

The Whitney Library  
New Haven Colony Historical Society

Manuscript Register

MSS #B84

TRUSTEES OF CENTER CHURCH HOME, INC.

1868-1986

Arranged and described

by

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9 boxes

5 linear feet

The Collection is organized numerically by box.  
Each box is organized alphabetically by folder.

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#### INTRODUCTION

In 1868 ten men from New Haven established the "Trustees of the Home for Aged and Destitute Women in New Haven". The Trustees were Center Church members and there were yearly elections of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. In 1957 the corporate name was changed to "Trustees of Center Church Home, Incorporated".

There was a Finance Committee, with three Trustees, of whom one was the Secretary or the Treasurer. The Property Maintenance and Repairs Committee consisted of two Trustees and one member from the Church Home Management Committee. The Church Home Management Committee, also called the Board of Managers, included forty women, at least three-fourths of whom were Center Church members. The Board of Managers had four officers and Executive, House and Garden, Entertainment, Admissions and Nominating Committees. The staff of the Home, the only paid employees, were under the supervision of the Board of Managers.

The Home was originally established for Protestant women in good health, over sixty-five years of age and from the greater New Haven area. Means of support were stated, along with two sponsors, and there was a three-month probationary period before final acceptance. The Board of Trustees showed some flexibility in admitting non-Center Church members, including Catholics, men, non-residents of New Haven, younger people and/or individuals without funds, but Center Church members were always given priority.

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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

This collection consists of nine boxes with financial and business records, correspondence, ledgers, minutes, memoranda and personal, financial and health records of the residents of the Center Church Home.

Series I, Administration includes the charter, tax exemption permit, minutes and records from the Board of Trustees and the Board of Managers' meetings, license for the Home, historical information, pictures of the Board of Trustees and of the Home. The Rev. David N. Beach was a pastor, trustee and later retired at the Home along with his wife, Marguerite, and sister, Dorothee. The retirement of another resident, Miss Pardey, a German citizen, was interrupted after Pearl Harbor. She had to be registered and fingerprinted and after the ordeal she regressed, threatening the matron's life, and was later removed from the Home. The Home changed with the times, but the family spirit remained the same.

Series II, Finance consists of income from gifts, welfare and room rents. A number of residents were on economic assistance, but due to the continued use of the endowment to maintain payroll and operations and the lack of a full house of residents the Home was closed in 1986. Lack of facilities for skilled medical care appears to have been a factor in the closing.

Series III, Residents contains medical, financial, religious, genealogical and sponsorial information, correspondence, inventory of the furniture of the Home and personal belongings of the residents, fire safety and the brass plate which came from the Home. The Center Church Home provided family and security for a multitude of people for over a century.

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#### HISTORY OF THE PAPERS

The papers were transferred from the Trustees of Center Church Home, Incorporated to the Whitney Library of the New Haven Colony Historical Society on July 25, 1988, and on December 16, 1988 minute books of the Trustees from 1887-1985 were added.

There are no restrictions on access to this material.

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SERIES I

ADMINISTRATION

<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
	<u>Charter and By-Laws</u>	
1/A	By-Laws and Charter, 1 copy, n.d., 1 copy, 1962	(6)
1/B	Tax Exemption Permit	(9)
	<u>Minutes of the Board of Trustees</u>	
1/C	1884-1926	(1 vol.)
1/D	1927-1956	(62)
1/E	1956-1964	(45)
1/F	1964-1976	(93)
1/G	1977-1985	(74)
	<u>Minutes, Statements and Reports from Special, Monthly, Quarterly and Annual Meetings of the Board of Managers</u>	
1/H	1944-1959	(1 vol.)
1/I	1945-1953	(79)
1/J	1954-1962	(74)
1/K	1955-1981	(127)
2/A	1959-1966	(60)
2/B	1962-1967	(69)
2/C	1967-1971	(70)
2/D	1968-1972	(66)

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<u>Minutes, Statements and Reports ... (continued)</u>		
<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
2/E	1971-1977	(81)
2/F	1971-1978	(130)
2/G	1972-1976	(85)
2/H	1976-1985	(103)
2/I	1977-1986	(91)
2/J	1978-1985	(142)
2/K	1981-1986	(116)
 <u>Historical Material</u>		
3/A	1961-1987	(15)
 <u>Operations</u>		
3/B	Accidents 1967-1980	(10)
3/C	Book/Market Analysis 1977-1986	(119)
3/D	Elevator 1964-1986	(179)
3/E	Annual Report of Long Term Care Facility Cost Year 1979	(45)
 <u>Correspondence with the State of Connecticut</u>		
3/F	Food Distribution 1974-1986	(78)
3/G	Department of Health 1970-1984	(125)
3/H	Department of Labor 1969-1986	(152)
3/I	Licensing Procedure 1978-1985	(81)

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<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
<u>General Correspondence</u>		
3/J	1960-1962 (removed from notebook)	(139)
4/A	1963-1971 ( " " " )	(114)
4/B	A - D 1970-1986	(123)
4/C	D 1985	(1 vol.)
4/D	E - Z 1970-1986	(133)
<u>Employees</u>		
4/E	Information 1977-1985	(49)
4/F	Analysis of Wages 1977-1985	(26)
4/G	Payroll 1980	(1 vol.)
4/H	Health Insurance 1956-1985	(71)



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SERIES II

FINANCE

<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>		<u>No. of Items</u>
	<u>General Correspondence</u>		
4/I	1953-1986		(71)
	<u>Supplementary Income</u>		
4/J	Gifts	1951-1967	(1 vol.)
4/K	Gifts	1961-1986	(22)
4/L	Welfare	1962-1986	(24)
	<u>Room Rents</u>		
4/M	A - K	1949-1986	(134)
5/A	L - W	1949-1986	(80)
5/B	Monthly	1949-1969	(123)
5/C	Monthly	1970-1986	(100)
	<u>Internal Revenue Service</u>		
5/D	1951-1969		(92)
5/E	1970-1975		(134)
5/F	1976-1979		(115)
5/G	1980-1982		(119)
5/H	1983		(88)
5/I	1984		(119)
6/A	1985-1987		(120)

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<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
	<u>Payroll</u>	
6/B	1953-1959	(91)
6/C	1960-1966	(102)
6/D	1967-1974 (1970 missing)	(132)
6/E	1975-1979	(123)
6/F	1980-1982	(111)
6/G	1983-1986	(150)
	<u>Financial Reports</u>	
7/A	1939-1978	(1 vol.)
7/B	1969-1975	(1 vol.)
7/C	1979-1982	(1 vol.)
7/D	1982-1985	(1 vol.)
7/E	1985-1986	(1 vol.)

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SERIES III

RESIDENTS

<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
	<u>Files</u>	
8/A	A - B	(128)
8/B	C - E	(138)
8/C	F - G	(160)
8/D	H - J	(162)
8/E	K - L	(109)
8/F	M, O (no "N"s)	(92)
8/G	P - R	(81)
8/H	S	(71)
8/I	T - W (no "XYZ")	(93)
	<u>Miscellaneous Correspondence</u>	
9/A	1946-1985	(65)
	<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
9/B	Inventory of furniture	1956 (19)
9/C	President's notebook on residents entering Home	1926-1954 (1 vol.)
9/D	Guest Book	1972-1985 (1 vol.)
9/E	Information and menus	1978 (12)
9/F	Fire safety	1961-1986 (233)
9/G	Center Church Home plate	(1)

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<u>Box/ Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>No. of Items</u>
	<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
9/H	Visitor's Minutes 1874, Annual Reports, 1884, 1894, 1906, 1910 & 1928.	(6)
	SERIES I & II	
9/I	Account Book 1868-1897.	(1 v)
9/J	Endowment Fund 1888-1913.	(41)
10/A	Minutes 1868-1911.	(1 v)
10/B	Account Book 1896-1913.	(1 v)