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Wollaston, Quincy, Mass. Wollaston Congregational Church records, 1874-1968. RG1048

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	Wollaston Congregational Church (Wollaston, Quincy, Mass.)
Title:	Wollaston, Quincy, Mass. Wollaston Congregational Church records, 1874-1968.
ID:	RG1048
Date [inclusive]:	1874-1968
Physical Description:	1.44 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	<p>On September 23, 1874, a meeting was called for the organization of a Congregational church in Wollaston, Quincy, Massachusetts. The resulting Wollaston Congregational Society met in local churches and member residences until the completion of the first meeting house, which was erected in 1875 and dedicated in 1876. Wollaston Congregational Church was officially incorporated on November 15, 1898. Construction on a replacement for the first meeting house ended with a dedication on March 28 1926. Wollaston Congregational Church voted to join the United Church of Christ on January 29, 1960 and is still active today. This collection contains the earliest records of Wollaston Congregational Church and its auxiliary groups and includes financial records, membership lists, meeting minutes, reports, and correspondence. A church history, produced as a scrapbook in 1951, documents the first 75 years of the church.</p>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Wollaston, Quincy, Mass. Wollaston Congregational Church records, 1874-1968, RG1048. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Biographical / Historical

The land that is modern Quincy, Massachusetts is the historic seat of the Neponset Band of the Massachusetts Tribe's leader Sac'hem Chickataubut and the seasonal, ancestral home of the Massachusetts, Wampanoag, and Pokanoket tribes. The descendants of the Neponset Band of the Massachusetts Tribe, the Ponkapoag people, inhabited the future site of the town before and during the first recording of the colonization of the area on September 30, 1621 under Captain Myles Standish of the Plymouth Colony. Quincy's present-day neighborhood of Wollaston paralleled colonial expansion in the area and developed as a European settlement after Thomas Morton, Captain Richard Wollaston, and a group of colonists parted with the Plymouth Colony as early as 1624.

On September 23, 1874, a meeting was called for the organization of a Congregational church in Wollaston, Quincy, Massachusetts. The resulting Wollaston Congregational Society met in local churches and member residences until the completion of the first meeting house, which was erected in 1875 and dedicated in 1876. Reverend Francis N. Zabriskee, D.D., acted as first regular pastor. The church was constructed on the corner lot between Lincoln Avenue and Winthrop Avenue in Quincy, Massachusetts in the neighborhood then known as Wollaston Heights. Specifications for the wooden Gothic Revival were made by architect Samuel D. Kelly of Boston with J.D. Rollins and D. R. Edgerton of Edgerton & Rollins contracted to complete the building on or before January 1, 1876. Wollaston Congregational Church was incorporated on November 15, 1898, effectively dissolving the Wollaston Congregational Society.

The Wollaston Congregational Church an acquired additional, neighboring property in 1900. A new parish house was built and dedicated on November 14, 1915. Discussions regarding the potential of a new meeting house arose in 1923 to accommodate increased membership. The eventual construction of a new meeting house began in 1925. The corner stone was laid on June 14 of the same year, and the building was dedicated on March 28, 1926.

The Wollaston Congregational Church maintained several auxiliary groups throughout its history. A meeting was held on February 17, 1875 for the organization Ladies Benevolent Society. The society outlined its constitution and bylaws on February 26, 1875. The Auxiliary to the Women's Board of Missions was organized in 1887 and merged with the Ladies Benevolent Society in May 1918 to form the Women's Union. Also included is the Congregational Men's Club, which was started in 1906 and renamed the Chester I. Campbell Men's Club in 1933.

Wollaston Congregational Church voted to join the United Church of Christ on January 29, 1960 and is still active today.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains the records, correspondence, and programs related to the gathering and construction of Wollaston Congregational Church of Quincy, Massachusetts since its initial organization in 1874. Included within the records are the administrative and society meeting minutes and reports, financial records, and membership lists of the church. The records also document the formation and mission of the church's auxiliary groups such as the Ladies Benevolent Society, Wollaston Auxiliary, and Woman's Union through meeting minutes and personal correspondence. A scrapbook on the history of the first 75 years of the church, which includes photographs from the early twentieth century and a drawing from memory of the original meeting house, further contextualizes the materials.

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series. Records in each series and subseries have been primarily arranged chronologically by start date, and secondarily by topic.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Restrictions on Use

Items in this collection are subject to U. S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

Acquisition Information

Materials were donated to the Congregational Library & Archives by Wollaston Congregational Church (Wollaston, Quincy, Mass.) in February 1962.

Processing Information

Processed by G McFarland, March 2023, using DACS Second Edition.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Church records and registers.
- Church charities.
- Church correspondence.
- Church buildings.
- Church finance.
- Church membership.
- Church societies.
- Letters.
- Photographs.
- Women in charitable work.
- Wollaston (Quincy, Mass.) -- Church history.
- Wollaston Congregational Church (Wollaston, Quincy, Mass.)

Bibliography

Edwards, William Churchill. Historic Quincy, Massachusetts. 1st ed. Quincy: City of Quincy, 1957.

Native Land Digital. Native Land Digital, October 8, 2021. <https://native-land.ca/>.

"We Are the Descendants." The Massachusett Tribe at Ponkapoag. The Massachusett Tribe at Ponkapoag, 2023. <https://massachusetttribe.org/>.

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Collection Inventory

Church administration, 1874-1951

Physical Description: 17 Files (13 volumes, 4 folders)

Scope and Contents

This series contains church records such as printed by-laws, administrative reports, meeting minutes, and account books. Included in these records are copies of church governance, descriptions of committee activities, specifications for the construction of the first meeting house, and vital statistics such as membership lists. A scrapbook reviewing the history of the church from 1876 to 1951 further contextualizes the materials.

Title/Description	Instances	
Church and society records, 1874-1898	box 1	volume 1
Society records, 1874-1925	box 1	volume 2
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Various transactions, programs, and correspondence, 1890-1950".		
Church records, 1874-1876	box 1	volume 19
"A Review of its First 75 Years 1876 – 1951", 1876-1951, 1951	box 2	folder 10
Various transactions, programs, and correspondence, 1890-1950	box 2	folder 1
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
This file is comprised of materials removed from the volume titled "Society records, 1874-1925".		
Church records, 1898-1899	box 1	volume 3
Executive committee records, 1899-1915	box 1	volume 4
Prudential committee reports, 1888-1898	box 1	volume 7
Prudential committee meeting minutes, 1899-1930	box 1	volume 8

Prudential committee meeting minutes, 1930-1939	box 1	volume 9
Account book, 1927-1943	box 1	volume 10
<p><u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials</p> <p>Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Wollaston Congregational fire insurance and accounting note, 1935". The accounting note was discovered on page 179 of the volume.</p>		
Executive committee and committee of twenty five meeting minutes, 1932-1939	box 1	volume 5
<p><u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials</p> <p>Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in file titled "Debt of Honor Campaign program, 1938". The materials were found with the volume entry for February 27, 1938.</p>		
Wollaston Congregational fire insurance and accounting note, 1935	box 2	folder 3
<p><u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials</p> <p>This file is comprised of materials removed the volume titled "Account book, 1927-1943". The accounting note was discovered on page 179 of the volume.</p>		
Wollaston Congregational Church Forward Movement Fund cash book, 1936-1943	box 1	volume 11
Church by-laws, 1936	box 1	volume 6
Debt of Honor Campaign program, 1938	box 2	folder 2
<p><u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials</p> <p>This file is comprised of a pamphlet removed the volume titled "Exeuctive committee and committee of twenty five meeting minutes, 1932-1939". The material was found with the volume entry for February 27, 1938.</p>		
Dr. Isaiah W. Sneath Memorial Fund account book, 1940-1941	box 1	volume 12

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Auxiliary groups, 1875-1968

Physical Description: 13 Files (7 volumes, 6 folders)

Scope and Contents

This series contains the records of Wollaston Congregational Church's auxiliary groups. Included are the meeting minutes, financial information, and personal and organizational correspondence of the Ladies Benevolent Society, Auxiliary W.B.M., Women's Missionary Association, and Woman's Union.

Title/Description	Instances	
Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1875-1892	box 1	volume 13
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "History of Woman's Union & Benevolent Society correspondence, 1901-1968". Letter from the Calhoun Colored School was discovered on page 92 of volume.		
Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1900-1915	box 1	volume 14
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Correspondence and Woman's Home Missionary Association records, 1911".		
History of Woman's Union & Benevolent Society and correspondence, 1901-1968	box 2	folder 4
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
This file is comprised of materials removed from the volume titled "Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1875-1892". Letter from the Calhoun Colored School was discovered on page 92 of volume.		
Correspondence and Women's Home Missionary Association records, 1911	box 2	folder 5
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
This file is comprised of materials removed from the volume titled "Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1900-1915".		
Wollaston Auxiliary W.B.M. records, 1912-1918	box 1	volume 16
Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1916-1918	box 1	volume 15
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		

Separated Materials

Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Letters to Ladies Benevolent Society, 1918".

Woman's Union meeting minutes, 1918-1921	box 1	volume 17
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

This file is comprised of a brochure removed the volume titled "Woman's Union meeting minutes, 1918-1921". The item was discovered on page 13 of the volume.

Letters to Ladies Benevolent Society, 1918	box 2	folder 6
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

This file is comprised of materials removed the volume titled "Ladies Benevolent Society records, 1916-1918".

Norfolk and Pilgrim Branch W.B.M. Report, 1919	box 2	folder 9
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

This file is comprised of a brochure removed the volume titled "Woman's Union meeting minutes, 1918-1921". The item was discovered on page 13 of the volume.

Woman's Union records, 1921-1926	box 1	volume 18
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Correspondence, Report of Serving Committee, and Ladies' Night Ticket, 1922-1923, undated". Clipping titled "Our Slogan" and Ladies' Night ticket was discovered on page 184 of volume. Letter from Dorothy H. Taylor on Boston University Women Graduates' Club letterhead was discovered on page 238 of volume.

Correspondence, Report of Serving Committee, and Ladies' Night Ticket, 1922-1923, undated	box 2	folder 7
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

This file is comprised of materials removed the volume titled "Woman's Union records, 1921-1926". Clipping titled "Our Slogan" and Ladies' Night ticket was discovered on page 184 of volume. Letter from

Dorothy H. Taylor on Boston University Women
Graduates' Club letterhead was discovered on page
238 of volume.

Secretary Records of the Woman's Unions, 1926-1935	box 2	volume 1
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Materials removed from this volume are stored separately in folder titled "Receipts and letters, 1932, undated". Receipts was discovered on page 129 of volume. Letter from Chaplain William S. Kelley was discovered on page 211 of volume.

Receipts and letters, 1932	box 2	folder 8
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

This file is comprised of materials removed the volume titled "Secretary Records of the Woman's Unions, 1926-1935". Receipts was discovered on page 129 of volume. Letter from Chaplain William S. Kelley was discovered on page 211 of volume.

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