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## Arlington, Mass. Pleasant Street Congregational Church records, 1842-2010. RG4962

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English

DACS2 - 2013

Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

[info@14beacon.org](mailto:info@14beacon.org)

URL: <http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Congregational Library & Archives
<b>Creator:</b>	Bradshaw, Anna, 1785-1869
<b>Creator:</b>	Bushnell, Samuel Clarke, 1852-1930
<b>Creator:</b>	Orthodox Congregational Church (Arlington, Mass.)
<b>Creator:</b>	Pleasant Street Congregational Church (Arlington, Mass.)
<b>Title:</b>	Arlington, Mass. Pleasant Street Congregational Church records, 1842-2010.
<b>ID:</b>	RG4962
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1842-2010
<b>Physical Description:</b>	4.71 Cubic Feet (5 boxes)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Pleasant Street Congregational Church was organized in December 1842, as the Orthodox Congregational Church of West Cambridge. Many of the original members of the Orthodox Congregational Church had been members of the First Congregational Church in Arlington but left when the church turned Unitarian in 1828. Between 1940 and 1953, Orthodox Congregational Church was renamed Pleasant Street Congregational Church. The church would officially close its doors in early 2011. This collection contains numerous records from Pleasant Street Congregational church, including as vital statistics, committee records and meetings, minister information, auxiliary information and events, printed materials and annual reports, church finances, church building information and a variety of photographs.

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Arlington, Mass. Pleasant Street Congregational Church records, 1842-2010, RG4962. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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## Historical Note

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Pleasant Street Congregational Church was organized in December 1842, as the Orthodox Congregational Church of West Cambridge. Many of the original members of the Orthodox Congregational Church had been members of the First Congregational Church in Arlington but left when the church turned Unitarian in 1828. Anna Bradshaw (1785-1869) played an important role in founding this church by holding the early prayer meetings on her homestead. The parcel of land on which the church was erected was donated by Anna Bradshaw. The church steeple was destroyed by a tornado in 1871 and it was again damaged during a hurricane in 1938. Between 1940 and 1953, Orthodox Congregational Church was renamed Pleasant Street Congregational Church. By 1963, Pleasant Street Congregational Church had joined the United Church of Christ. In April, 2010, a Merger Action Team was formed to explore a merger with the Congregational Church of West Medford, UCC. Within the next year, the church would officially close.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains numerous records from Pleasant Street Congregational church, including as vital statistics, committee records and meetings, minister information, auxiliary information and events, printed materials and annual reports, church finances, church building information and a variety of photographs.

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## Arrangement

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The Pleasant Street Congregational Church records are arranged into three series and seven subseries. Furthermore, each series and subseries is arranged by date.

**Series 1:** Church records, 1842-2010

**Subseries 1:** Vital records, 1842-1960

**Subseries 2:** Committee records and meetings, 1842-2009

**Subseries 3:** Ministers, 1878-1989

**Subseries 4:** Auxiliary Organizations and events, 1899, 1937-2010

**Subseries 5:** Historical information, 1901-2004

**Subseries 6:** Printed materials, 1901-2007

**Subseries 7:** Annual reports, 1932-2010

**Series 2:** Financial records, 1855-1998

**Series 3:** Photographs, 1871-1999

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

[info@14beacon.org](mailto:info@14beacon.org)

URL: <http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org>

### Revision Description

Zachary Bodnar: minor revisions to the titles and dates of many records, addition of new subject headings, minor descriptive edits. July 15, 2019

### 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 the Pleasant Street Congregational Church of Arlington, Massachusetts in May 2011; 2014-23.

## Processing Information

Originally processed by Stefanie Maclin and Abraham Miller in 2011, using DACs second edition. Updated by William McCarthy in September 2017 and January 2019.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

Additional materials related to Arlington, Mass Congregational Church can be found at the Arlington Historical Society and the Arlington Public Library.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Church architecture -- Designs and plans.
- Church bells.
- Church finance.
- Church membership.
- Church records and registers.
- Installation (clergy).
- Marriage records.
- Obituaries.
- Scrapbooks.
- Arlington (Mass.) -- Buildings, structures, etc. -- Photographs.
- Arlington (Mass.) -- Church history.
- Orthodox Congregational Church (Arlington, Mass.)

- Pleasant Street Congregational Church (Arlington, Mass.)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Church records, 1842-2010

Physical Description: 101 Folders

#### Scope and Contents

This series contains church records such as vital statistics, committee records and meetings, minister information, auxiliary information and events, printed materials and annual reports.

### Vital records, 1842-1960

Physical Description: 4 Folders

#### Scope and Contents

The Membership series includes records related to church vital statistics including members register, letters of dismission, marriage certificates and newspaper articles on marriages and deaths.

Title/Description	Instances	
Orthodox Congregational Church register of members, 1842-1939	box 1	folder 1
Letters of dismission, 1939-1947	box 1	folder 2
Marriage announcements and obituaries, 1947-1949	box 1	folder 3
Marriage certificates, 1952-1960	box 1	folder 4

### Committee records and meetings, 1842-2009

Physical Description: 22 Folders

#### Scope and Contents

This sub-series contains committee records, by-laws and society meeting reports.

Title/Description	Instances	
Committee records and society meeting minutes, 1842-1883	box 1	folder 18
Society meeting minutes, 1844-1855	box 1	folder 19
Society meeting minutes and correspondences, 1856-1946	box 1	folder 20
Committee records and annual meeting minutes, 1921-1927	box 1	folder 21
Committee records and annual meeting minutes, 1927-1931	box 1	folder 22
Church planning committee, 1947-1954	box 1	folder 23
Committee records, 1950-1953		

	box 1	folder 24
Canvas committee, 1953-1958	box 1	folder 25
Committee records, 1954-1955	box 1	folder 26
Committee records, 1956	box 1	folder 27
Committee records, 1957	box 1	folder 28
Correspondence, 1957-1978	box 1	folder 29
Board of deacons, 1961-1962	box 1	folder 30
Committee records, 1962-1965	box 1	folder 31
By-Laws, 1970, 1991, 1998, 2009	box 1	folder 32
Committee records, 1968-1970	box 1	folder 33
Committee records, 1971	box 1	folder 34
Committee records, 1972	box 1	folder 35
Committee records, 1973-1974	box 1	folder 36
Committee records, 1975-1978	box 2	folder 1
Committee records, 1979-1980	box 2	folder 2
Committee records, 1981-1982	box 2	folder 3

## Ministers, 1878-1989

Physical Description: 7 Folders

### Scope and Contents

This series includes pastoral search committee records, installation information and records of Samuel C. Bushnell and Edward A. Morris.

Title/Description	Instances	
Installations, 1878-1900	box 2	folder 4
Minister Samuel C. Bushnell's scrapbook, 1890-1920	box 2	folder 5
Ministers, 1889-1890, 1940	box 2	folder 6
Installations, 1915-1989	box 2	folder 7
Minister Samuel C. Bushnell's scrapbook, 1916-1946	box 2	folder 8
Pastoral Search Committee, 1968-1976	box 2	folder 9
Minister Edward A. Morris, 1980	box 2	folder 10

## Auxiliary organizations and events, 1899, 1937-2010

Physical Description: 11 Folders

**Scope and Contents**

This series includes the records for church organizations and events, such as the annual Craigville retreat, Homecoming Sunday, Sunday School, musical events and the Pageant of the Brides.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Choir, organ and musical events, 1899, 1973-2010	box 2	folder 11
Pageant of the Brides, 1937-1950	box 2	folder 12
Education and Sunday School, 1956-1970	box 2	folder 13
Events, 1956-1979	box 2	folder 14
Church World Service Day and Cuban refugees, 1963	box 2	folder 15
Homecoming Sunday, 1973	box 2	folder 16
Craigville retreat, 1973-1978	box 2	folder 17
Craigville retreat, 1979-1980	box 2	folder 18
Craigville retreat, 1981	box 2	folder 19
Craigville retreat, 1982-1984	box 2	folder 20
Craigville evaluations and registrations, undated	box 2	folder 21

**Historical Information, 1901-2004**

Physical Description: 13 Folders

**Scope and Contents**

This series includes historical information such as church scrapbooks, newspaper clippings and anniversary material.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Newspaper clippings, 1901-2004	box 1	folder 5
Church scrapbook, 1937-1952	box 1	folder 6
Church scrapbook, 1953-1954	box 1	folder 7
Church scrapbook, 1954-1955	box 1	folder 8
Church scrapbook, 1962-1974	box 1	folder 9
Church scrapbook, 1974-1978	box 1	folder 10
125th anniversary, 1967	box 1	folder 11
Dedications for stained glass windows, 1974	box 1	folder 12
Silver appraisal, 1976	box 1	folder 13
Church scrapbook, 1986-1987	box 1	folder 14
Church scrapbook, 1987-1988	box 1	folder 15

Church scrapbook, 1988-1989	box 1	folder 16
150th anniversary, 1992-1993	box 1	folder 17

## Printed materials, 1901-2007

Physical Description: 27 Folders

### Scope and Contents

This series contains printed materials, including church services, the newsletter "The Banner" and some older newsletters from before the start of "The Banner".

Title/Description	Instances	
Church services, 1901-1934	box 2	folder 22
Church services, 1936-1942	box 2	folder 23
Church services, 1942-1948	box 2	folder 24
Church services, 1949-1954	box 2	folder 25
Church services, 1955	box 2	folder 26
Church services, 1956-1957	box 2	folder 27
Church services, 1957-1960	box 2	folder 28
Church services, 1961-1963	box 2	folder 29
Church services, 1973-1981	box 2	folder 30
Church newsletters, 1948-1950	box 2	folder 31
The Banner, 1967-1970	box 2	folder 32
The Banner, 1970-1972	box 2	folder 33
The Banner, 1972-1975	box 2	folder 34
The Banner, 1975-1977	box 2	folder 35
The Banner, 1978-1980	box 2	folder 36
The Banner, 1981-1983	box 2	folder 37
The Banner, 1984-1986	box 2	folder 38
The Banner, 1987-1989	box 2	folder 39
The Banner, 1989-1992	box 2	folder 40
The Banner, 1992-1995	box 3	folder 1
The Banner, 1995-1998	box 3	folder 2
The Banner, 1998-2000	box 3	folder 3
The Banner, 2002	box 3	folder 4
The Banner, 2003-2005	box 3	folder 5

The Banner, 2005-2006	box 3	folder 6
The Banner, 2007	box 3	folder 7
Church services for children, undated	box 3	folder 8

## Annual reports, 1932-2010

Physical Description: 17 Folders

### Scope and Contents

This sub-series contains the annual reports from Pleasant Street Congregational Church.

Title/Description	Instances	
Annual reports, 1932-1933	box 3	folder 9
Annual reports, 1934-1940	box 3	folder 10
Annual reports, 1953-1956	box 3	folder 11
Annual reports, 1957-1959	box 3	folder 12
Annual reports, 1960-1962	box 3	folder 13
Annual reports, 1963-1964	box 3	folder 14
Annual reports, 1966-1969	box 3	folder 15
Annual reports, 1970-1972	box 3	folder 16
Annual reports, 1973-1975	box 3	folder 17
Annual reports, 1976-1977	box 3	folder 18
Annual reports, 1978-1980	box 3	folder 19
Annual reports, 1982-1984	box 3	folder 20
Annual reports, 1985-1989	box 3	folder 21
Annual reports, 1990-1994	box 3	folder 22
Annual reports, 1995-1997	box 3	folder 23
Annual reports, 1998-2004	box 3	folder 24
Annual reports, 2005-2010	box 3	folder 25

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## Financial records, 1855-1998

Physical Description: 31 Folders

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains information on church finances and the church building. This includes treasurer's reports, committee records, insurance information, property records, building purchases, building repairs and renovations.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Account book, 1855-1920	box 3	folder 26
Financial records, 1882-1883	box 4	folder 1
Financial records, 1923-1929, 1937	box 4	folder 2
Architectural plans, 1947, 1952	box 4	folder 3
Ruling on Mary A. Hill's will, 1921	box 5	folder 10
Property deeds and mortgages, 1921	box 5	folder 11
Property deeds and mortgages, 1928, 1938	box 5	folder 12
Bequests and wills, 1941, 1950-1956	box 5	folder 13
Church bells, 1948-1950	box 4	folder 4
Property deeds and mortgages, 1949-1955, 1987	box 5	folder 14
Loans, 1950, 1961	box 5	folder 15
Church bells, 1950-1950	box 4	folder 5
Selling of land, 1950-1954	box 4	folder 6
Church bells, 1951-1962	box 4	folder 7
Correspondences regarding construction project, 1953-1954	box 4	folder 8
Parish house furnishing committee records, 1953-1955	box 4	folder 9
Loans, 1954	box 5	folder 16
Church treasurer reports, 1954-1960	box 4	folder 10
Building repairs, 1955, 1972	box 4	folder 11
Parish house furnishing committee records, 1955-1956	box 4	folder 12
Financial records, 1955-1958	box 4	folder 13
Insurance Information, 1957-1958	box 5	folder 17
Dr. Ralph B. Lancaster Memorial Fund, 1960	box 4	folder 14
Loans, 1961, 1979	box 5	folder 18
Steeple renovation, 1962-1966	box 4	folder 15
Schedule of rates for use of facilities, 1965	box 4	folder 16
Town of Arlington zoning and by-laws, 1970, 1973	box 4	folder 17
Financial records, 1970-1974, 1993	box 4	folder 18

Inventory lists, 1984	box 4	folder 19
Existing conditions report, 1996-1998	box 4	folder 20
Church bells, undated	box 4	folder 21

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## Photographs, 1871-1999

Physical Description: 14 Folders

### Scope and Contents

This series includes photographic prints and 35mm color negatives of church events, portraits, including ministers, and images of the church structure.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Church building, 1871-1959	box 4	folder 22
Edith M. Fox, 1900, 1955, 1980	box 4	folder 23
Events, 1924, 1947-1961	box 4	folder 24
Damage from Hurricane, 1938	box 4	folder 25
Pageant of the Brides, 1950	box 4	folder 26
Portraits, 1950-1973	box 5	folder 1
Men's club minstrel show, 1954	box 5	folder 2
<b>Content Warning</b>		
Please note that this folder contains historical images depicting white people in blackface. The Congregational Library & Archives does not condone these racist depictions but makes them available to give an accurate and holistic portrayal of the historical record.		
Parish house, 1954-1955	box 5	folder 3
Friendship fair, 1975	box 5	folder 4
Communion silverware from 1807 at bicentennial service, 1976	box 5	folder 5
Arlington Town Day, 1985	box 5	folder 6
Craigsville Weekend, 1987	box 5	folder 7
Myron and Elizabeth Taylor, 1998, undated	box 5	folder 8
Organist Heinrich Christensen, 1999	box 5	folder 9

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