

WORCESTER CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES  
RECORDS, 1820-1989

20 inches

Restrictions: None

Gift of the Association and  
Robert R. Rock

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

Processed by  
Sandra Sudak, May 1990  
Barbara Austen, April 1993

## INTRODUCTION

The bulk of the records of the Worcester Central Association were given to the Congregational Library at an undetermined time. The ordination and installation records dating 1968 to 1989 were donated by Robert R. Rock, former registrar, in April 1993.

## HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1909, at the recommendation of the Massachusetts General Conference, the Worcester Central Conference adopted the name "Association." At the same time, control of ministerial standing, including ordination, was transferred from the local ministers' association to the larger Worcester Central Association. The minutes in this collection begin with these changes in 1909.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records of Worcester Central Association are arranged in four series by type of record. Series A consists of bound volumes of minutes and reports of annual meetings, executive committee meetings, and ecclesiastical councils between 1909 and 1961. The last volume was removed from its binder, although the pages remain attached to the adhesive binding in original order.

Series B, 1940-1956, consists of general correspondence, meeting programs, and loose reports of the association, arranged chronologically. Ministerial standing and ecclesiastical council records are arranged in Series C. Records dating from 1820 to 1897, and which have their own index in volume 1, are arranged alphabetically by town and then by name of the minister. Documents relating to the formation of a church are filed before individual records. Minutes and letters dating 1945 to 1956 are arranged alphabetically by minister's name. The last addition to the collection, ministerial standing records from 1986-1989, are arranged separately, and are organized alphabetically by name as well.

The final series in the collection contains versions of the Association's constitution from 1940 to 1955.

Series A. Minutes and reports, 1909-1961. 4 volumes. 7 inches.

Series B. Correspondence and reports, 1940-1956. 1 inch.

Series C. Ministerial standing and ecclesiastical council records, 1820-1989. 11 inches.

Series D. Constitutions, 1940-1955. 1 folder.

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RECORDS, 1820-1989

DESCRIPTION

Box 1

Series A. Minutes and Reports, 1909-1961

- Volume 1. Historical memorandum . . . leading up to the formation  
of the Association Council, and minutes, 1909-1937  
" 2. Minutes, 1920-1945  
" 3. Minutes, 1946-1954  
" 4. Minutes, 1955-1961

Series B. General correspondence and reports

- Folder 1. 1940-1946  
" 2. 1947-1949  
" 3. 1950-1956

Series C. Ministerial standing and ecclesiastical council records,  
1820-1989

- Volume 1. Index to councils, 1820-1897  
Folder 1. Councils, 1820-1897 A-B  
" 2. " " " C  
" 3. " " " F-H  
" 4. " " " L-M  
" 5. " " " N-Oa  
" 6. " " " Oxford  
" 7. " " " P  
" 8. " " " Q-R

Box 2

- " 9. " " " Shrewsbury  
" 10. " " " St-Westboro  
" 11-16. " " " Worcester  
" 17. Ministerial standing, 1945-1956 A-J  
" 18. " " " " L-Y  
" 19. Correspondence, 1944-1956

Box 3

- " 20. Ministerial standing, 1986-1989 A-J  
" 21. " " " " L-W

Series D. Constitutions, 1940-1955

- Folder 1. 1940, 1944, 1955

Worcester South Conference/Association of Congregational Churches  
Records. 1855-1963

I. MINUTES and REPORTS, HISTORY

- E1. A Brief History of the Congregational Churches of the Worcester South Conference of Massachusetts. 1670-1876
- BV2. Records of Worcester South Association. Minutes. 1855-1913
- BV3. Minutes. 1917-1940
- BV4. Minutes. 1940-1960
- F5. Minutes. 1960-1963
- E6. Conference meeting programs. 1936-1962, with gaps
- F7. Misc. reports and correspondence. 1944-1962, with gaps

II. MINISTERIAL STANDING

- F8. 1937-1956, with gaps, unarranged

III. TREASURER'S ACCOUNT BOOKS

- BV9. 1922-1960. Annual reports, Assessments, fellowship dues
- BV10. 1960-1963. Annual reports, fellowship dues

E = Envelope  
F = Folder  
BV = Bound volume

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1 Records storage box

Worcester North Conference/Association of Congregational Churches  
Records. 1906-1967

I. MINUTES and REPORTS

- E1. Constitution. 1906, 1940
- E2. Spring and Fall meeting programs. 1907-1959, with gaps  
Lists of meeting places
- F3. Reports. 1907-09, 1911
- F4. Statistics of Churches. 1906-1914
- E5. Annual Meeting Minutes. 1940-1953
- BV6. Record of the Scribe. 1954-56  
also - Report of the Treasurer 1966-67
- F7. Annual meeting, executive committee, various committee  
reports. 1952-58, with gaps
- F8. " 1959-61
- F9. " 1962-63
- F10. " 1964-65
- F11. " 1966-67

II. CORRESPONDENCE

- F12. 1908-1922, with gaps
- F13. 1958-60

III. MINISTERIAL STANDING

- E14. Ecclesiastical Council Minutes. 1932-42, with gaps
- E15. Ordinations, Installations. 1950s. A-H
- E16. " " " J-Z
- E17. Record of Ministerial Standing/Professional Ministerial  
Record. 1960s
- E18. Correspondence and certificates of transfer. 1960s
- E19. UCC applications and standings. 1960s

IV. FINANCIAL RECORDS

- F20. Misc. 1909-1927, with gaps. Includes some apportionments
- E21. Receipts and expenses. 1948-1966
- F22. Fellowship dues. 1952-1967

V. MISCELLANEOUS

- BV23. Pilgrim Fellowship Accounts. 1948-67
- F24. Pilgrim Fellowship. 1964-65

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