-June	Box 10
Memoranda, 1965 July-1968 Aug.	Box 11
<b>Physical Description:</b> 7 folders	

Memoranda, 1967-1973	Box 18
Memoranda, 1968	Box 19
Memoranda, 1968 Sept.-1973 Aug. <b>Physical Description:</b> 8 folders	Box 12
Memoranda, 1973 Sept.-Dec.	Box 13
Memoranda--Management staff/Committee, 1964-1973 <b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	Box 13
Memoranda--Management staff/Committee, 1973	Box 18
Mildred Brady, 1964-1965	Box 13
Morris Kaplan, 1964-1967, 1971-1973	Box 13
National Foundation for Consumer Credit, 1968	Box 13
Paul Kellum, 1973	Box 13
Performance Audit Committee, 1972	Box 13
Persia Campbell, 1965-1973	Box 13
Persia Campbell, 1965-1973	Box 18
Quadri-Science, 1964-1972	Box 13
Ralph Nader, 1967-1973	Box 13
Rand Corporation, 1966-1967	Box 14
Robert L. Smith memorial, 1971	Box 14
Ruby Turner Morris, 1967-1973	Box 14
Ruby Turner Morris, 1967-1973	Box 18
Sidney Hertzberg, 1964-1965	Box 14
Speakers, 1967-1973 <b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	Box 14

Speakers, 1973	Box 18
Suburban Action Institute, 1971-1974	Box 14
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Suburban Action Institute, 1972-1973	Box 18
Underwriters Laboratories, 1969-1970	Box 14
United States government--Department of Defense, 1968-1969	Box 14
United States government--Department of Defense, 1969	Box 19
United States government--National Bureau of Standards, 1965-1969	Box 14
United States government--Office of Economic Activity, 1964-1970	Box 15
Virginia Knauer, 1969-1972	Box 15
Virginia Knauer, 1969	Box 18
Washington Office, 1969-1973	Box 15
<b>Physical Description:</b> 5 folders	
Washington Post, 1967, 1973	Box 15
Weights and measures, 1962-1975	Box 15
William Drake, 1964-1973	Box 15
William Haller Jr., 1966-1972	Box 16
William MacColl, 1969-1973	Box 16

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Grants and fellowships, 1963-1973

Action on Smoking and Health, 1968	Box 18
American Council on Consumer Interests, 1964-1970	Box 16

Auto Insurance Reform Conference, 1966-1967	Box 16
Auto Insurance Reform Conference, 1967	Box 18
Auto Insurance Reform Conference, 1967	Box 19
Chronological files, 1963-1972	Box 16
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
Daniel Posin, 1967-1969	Box 16
Fred Boggis--Robert A. Brady Memorial Fellowship, 1963-1968	Box 16
Lowell Dodge--Center for Auto Safety, 1969-1970	Box 16
Lowell Dodge--Center for Auto Safety, 1971-1973	Box 17
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Lowell Dodge--Center for Auto Safety, 1971	Box 18
Morgan State College, 1960	Box 18
Morgan State College, 1963-1967	Box 17
Physicians for Auto Safety, 1966-1967	Box 17

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Media and consumer, 1972-1973**

Financial, 1972	Box 17
General, 1972-1973	Box 17
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Media responsiveness, 1973	Box 17
Report--First year, 1973	Box 17

[Return to Table of Contents](#)