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## David K. Leff Papers

1955-2018 (*Bulk:* 1980-2018)  
11 boxes (10.75 linear ft.)  
Call no.: MS 907

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Read collection overview

A writer, poet, and environmental advocate, David K. Leff worked for many years as an agricultural and environmental policy adviser to the Connecticut legislature and as deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). A graduate of UMass Amherst (BA 1975) and the University of Connecticut School of Law (1978), Leff began writing and lecturing early in his career, and in addition to publishing dozens of magazine articles and serving as a regular columnist for the Hartford Courant, he has written nonfiction, including *The Last Undiscovered Place* (2004), *Deep Travel: In Thoreau's Wake on the Concord and Merrimack* (2009), *Hidden in Plain Sight* (2012), *Maple Sugaring* (2015), *Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash* (2016), and *Doppelganger: A Memoir of Mirrored Selves* (2020); poetry, including *The Price of Water* (2008), *Depth of Field* (2010), *Tinker's Damn* (2013), *The Breach: Voices Haunting a New England Mill Town* (2019), and *The Blue Marble Gazetteer* (2022); and a novel in verse, *Finding the Last Hungry Heart* (2014). Leff was active as a lecturer and instructor on various topics, ranging from the environment to local history and writing. In 2016, he was named the first Poet-in-Residence of the New England Trail. He passed away in 2022 at the age of 67.

In addition to containing a nearly comprehensive collection of the published writings of David Leff, the collection includes selected correspondence, unpublished poetry and short stories, a draft of an unpublished novel, talks, interviews, notes, newsclippings, more than 400 pages of interviews with sugarmakers that Leff conducted for his book on maple sugaring, and selected materials relating to Leff's work with the DEP in Connecticut and other endeavors. The collection also includes several thousand photographs (mostly digital) taken by Leff and used to illustrate his publications and lectures.

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**Background on David K. Leff**

## **Background on David K. Leff**

A poet, essayist, and environmental advocate, David K. Leff was born on April 9, 1955, in Albany, N.Y. Following Leff's birth, his family moved to Connecticut due to his father's job transfer. In his youth, Leff was perceived as a relatively average student, until a sophomore year high school teacher's introduction to the works of Ralph Waldo Emerson captured his interests and motivated him to become a writer. After graduating from high school, Leff elected to attend the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he received his bachelor's degree in English in 1975. In order to pay for school, Leff worked odd jobs throughout his college career, including as a tool factory porter, house painter, dishwasher, salad chef, and bankruptcy paralegal. Following his graduation from college, Leff decided to pursue his interest in law, and return to his home state, by enrolling in the University of Connecticut School of Law. He graduated from law school in 1978, and passed his bar exam to become a licensed lawyer that same year. After receiving his education, Leff began his extensive career as both an environmental activist and a writer.

Leff's life and work highlight his immense dedication to both the natural world and public service. He had a 28-year career with the State of Connecticut as a policy advisor to the state legislature regarding agriculture and the environment. As deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, he was in charge of parks, forests, fisheries, and wildlife. For seventeen years Leff served as a senior attorney for the Office of Legislative Research, Connecticut General Assembly. Also active in his community, Leff volunteered as a firefighter for 26 years; acted as the Canton, Conn., town historian and the town meeting manager; and worked with youth as a Boy Scout merit badge counselor and a tutor. Leff was a board chair or member for several organizations, including the Collinsville Historic District Commission, the board of trustees of the Great Mountain Forest in Norfolk, Conn., and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. He was also the former director of Audubon Connecticut.

Leff's love for the environment translates beautifully into his writing. His poetry, articles, and books center on the relationship between people and place: their communities as well as the historical and natural environment. Leff was the author of many essays, columns, and stories for esteemed publications such as *The Hartford Courant* and *Appalachia*. In addition, he published his nonfiction in book form: *The Last Undiscovered Place* (2004), *Deep Travel: In Thoreau's Wake on the Concord and Merrimack* (2009), *Hidden in Plain Sight* (2012), *Maple Sugaring: Keeping it Real in New England* (2015), *Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash* (2016), and *Doppelganger: A Memoir of Mirrored Selves* (2020). Leff also published several poetry collections, allowing his artistic impulse a new medium with which to explore the world and life. These collections include *The Price of Water* (2008), *Depth of Field* (2010), *Tinker's Damn* (2013), *The Breach: Voices Haunting a New England Mill Town* (2019), and *The Blue Marble Gazetteer* (2022), and the verse novel *Finding the Last Hungry Heart* (2014). With Eric D. Lehman, he coedited *New England Nature: Centuries of Writing on the Wonder and Beauty of the Land* (2020). Leff was busy as a lecturer, speaker, and poetry reader at events, and was involved with several writing and literary organizations. Leff served on the board of the Riverwood Poetry Series, an organization with a regular monthly reading series that sponsors the biennial Connecticut Poetry Festival, and occasionally served as a judge to poetry contests.

Leff garnered many awards for his civic involvement and his writing, among them honors from the United Bow Hunters of Connecticut and the Connecticut chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Leff was given the Special Recognition Award by the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions in appreciation of his writing about landscapes and habitats. His first book, *The Last Undiscovered Place*, published in 2004, was a Connecticut Book Award finalist. Leff's book *Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash: Thoreau, Romance and Survival of the Wild*, which details his 2016 travel adventures, won a silver medal in the Nautilus Book Awards for memoir and a silver medal in the Independent Publisher Book Awards for regional nonfiction. In 2018, Leff received the lifetime honor of appointment as the New England Beat Poet Laureate by the National Beat Poetry Foundation. The following year Leff was appointed poet laureate of Canton, Conn. Leff presented poetry at various writing seminars such as the acclaimed *Sunken Garden Poetry Festival* in Farmington, Conn., the Mark Twain House in Hartford, and numerous other venues.

In his later years, working from his home office located in the middle of the old mill village of Collinsville, Conn., Leff spent his free time enjoying outdoor activities such as working in his flower garden, tending to his chickens, and fishing, hiking, and canoeing. For about fifteen years Leff made maple syrup and was a member of the Connecticut Maple Syrup Producers Association. Leff was married to Mary C. Fletcher, a fine art painter and library creativity specialist, with whom he had three children. David Leff passed away on May 29, 2022, at the age of 67.

## **Scope of collection**

Chronicling some four decades of work and creative output dedicated to the environment, nature, and communities of New England and beyond, the David K. Leff Papers contain a nearly comprehensive collection of the published writings of the author, essayist, and poet, along with unpublished material, correspondence, notes, newsclippings, journals, reviews, and photographs. As a writer, photographer, and activist, Leff focused on applying his extraordinary curiosity and sense of awareness to activate local, common, and natural spaces into deeper places of authenticity, connection, and community. These frameworks of

exploration, even at home, and careful sight, no matter the local, are found in his work whether applied to small Connecticut towns, environmental conservation, historic preservation, outdoor adventuring, or sustainable artisanship. The collection is organized into two alphabetically arranged series. The first documents Leff's professional and personal writings, speeches, and readings, including published and unpublished material, as well as preparatory notes, interviews, and photographs. The second series documents Leff's personal and professional life, including records of his family and personal travel, his volunteer work as a firefighter and in Connecticut towns, and his various jobs including maple syrup maker, lawyer, and at the Department of Environmental Protection.

The bulk of the collection documents Leff's published works, including numerous essays and fiction pieces in small journals, commercial publications, and newspapers; drafts, notecards, photographs, and reviews for his many books and poetry collections; and articles from his website. Unpublished works include several book length manuscripts, correspondence, over thirty years of journals, school papers, short stories, and speeches, as well as notes, promotional material, and correspondence concerning Leff's speaking engagements and poetry readings. Leff's process and research are particularly well captured in the notecards and photographs assembled for many of his books, which also include more than 400 pages of interviews with sugarmakers for Leff's book on maple sugaring.

Personal correspondence, clippings, awards, and various administrative records document other aspects of Leff's personal and professional life, beyond and beside his writing. His work as an agricultural and environmental policy adviser to the Connecticut legislature and as deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection is documented alongside his dedicated volunteer service as a firefighter, town historian, town moderator, and historic and environmental preservationist. The collection also includes several thousand photographs (mostly digital) taken by Leff, documenting his travels and life, and often used to illustrate his publications and lectures.

## Series descriptions

### [Series 1. Writings](#)

ca.1970-2018 (*bulk*1990-2018)  
8 boxes (7 linear feet)

This series covers Leff's writing, both published and unpublished, and his life as a working author and poet, including awards won and public appearances, lectures, and readings. It is primarily composed of Leff's articles and essays for various news and leisure publications, along with material from his published books and poetry collections. Unpublished material includes manuscript drafts, notes and photographs accompanying Leff's books, school papers, short stories, blog entries, notes for speaking engagements, and Leff's extensive daily journals.

### [Series 2. Personal, Professional](#)

1955-2018 (*bulk*1980-2018)  
1 box (1 linear feet)

This series documents Leff's personal and professional life as a dedicated outdoor adventurer, volunteer firefighter, community servant and advocate, professional lawyer and environmental policy adviser, and student of nature and history. It is primarily composed of correspondence, clippings, awards, administrative records, and numerous photographs.

## Inventory

Series 1. Writings  
ca.1970-2018 (*bulk*1990-2018)  
8 boxes (7 linear feet)  
Awards  
1990-2018  
Box 1: 1a  
Articles

Appalachia  
1994  
Box 1: 1  
Appalachia  
1996, 1997  
Box 1: 1b  
Appalachia  
2002, 2007  
Box 1: 1c

Appalachia  
2013, 2016  
Box 1: 2  
Appalachia  
2017  
Box 1: 3-3b  
Appalachia - Photographs  
2002  
Box 1: 3c  
Book reviews  
2009-2012  
Box 1: 4  
Canoe & Kayak  
1996  
Box 1: 4b  
Canton  
2016  
Box 1: 5  
Canton & Collinsville  
2015 Oct  
Box 1: 6-9  
Canton Compass  
2015-2016  
Box 1: 10  
Canton Compass  
2017  
Box 1: 11  
Canton Compass  
2018  
Box 1: 12  
Canton Today Magazine  
2018  
Box 1: 13  
Canton News  
1992 Oct  
Box 1: 14  
The Canton Voice  
1994-1995  
Box 1: 15  
The Canton Voice  
1995 Jan-Mar  
Box 1: 16  
The Canton Voice  
1995 Mar-May  
Box 1: 17  
The Canton Voice  
1995 May-Jun  
Box 1: 18  
The Canton Voice  
1995 Jul-Aug  
Box 1: 19  
"Celebrating the Life, Works, and Legacy of Henry David Thoreau"  
2017  
Box 1: 20  
Connecticut Coastal  
2014-2015  
Box 1: 21  
Connecticut Environmental Programs  
1986  
Box 1: 22  
Connecticut Explored  
2013  
Box 1: 23  
The Connecticut Landscape Architect  
2000-2005  
Box 1: 24  
Connecticut Magazine  
2002

Box 1: 25  
Connecticut Magazine  
2017  
Box 1: 26  
Connecticut Preservation News  
2015  
Box 1: 27  
Connecticut Woodlands  
1998-2015  
Box 1: 28  
Connecticut Woodlands  
2011-2016  
Box 1: 29  
Connecticut Woodlands  
2017  
Box 1: 30  
Connecticut Woodlands  
2017-2018  
Box 1: 31  
CT News  
2017  
Box 1: 31b  
The Glastonbury Citizen  
2017 Apr  
Box 1: 32  
The Hartford Courant  
1995-1996  
Box 1: 33  
The Hartford Courant  
1996-2009  
Box 1: 34  
The Hartford Courant  
2015-2016  
Box 1: 35  
The Hartford Courant  
2017 Apr  
Box 1: 36  
Hartford Magazine  
2014  
Box 1: 37  
Hartford Magazine  
2016  
Box 1: 38  
Hawk & Handsaw Journal  
2009  
Box 1: 39  
Homebound Publications  
2018  
Box 1: 40  
Homebound Publications  
2017  
Box 1: 41  
The Hour  
2017 Mar  
Box 1: 42  
The Litchfield County Times  
2004-2009  
Box 1: 43  
Maple Syrup Digest  
2016  
Box 1: 44  
Naugatuck River Review  
2017  
Box 1: 45  
"New England Trail Haibun"  
ca.2018  
Box 1: 46  
Newspapers

1977-2006  
Box 1: 47  
Newspapers  
ca.2000-2017  
Box 1: 48  
Newspapers  
2006 Feb-Oct  
Box 1: 49  
Newspapers  
ca.2007  
Box 1: 50  
Newspapers  
2007-2008  
Box 1: 51  
Newspapers  
2008 May-Aug  
Box 1: 52  
Newspapers  
2008-2009  
Box 1: 53  
Newspapers  
2009-2013  
Box 1: 54  
Newspapers  
2013-2015  
Box 1: 55  
Newspapers  
2016-2017  
Box 1: 56  
Newspapers  
ca.2005  
Box 1: 57-59  
Northwoods Journal  
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Box 1: 60  
Pathways Across America  
2016  
Box 1: 61  
Poets & Writers  
2012  
Box 1: 62  
Preservation  
2004  
Box 1: 63  
Sanctuary Newsletter  
2008  
Box 1: 64  
Seasons of the Farmington Valley  
2010-2012  
Box 1: 65  
Travel  
2018  
Box 1: 66  
The Valley Press  
2008-2009  
Box 1: 67  
Vermont history  
2016  
Box 1: 68  
Unpublished articles  
ca.1980  
Box 1: 69  
The Wayfarer  
2014-2015  
Box 1: 70  
The Wayfarer  
2015-2016  
Box 1: 71

The Wayfarer  
2016  
Box 1: 72  
The Wayfarer  
2017  
Box 2: 1-2  
The Wayfarer  
2018  
Box 2: 3  
"What You Get is What You See: Landscape and the Special Theory of Relativity"  
ca.2000  
Box 2: 4  
Wilderness Voices of the Sacred Landscape  
2016  
Box 2: 5  
Yankee Magazine  
2005  
Box 2: 6  
Books

Also see the list of separated books written by Leff

The Breach - unpublished manuscript  
2016  
Box 2: 7-8  
The Breach - submission  
2016  
Box 2: 9  
Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash  
2016, 2018  
Box 2: 10  
Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash - notecards  
ca.2015  
Box 8  
Contracts  
2016-2017  
Box 2: 11  
Deep Travel - notecards  
ca.2008  
Box 6-7  
Deep Travel - newspapers  
ca.2009  
Box 2: 12  
Deep Travel - photographs  
ca.2008-2009  
Box 2: 13-14  
Deep Travel - reviews  
2009-2010  
Box 2: 15  
Depth of Field - review  
2010  
Box 2: 16  
Finding the Last Hungry Heart - essays, part I, II, III  
ca.1990  
Box 2: 17  
Finding the Last Hungry Heart - reviews  
2012, 2015  
Box 2: 18  
Half a Million Footsteps - manuscript  
ca.2017  
Box 2: 19-20  
Hidden in Plain Sight - notecards  
2013-2015  
Box 2: 21  
Hidden in Plain Sight - photographs  
2009-2016  
digital storage

Hidden in Plain Sight - photographs of ghost towns  
2007 Apr  
Box 2: 22  
Hidden in Plain Sight - reviews  
2012, 2015  
Box 2: 23  
Hungry Heart - notecards  
ca.1987  
Box 8

Would later be published as Finding the Last Hungry Heart

Hungry Heart - notes  
ca.1987  
Box 2: 24  
Hungry Heart - unpublished manuscript  
ca.1989  
Box 2: 25-30  
Irresistible Voices - manuscript  
2016  
Box 2: 31-32  
Irresistible Voices - submission  
2016-2017  
Box 2: 33  
The Last Undiscovered Place - description, reviews  
ca.2002-2005  
Box 2: 34  
The Last Undiscovered Place - notecards  
ca.2003  
Box 9  
The Last Undiscovered Place - photo negatives  
ca.2004  
Box 2: 35  
Maple Sugaring - interviews  
2008  
Box 2: 36  
Maple Sugaring - interviews  
2009  
Box 2: 37  
Maple Sugaring - interviews  
2010  
Box 2: 38-39  
Maple Sugaring - interviews  
2011  
Box 2: 40-41  
Maple Sugaring - interviews  
2013-2014  
Box 2: 42  
Maple Sugaring - photographs  
ca.2010  
Box 2: 43  
Maple Sugaring - reviews  
2016  
Box 2: 44  
The Price of Water - reviews  
2009  
Box 2: 45  
Tinker's Damn - reviews  
2013  
Box 2: 46  
Connecticut's Environment: A Legislator's Companion  
1992  
Box 2: 47  
Correspondence  
1989-2004  
Box 2: 48  
Correspondence  
2005-2008  
Box 2: 49



Correspondence  
2009  
Box 2: 50  
Correspondence  
2010-2011  
Box 2: 51  
Correspondence  
2012  
Box 2: 52  
Correspondence  
2013-2014  
Box 2: 53  
Correspondence  
2015  
Box 2: 54  
Correspondence  
2016  
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Correspondence  
2017 Jan-Aug  
Box 2: 56  
Correspondence  
2017 Sept-Dec  
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Correspondence  
2018 Jan-Jul  
Box 2: 58  
Correspondence  
2018 Aug-Oct  
Box 2: 59  
Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
undated  
Box 2: 60  
Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
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Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2011  
Box 2: 62  
Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2012  
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Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
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Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2015  
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Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2016  
Box 2: 67  
Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2017  
Box 3: 1  
Idle Thoughts - journal/blog  
2018  
Box 3: 2  
Journals: memo notebooks - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
ca.1990-1999  
Box 5: 36-40  
Journal - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1975  
Box 3: 3  
Journal I - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1978-1983

Box 3: 4-7  
Journal II - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1983-1986  
Box 3: 8-11  
Journal III - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1986-1988  
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Journal IV - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
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Journal V - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1989-1992  
Box 3: 20-23  
Journal - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1990-1991  
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Journal VI - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1992-1993  
Box 3: 25-27  
Journal VII - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1993-1994  
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Journal VIII - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1994-1996  
Box 3: 31-34  
Journal IX - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1997  
Box 3: 35-36  
Journal X - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1997-1998  
Box 3: 37-38  
Journal XI - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
1999-2001  
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Journal I - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
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Box 5: 44  
Journal II - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
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Box 5: 45  
Journal III - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
2002-2003  
Box 5: 46  
Journal IV - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
2003-2008  
Box 5: 47  
Journal 3-10 - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
2002-2006  
Box 5: 48-55  
Journal 11-41 - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
2006-2015  
Box 10: 1-31  
Journal 42-72 - CLOSED until May 29, 2027  
2015-2022  
Box 11: 1-31  
Journal/notebook, Crown and Hammer Sugar House  
1990-2006  
Box 4: 1  
Letter to the Editor  
ca.2008  
Box 4: 2  
Poems  
ca.1973  
Box 4: 3  
Poems  
ca.2000-2017  
Box 4: 4-5  
Poems - White Memorial Conservation Center newsletter

2018  
Box 4: 6  
Poems - Word Art  
2009, 2013  
Box 4: 7  
Poet in Residence - New England Trail  
2016-2017  
Box 4: 8  
Poetry readings - notecards  
2010-2013  
Box 4: 9  
Poetry readings - notecards  
2014-2018  
Box 4: 10  
Pushcart Prize  
2014, 2016  
Box 4: 11  
Research clippings, notes  
ca.1996-2009  
Box 4: 12  
School Papers

"A Cold Hard Look at Ice Cases"  
1977 Aug  
Box 4: 13  
"The Circle of Emerson's Thought"  
1974 Dec  
Box 4: 14  
"The Gentleman the Beast: Eighteenth Century Honor Upended"  
ca.1970, 1983  
Box 4: 15  
Various law-related  
1973-1978  
Box 4: 16  
Short Stories

"At Sea"  
ca.2012  
Box 4: 17  
"Pride of the Yankee"  
ca.2012  
Box 4: 18  
"Sifting Through the Trash"  
1987  
Box 4: 19  
"The Shabbes Ghost"  
ca.1997  
Box 4: 20  
"Thanksgiving Without Turkey"  
ca.1994  
Box 4: 21  
"Waiting"  
ca.2005  
Box 4: 22  
Speaking Engagements

Conferences, classes, workshops  
1998, 2005-2018  
Box 4: 23  
Emails  
2008-2011  
Box 4: 24  
Keefe-Bruyette Symposium - evaluations  
2011-2016  
Box 4: 25

Keefe-Bruyette Symposium - evaluations  
2017-2018  
Box 4: 26  
Keefe-Bruyette Symposium - programs  
2010-2017  
Box 4: 27  
Lectures, talks, signings  
ca.2014-2016  
Box 4: 28  
Lectures, talks, signings  
ca.2017-2018  
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Poetry readings  
ca.2009-2014  
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Poetry readings  
ca.2015-2018  
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Website notices  
2016  
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Website notices  
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Website notices  
2018  
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Speeches - Cousin Bernice  
ca.1997  
Box 4: 38  
Speeches - Leff, Israel Martin  
ca.1997  
Box 4: 39  
Speeches  
1997-1998  
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Speeches  
1999  
Box 4: 41  
Speeches  
2000  
Box 4: 42  
Speeches  
ca.2001  
Box 4: 43  
Speeches  
2002  
Box 4: 44  
Speeches  
2003  
Box 4: 45  
Speeches  
2004-2005  
Box 4: 46  
Speeches  
ca.2004-2009  
Box 4: 47  
Speeches  
2006-2010

Box 4: 48  
Speeches  
2011-2014  
Box 4: 49  
Speeches  
2015-2016  
Box 4: 50  
Speeches  
2017-2018  
Box 4: 51  
Series 2. Personal, Professional  
1955-2018 (*bulk*1980-2018)  
1 box (1 linear feet)  
4000-Footer Club of the White Mountains  
ca.1982  
Box 4: 52  
Awards, honors  
ca.1996-2018  
Box 4: 53  
Awards, honors  
ca.1996-2018  
Box 4: 54  
Awards - Olmsted Award  
2006  
Box 4: 55  
Business card  
ca.1977  
Box 4: 56  
Canoe transport receipts  
1988  
Box 4: 57  
Canton Town Historian  
ca.2014-2016  
Box 4: 58  
Canton Historical Museum  
2012, 2015  
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Canton Town Moderator  
2016  
Box 4: 60  
Canton Veterans Plaque  
2016  
Box 4: 61  
Clippings  
1998-2018  
Box 4: 62  
Collinsville Historic District Commission  
2006-2018  
Box 4: 63  
Connecticut Historical Society  
ca.2015  
Box 4: 64  
Correspondence  
1975-1992  
Box 4: 65  
Correspondence  
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Box 4: 66  
Correspondence  
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Correspondence  
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Correspondence

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Box 4: 70  
Correspondence  
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Correspondence, Eric Lehman  
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Correspondence, Eric Lehman  
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Box 4: 74  
Correspondence, photocopied  
ca.1982-2002  
Box 5: 1  
Department of Environmental Protection - clippings, identification card  
1996-2006  
Box 5: 2  
"Exploring America" Film Materials  
2018 Sep  
Box 5: 3  
Family tree  
undated  
Box 5: 4  
Firefighter - certificates  
ca.1988-2005  
Box 5: 5  
Firefighter - materials  
ca.2006-2015  
Box 5: 6  
Land conservation, state parks  
ca.2004-2006  
Box 5: 7  
Lehman, Eric - "Three Views of David Leff"  
2018  
Box 5: 8  
Maple syrup  
ca.1990-1993  
Box 5: 9  
Office of Legislative Research  
ca.1981-1993  
Box 5: 10  
Photographs

Celebration in the Orchard  
ca.1998  
Box 5: 11  
Collins Co.  
ca.2002-2008  
Box 5: 12  
Collinsville Rail Trail Dedication  
ca.2002-2008  
Box 5: 13  
Connecticut - Rhode Island boundary markers  
2007 Jul  
Box 5: 14  
Firefighter  
ca.1990-2005  
Box 5: 15  
Helping Wild Animals  
ca.1997-2003  
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Johnson, Nancy - Congresswoman  
1998  
Box 5: 17

Labrador, Canada  
ca.1990  
Box 5: 18-19  
Maine - Old Speck Mountain  
1981 Nov  
Box 5: 20  
Massachusetts - Lowell  
2006 Jun  
digital storage  
Miscellaneous  
ca.1980  
Box 5: 21  
Miscellaneous  
ca.1990-2010  
Box 5: 22  
Miscellaneous  
ca.2001  
Box 5: 23  
Miscellaneous  
ca.2013-2016  
digital storage  
Miscellaneous - work  
ca.1990-1999  
Box 5: 24  
Park River slides  
1996 Aug  
Box 5: 25  
"Picture Project"  
ca.2008-2013  
digital storage  
Salisbury, Connecticut  
2006 Oct  
Box 5: 26  
Website  
ca.2006-2016  
digital storage  
White Mountains  
ca.2006  
Box 5: 27  
WRW  
1990 Oct  
Box 5: 28  
Questionnaires  
2004-2016  
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Recommendations - RESTRICTED  
1975-2004  
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Research clippings  
ca.1999-2013  
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Resume  
ca.2013  
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Testimony  
2018  
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Transcripts  
1955, 1975  
Box 5: 33  
Wolberg, Pauline  
ca.1989, 1992  
Box 5: 34

## **Administrative information**

### **Access**

The collection is open for research, with the exception of the journals, which are closed until five years after the author's death, or May 29, 2027.

## Provenance

Acquired from David K. Leff, April 2016.

## Separated Material

Books that came with the David K. Leff Papers were removed from the collection and will be cataloged separately. These books include those written by Leff:

- The Last Undiscovered Place (2004)
- The Price of Water (2008)
- Deep Travel: In Thoreau's Wake on the Concord and Merrimack (2009)
- Depth of Field (2010)
- Hidden in Plain Sight: A Deep Traveler Explores Connecticut (2012)
- Tinker's Damn (2013)
- Finding the Last Hungry Heart (2014)
- Maple Sugaring: Keeping it Real in New England (2015)
- Canoeing Maine's Legendary Allagash: Thoreau, Romance, and Survival of the Wild (2016)
- Terranexus: Connection and Meaning in Ordinary Places (2018)
- The Breach: Voices Haunting a New England Mill Town (2019)
- Doppelganger: A Memoir of Mirrored Selves (2020)
- The Blue Marble Gazetteer (2022)

Additional books include poetry and short stories by Leff:

- Reader's Break: A Literary Anthology of Short Stories and Poetry (1996), Vol. III
- Long River Run 2012 (2012), C. Beck, Ed.
- Confluencia in the Valley: The First Five Years of Converging with Words (2013), M. Medrano & J. Lantigua-Williams, Eds.
- BEAT-itude: National Beat Poetry Festival 10 Year Anthology (2018), J. P. Wagner, Ed.
- Unlocking the Word: An Anthology of Found Poetry (2018), J. Zdanys, Ed.

## Processing Information

Processed by Giselle Lemus Tejeda, 2018. Updated by Caroline J. White, 2024.

## Language:

English

## Copyright and Use ([More information](#))

Cite as: David K. Leff Papers (MS 907). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

## Search terms

## Subjects

- Canoeing--Connecticut
- Collinsville (Conn.)
- Concord River (Mass.)
- Connecticut. Department of Environmental Protection.
- Leff, David, K.
- Maple sugar industry--Connecticut
- Merrimack River Valley (N.H. and Mass.)
- Merritt Parkway (Conn.)
- Newspaper columnists--Connecticut
- Poets--Connecticut
- Travel--Connecticut

## Contributors

- Leff, David, K. [main entry]



## Genres and formats

- Articles
- Books
- Correspondence
- Diaries
- Photographs
- Poems

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