

# NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 38

Date processed: August 1976

- I. Title **The Inquisitors Club, New Haven. Records, 1902-1956.**
- II. The papers of **The Inquisitors Club** deposited in the Library ~~in~~ 1956, by the Club as a gift.  
~~xx~~ ~~reverted the deposit to a gift~~
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1  
Approximate number of items: 700
- IV. Restrictions: none
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on .
- VII. Biographical note: The Inquisitors Club was founded in 1902. A highly social organization, its activities consisted mainly of drinking, eating, and listening to papers delivered at each meeting by club members. The members were wealthy young men from old New Haven families. They all seem to have been Yale graduates. Meetings originally took place at the Yale Graduates Club, but were later moved to the homes of the members as they married and began to settle down. Many went on to prominence as Yale professors, editors, and businessmen. Connecticut Senator Hiram Bingham was also a member. The club lasted until 1955, with much less turnover in membership than might be expected. Since they had decided not to perpetuate the club by admitting new members, old age and dwindling numbers forced the old members to dissolve the club.
- VIII. Analysis: The collection consists of one box and three ledgers. Correspondence is filed in chronological order. The minutes are fairly complete, although there are periodic gaps. The minutes include lists of members, lists of officers, titles of papers delivered, etc.  
The club's purpose was social; no one seems to have thought of collecting and binding the club records until after the fact. Henry Brewer and Edwin Pugsley put forth efforts in ca. 1930 and ca. 1950, respectively, to collect and preserve club memorabilia and to gather copies of the papers delivered at the meetings.

## INDEX TO THE INQUISITORS CLUB PAPERS

## Box 1--Handwritten Minutes, Photographs and Correspondence

Folder A--Two handwritten books of minutes**	1902-08 (with photograph 1908-09
Folder B--Original handwritten minutes of meetings	**1909-12 (with photograph
Folder C-- " " " " "	1913-24
Folder D-- " " " " "	1925-34
Folder E-- " " " " "	1935-43
Folder F-- " " " " "	1944-53
Folder G--Photographs from club outing	June 3, 1916
Folder H--Photographs from club outings	c. 1910-1920 (?)
Folder I--General Club Correspondence (dealing mainly with attendance at meetings & outings)	1915-29
Folder J--General Club Correspondence (dealing mainly with attendance at meetings & outings)	1930-51
Folder K--Correspondence regarding collection of copies of papers read at club meetings	1920-35
Folder L--Correspondence regarding collection of copies of papers read at club meetings	1940-50
Folder M--Correspondence regarding donation of club papers to the New Haven Historical Society	1956

\*\*N.B. Folders A-F are duplicated in typewritten form (see items 2 and 3). However, the photographs in folders A and B were mounted, so they could not be relocated to the duplicate copy, which is bound and much more legible than the originals.

Item 2--Typewritten minutes of the Inquisitors Club**(See N.B. above)	1902-1931
Item 3--Typewritten minutes of the Inquisitors Club**(See N.B. above) Includes lists of members, officers, titles of papers read, etc.	1932-1955
Item 4--Bound Copies of Papers Read at Club meetings	1903-1947