

GROUP TITLE - Transportation Advisory Commission

The Transportation Advisory Commission was created by the General Assembly in 1925 (P.L. 1925, c. 266). Its original purpose was two-fold: to make a thorough study of the freight rate situation in North Carolina to determine whether the state's shippers and receivers were subjected to discriminatory rates; and to encourage the development of water transportation to and from state ports.

In 1927, the commission was authorized to act as agent for the state in the procurement of title to lands desired by the federal government for the intracoastal waterway between Beaufort and the Cape Fear River (P.L. 1927, c. 44). A canal committee was established to acquire the right of way and to abstract land titles. Subsequently, the commission was empowered to continue acquisition of land for the waterway from Southport to the South Carolina line (P.L. 1931, c. 2).

I. M. Bailey, assistant commissioner and legal counsel to the Corporation Commission, was named executive secretary of the Transportation Advisory Commission at its first meeting, December 23, 1926. The duality of his position is reflected in the contents of this record group, as much of the correspondence concerns Bailey's activities with the Corporation Commission. When the Transportation Advisory Commission was abolished in 1937 (P.L. 1937, c. 434), responsibility for its records and the completion of its unfinished business were vested in the Office of Utilities Commissioner.

The record group is divided into two subgroups: correspondence (which includes condemnation proceedings) and maps.

[ These records are stored at the Old Records Center on row 9-D-Rt. The maps are filed in the map case located in the workroom of the Old Records Center.

Finding aid completed June 11, 1990 by Kenrick N. Simpson.

Transportation Advisory Commission

SERIES TITLE - General Correspondence  
1926-1932

Series contains correspondence of I. M. Bailey, executive secretary of the Transportation Advisory Commission and counsel of the Corporation Commission. Topics include arrangements for meetings of the T.A.C.; reimbursement of the commissioners for travel and expenses; the hiring of rate experts and a rate clerk, and of attorneys to perfect land titles for the intracoastal waterway; trips by the commission to inspect inland waterways and port facilities; and requests for appropriations to complete the assigned tasks of the commission. Some of Bailey's correspondence as counsel to the Corporation Commission and interim commissioner is also included.

CALL NUMBER	TITLE	YEARS
TAC I, 1	Box 1. December 1926 - May 1928	1926-1928
TAC I, 2	Box 2. May 1928 - March 1929	1928-1929
TAC I, 3	Box 3. April 1929-1932	1926-1937

Also contains a bound volume of minutes of commission meetings and reports (1926-1931); lists of vouchers paid (1927-1931); report on audit (1927-1937); reports of the commission (1928-1930); and miscellaneous memoranda and resolutions.

Transportation Advisory Commission

SERIES TITLE - Correspondence re Intracoastal Waterway  
1927-1940

Series consists of correspondence concerning the acquisition of titles to land required for the construction of the Intracoastal Waterway in North Carolina. In 1927, the Transportation Advisory Commission was designated to act as agent for the state in procuring the desired easements, which the state would in turn donate to the federal government. The commission had three methods for acquiring the right-of-way parcels: (1) by donation from the owner via a deed of easement; (2) by condemnation proceedings; and (3) by purchase. Some of the land belonged to the State Board of Education as custodian of unappropriated swamp lands, which created some legal problems for the commission. Other technical difficulties soon arose, such as the proper form of the conveyances and the legality of condemning certain private property, particularly oyster beds. In such instances, the commission sought the advice of the Attorney General, whose opinions are included. The bulk of the correspondence concerns a few key individuals who directed the efforts to acquire the right-of-way: I. M. Bailey, executive secretary of the commission, who coordinated the project and procured the essential funding; J. Allen Taylor of Wilmington, chairman of the Canal Committee; William B. Campbell, legal counsel to the commission; Major W. A. Snow, the federal engineer in charge of the project in North Carolina, and his successor, Major R. A. Wheeler; Lewis L. Merritt, chief surveyor; and the attorneys responsible for acquiring land titles in each county - John D. Warlick (Onslow), John B. Hill (New Hanover and Pender), M. Leslie Davis (Beaufort and Carteret), and J. W. Ruark (Brunswick). Some of the correspondence between Bailey and Taylor concerning the canal is filed in the series of general correspondence.

CALL NUMBER

TITLE

YEARS

TAC I, 4	Box 1. July 1927 - June 1929	1927-1929
TAC I, 5	Box 2. July 1929 - September 1931	1929-1931
TAC I, 6	Box 3. October 1931 - December 1936	1931-1936
TAC I, 7	Box 4. 1937-1940	1937-1940

The uncompleted functions of the Transportation Advisory Commission were transferred to the Office of Utilities Commissioner, July 1, 1937. Some of the correspondence refers to the proposed abolition of the T.A.C. Box also contains the argument and supplemental argument and brief of the plaintiff in "State ex rel . . . the Transportation Advisory Commission v. Hale Beach Development Co., et al."

Transportation Advisory Commission

SERIES TITLE - Intracoastal waterway: Condemnation Proceedings and Miscellaneous records

1927-1934

Series consists of correspondence, transcripts of testimony, and legal documents concerning condemnation proceedings involving lands desired for the Intracoastal Waterway; miscellaneous land records and printed reports concerning the waterway; and correspondence and reports concerning the Transportation Advisory Commission investigation of the state's port facilities.

CALL NUMBER

TAC I, 8

TITLE

YEARS

Box 1. T.A.C. v. Wilmington-Wrightsville Beach Causeway Co., Tide Water Power Co., et al

1929-1934

Includes correspondence, transcript of testimony in New Hanover County Superior Court (February term, 1931), and records and briefs before the N.C. Supreme Court (1930-1933).

TAC I, 9

Box 2. T.A.C. v. Canady, et al; T.A.C. v. Thompson and Thompson; Miscellaneous

1926-1933

Includes correspondence (1929-1933) and record and briefs before the N.C. Supreme Court (Spring term, 1932) in "T.A.C. v. Canady, et al"; correspondence (1933) and testimony in Brunswick County Superior Court (August term, 1933) in "T.A.C. v. Thompson and Thompson"; copies of conveyances from the State of North Carolina to the federal government (1927-1932); deed abstracts; blank forms for deeds and petitions for condemnation; printed decisions of the Interstate Commerce Commission concerning the Inland Waterways Corporation; printed copy of report of Maj. W. A. Snow on the improvement of rivers and harbors in the Wilmington district (1927); reports of the chief engineer on preliminary examinations and surveys of the intracoastal waterway from Beaufort, N.C. to St. Johns River, Fla. (1926, 1929); and correspondence concerning and inspection reports of port facilities at Morehead City, New Bern and Southport. Folders on Morehead City include copy of lease between Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Co. and Howland Improvement Co. (1904), and photographs showing

Transportation Advisory Commission

deteriorated condition of "Pier One."  
Folders for New Bern and Southport  
contain briefs prepared to support  
requests for establishing state owned  
port terminals.

Transportation Advisory Commission

SERIES TITLE - Maps

Series consists mainly of right-of-way maps of coastal lands to be acquired by the Transportation Advisory Commission for the construction of the intracoastal waterway through southeastern North Carolina, including eighteen sheets showing the proposed waterway through Carteret and Onslow counties.

CALL NUMBER	TITLE	YEARS
	No box-level description. See folder level.	
	No folder-level description. See item level.	
TAC II, 1	Profile and Cross-Sections of Proposed Causeway From Wrightsville Station To Harbor Island, Wrightsville Sound, N.C..... Map prepared by J. L. Becton, C.E., Wilmington, NC, for Wilmington-Wrightsville Beach Causeway Co. Map shows the profile of the proposed causeway, and cross sections of the fill. Map is marked in red to show eastern and western right of way lines of the inland waterway. Map removed from Transportation Advisory Commission, Condemnation Proceedings, T.A.C. v. Wilmington-Wrightsville Beach Causeway Co., et al (TAC I, 8).	1924
TAC II, 2	Intracoastal Waterway From Beaufort, N.C., to the Cape Fear River To Accompany Survey Report Sheet No. 8 Map traced by Josenhans and Rudolph and submitted by Harry T. Paterson, Assistant Engineer, Office of District Engineer, Wilmington, NC, 1926; notes added 1929. This map is Sheet No. 8 of 17 sheets. The other 16 sheets were not placed in the file. Map is marked in red to show oyster beds and disposal area. Map also shows the right of way of the channel.	1929
TAC II, 3	Right-of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway From Beaufort, N.C. To Cape Fear River. Section From Myrtle Grove Sound To Cape Fear River Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E. Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation Advisory Commission, Canal Committee. Map is marked in red to indicate the boundaries of area required of D. L. Gore's estate. A vicinity sketch appears in the upper left corner.	1927

Transportation Advisory Commission

- TAC II, 4                      Right-of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway From    1927  
Beaufort, N.C. To Cape Fear River.  
Section From Myrtle Grove Sound To Cape  
Fear River  
Map shows landowners and the right of  
way limits for the proposed canal. A  
vicinity sketch appears in the upper  
left corner. An inset in the right  
margin shows the lot layout on George  
E. Green's property. Map prepared by  
Lewis L. Merritt, C.E., Wilmington,  
N.C., for the Transportation Advisory  
Commission, Canal Committee.
- TAC II, 5                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway            1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 1  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the right of way limits for the  
waterway and the property of H. K.  
Fort, John S. Jones, and the Ennett  
estates. Also shown is a cemetery and  
US Coast Survey stations. An index  
appears on the back cover of the  
wrapper around Sheets 1-18.
- TAC II, 6                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway            1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 2  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map show the  
waterway right of way limits,  
especially along the property of the  
Ennett estate. Also shown is a cemetery  
and US Coast Survey stations.
- TAC II, 7                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway            1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 3  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the portion of marsh claimed by Thomas  
Guthrie, known as Graball Fisheries.  
Map also shows the waterway right of  
way limit, a cemetery, landowners, and  
US Coast Survey stations.
- TAC II, 8                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway            1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 4  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits,  
especially along the property of John  
S. Jones. Map also shows a cemetery and

Transportation Advisory Commission

- US Coast Survey stations.
- TAC II, 9 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 5  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
the White Oak River to the US Coast  
Survey Station "Queen."
- TAC II, 10 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 6  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
east of the US Coast Survey Station  
"Hawk" to Station "Sanders."
- TAC II, 11 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 7  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
east of the US Coast Survey Station  
"Hawk" to Saunders Creek.
- TAC II, 12 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 8  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from  
Saunders Creek to Bear Creek.
- TAC II, 13 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 9  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from  
Saunders Creek to Bear Creek.
- TAC II, 14 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 10  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
Bear Creek to the US Coast Survey  
Station "Eagle."
- TAC II, 15 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 11  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the

Transportation Advisory Commission

- waterway right of way limits from Still Creek to Freemans Creek.
- TAC II, 16 Right-Of-way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 12  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
Browns Inlet to west of the US Coast  
Survey Station "Hurst."
- TAC II, 17 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 13  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
Freemans Landing to Bakers Creek. Also  
shows Haulover Fishery.
- TAC II, 18 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 14  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from  
Freemans Creek to Bakers Creek.
- TAC II, 19 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 15  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from Bakers  
Creek to Salliers Creek.
- TAC II, 20 Right-Of-way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 16  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows  
the waterway right of way limits from  
Salliers Creek to east of Cedar Point.
- TAC II, 21 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 17  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from Bakers  
Creek to Salliers Creek.
- TAC II, 22 Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway 1928  
Carteret and Onslow Co. Sheet No. 18  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC, for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, 1928. Map shows the  
waterway right of way limits from

Transportation Advisory Commission

- TAC II, 23                      Salliers Bay to New River.  
Intra-Coastal Waterway 1000 Foot                      1928  
Right-Of-Way Through Marsh Land Owned By  
Shore Acres Co.  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC for the Transportation  
Advisory Commission, Canal Committee.  
Map shows the waterway right of way  
limits from the US Coast Survey  
Triangulation Station "Ville" to  
Grangers Point. Map also shows the Tide  
Water Power Co. electrical railway,  
land- owners, parks, and survey  
information.
- TAC II, 24                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway,                      1929  
Oyster Gardens, New River Sheet No. 1  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC. Map shows the waterway  
right of way limits at Chadwick Bay.  
Map removed from Transportation Advisory  
Commission, Condemnation Proceedings,  
T.A.C. v. J. W. Canady (TAC I, 9).
- TAC II, 25                      Right-Of-Way Intra-Coastal Waterway,                      1929  
Oyster Gardens, New River Sheet No. 2  
Map prepared by Lewis L. Merritt, C.E.,  
Wilmington, NC. Map shows the waterway  
right of way limits at Chadwick Bay.  
Map removed from Transportation Advisory  
Commission Condemnation Proceedings,  
T.A.C. v. J. W. Canady (TAC I, 9).
- TAC II, 26                      Map Showing Territory In Which Reduction                      1938  
In Freight Rates Would Be Effected By  
Proposed Operation of Barge Lines on the  
Cape Fear River, N.C.