

**FIRST CHURCH (CHARLESTOWN, MASS.)**

**Records, 1784-1880.**

1 linear ft. and 2-1/2 inches (2 boxes, 1 v.)

No access restrictions.

Deposit, ca. 1979.

RG 49

Congregational Library  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108  
617-523-0470

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by Harold Worthley  
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*R11, SH6*

**HISTORICAL NOTE**

Town founded in 1630; church gathered in 1632; First Parish incorporated in 1803; Separatist split in 1749. Charlestown was annexed to Boston in 1874. UCC church since 1962; extant as First Church in Charleston UCC in 1996.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Parish financial records including pew rents and financial records. Also includes building committee records. Letter written October 1866 from Sidney E. Morse, son of Jedidiah Morse, an early 19th-century minister. The letter concerns the Sunday School.

Charlestown, Mass. First Church. Materials at the Congregation-  
al Library, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

The following items are the property of the First Church of  
Charlestown, Mass., on permanent loan to the Congregational  
Library.

Box 1

Volume 1. Records of the First Church in Charlestown, Massa-  
chusetts, 1832-1789. Printed under the care of  
James Frothingham, and for him, by David Clapp and  
Son, Boston, 1880.  
(CR I PUB HUNNEWELL).  
Copy in fair condition.  
(According to card catalogue entry (pre-1962), the  
original mss. record book is "in Lee Higginson  
vault.") (For contents, see Worthley, Inventory,  
p. 90.)

Parish Records, 4 mss. vols.

Volume 2. PR I - "I," "Charlestown Parish Records Began May  
1784." 1784-1803.

Volume 3. PR II - "I," "Parish Records. Book First."  
(Flyleaf: Records of the First Parish in the Town  
of Charlestown. Began March 24th 1803.)  
1803-1823

Volume 4. PR III - "Records of the First Parish in Charles  
town, May, 1823. Book Second." 1823-1854

Volume 5. PR IV - "Records Book Third." "Records of the  
First Parish in Charlestown. Book Third."  
1854-1880

Parish Treasurer's Accounts

Volume 6. PT I - 1808-1811

Volume 7. PT II - 1856-1870, 1878

Folder 1. News clippings, church plan removed from volume 7

Parish Assessors' Accounts, 4 mss. vols.

Volume 8. 1803

Volume 9. 1804

Volume 10. 1805

Volume 11. 1807

Pew Deeds, 1 mss. vol.

Volume 12. 1834-1927

Building Committee, 2 mss. vols.

Volume 13. Record book, 1833

Volume 14. Cash book, 1833

Parish Miscellany, 2 mss. vols.

Volume 15. Parish Land Company records, 1835

Volume 16. Proprietors of Pews, 1800

Folder 2. Church miscellany - correspondence, propositions;  
May 11, 1819-February 7, 1820, August 10, 1836  
(Written on envelope: "Charlestown, Mass. First  
Cong. Church. May 11, 1819-Aug. 10, 1836. Propo-  
sitions submitted by Pastor at Church Meeting May  
11, 1819 Jedidiah Morse. Letters & misc.  
records.")

The following items are the sole property of the Congregational  
Library, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Volume 20. Records of the First Church in Charlestown, Massa-  
chusetts, 1632-1789. Printed under the care of  
James Frothingham Hunnewell, and for him, by David  
Clapp and Son, Boston, 1880.  
(CR I PUB HUNNEWELL)  
Badly worn copy.

Folder 3. Photocopy of above volume. (copied on alkaline  
paper 4/22/93)

Inventory updated and materials place in Rare Book Room Sept. 20,  
1979.

Harold F. Worthley, Librarian