

Hills Garden Club of Wellesley Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

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Local Identifier

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Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
(781) 235-6690
www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

Hills Garden Club of Wellesley Collection, 1955 – 2015

Date

1955 – 2015

Extent

4 linear feet, 8 boxes

Name of Creator

The Hills Garden Club of Wellesley

Historical Note

The Hills Garden Club of Wellesley first met June 10, 1955, when a number of Wellesley women decided to start a garden club specifically for Wellesley Hills, separate from the Wellesley Garden Club. The group became a member of the Massachusetts Federation of Garden Clubs the following year. The club has a maximum number of 55 members at any given time

From the start, the club conceived of its mission and vision as a horticultural and beautification project which would benefit Wellesley Hills. They settled on the Isaac Sprague Memorial Clock Tower and Elm Park as the initial focus of their efforts, which it has remained through the course of the club's history. The club's stated goal is "to create interest in the science and art of gardening and to stimulate the promotion of civic beauty through horticulture and conservation."

Through the 1960s the club expanded its interests, particularly on the issue of conservation. They also joined the metro Garden Council during this era to contribute to the beautification of the Roxbury Project. Also during this era, the club established Art in Bloom as a prominent local fundraiser, and initiated participation in the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's annual flower show.

Through the 1970s into the early 2000s, the club established garden tours, and committed further to conservation and ecology efforts. In addition to a focus on Elm Park, the club extended and expanded its outreach into the community, founding a garden therapy program at the now

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defunct Wiswall Hospital, designing a garden room at the Wellesley Community Center, and initiating a children's flower show at the Fells branch library.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials created by or concerning the activities of the Hills Garden Club of Wellesley. Club yearbooks contain lists of members, leadership positions, programing, constitution, and by-laws. Meeting minutes and reports were compiled in binders and notebooks by club members. Award applications and awards, press clippings, photographs, scrapbooks, and programs detail some of the projects undertaken by the club.

Index Terms

Gardeners
Gardening
Gardening—Societies, etc.
Gardens
Hills Garden Club of Wellesley
Wellesley Hills (Mass.)

System of Arrangement

This collection is organized into ten series arranged by subject:

- I. Yearbooks; 1956 – 2007
- II. Organizational Documents; 1957 – 2004
- III. Club History & Ephemera; 1955 – 2005, & undated
- IV. Club Notebooks & Binders; 1955 – 1999
- V. Awards & Award Applications; 1962 – 1983, & undated
- VI. Events, Programs, & Projects; 1950 – 2015
- VII. Scrapbooks & Photographs; 1955 – 2005
- VIII. Correspondence; 1968, 1974, 1975, 2000, & undated
- IX. Clippings; 1977 – 2015
- X. Membership in Gardening Organizations; 1961 - 1990

Conditions Governing Access

The papers are open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org
(781) 235-6690

Physical Access

Some of the materials are fragile.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

2016.24

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to the collection in the future.

Description

Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee.

DACS Finding Aid created by Taylor C. Kalloch & Alden Ludlow in June 2018.

Bibliography

Hills Garden Club of Wellesley. "The Hills Garden Club of Wellesley, in Celebration of the 50th Anniversary, 1955-2005." Self-published booklet, in collection.

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Container List

I. Yearbooks; 1956 – 2007

This series contains yearbooks of the Hills Garden Club of Wellesley. Each yearbook contains lists of members, leadership positions, programing, constitution, and by-laws.

Box 1

Folder 1:	1956 – 1957
Folder 2:	1957 – 1958
Folder 3:	1958 – 1959
Folder 4:	1959 – 1960
Folder 5:	1960 – 1961
Folder 6:	1961 – 1962
Folder 7:	1962 – 1963
Folder 8:	1963 – 1964
Folder 9:	1964 – 1965
Folder 10:	1965 – 1966
Folder 11:	1966 – 1967
Folder 12:	1967 – 1968
Folder 13:	1968 – 1969
Folder 14:	1969 – 1970
Folder 15:	1970 – 1971
Folder 16:	1971 – 1972
Folder 17:	1972 – 1973
Folder 18:	1973 – 1974
Folder 19:	1974 – 1975
Folder 20:	1975 – 1976
Folder 21:	1976 – 1977
Folder 22:	1977 – 1978
Folder 23:	1978 – 1979
Folder 24:	1980 – 1981
Folder 25:	1981 – 1982
Folder 26:	1985 – 1986
Folder 27:	1986 – 1987
Folder 28:	1987 – 1988
Folder 29:	1988 – 1989
Folder 30:	1989 – 1990

Box 2

Folder 1:	1990 – 1991
Folder 2:	1991 – 1992
Folder 3:	1992 – 1993
Folder 4:	1993 – 1994
Folder 5:	1994 – 1995
Folder 6:	1995 – 1996
Folder 7:	1996 – 1997

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Folder 8:	1997 – 1998
Folder 9:	1998 – 1999
Folder 10:	1999 – 2000
Folder 11:	2000 – 2001
Folder 12:	2001 – 2002
Folder 13:	2002 – 2003
Folder 14:	2004 – 2005
Folder 15:	2006 – 2007

II. Organizational Documents; 1957 – 2004

This series contains documents concerning the organization of the club such as the constitution and by-laws.

Box 2

Folder 16:	Constitution & By-Laws; 1957, 1960, 1971, 1977, & Revised 2004
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III. Club History & Ephemera; 1955 – 2005, & undated

This series contains both published and unpublished histories written about the club as well as ephemera such as examples of the club stationary.

Box 2

Folder 17:	Club Stationary; undated
Folder 18:	“The Hills Garden Club of Wellesley History”; 1955 – 2005
Folder 19:	Manuscripts Regarding Club History; undated

IV. Club Notebooks & Binders; 1955 – 1999

This series contains materials which were compiled in notebooks for binders by club members as a means of record keeping. The bulk of each of the notebooks or binders is comprised of meeting minutes and reports.

Box 2

Folder 20:	Civic Improvement Committee Materials; 1969 – 1972, 1974 – 1976, 1995, 1997, & 1999
Folder 21:	Club Materials; 1955 – 1956

Box 3

Folder 1:	Club Materials; 1958 – 1961
Folder 2:	Club Materials, #1 of 2; 1961 – 1965
Folder 3:	Club Materials, #2 of 2; 1961 – 1965
Folder 4:	Club Materials; 1965 – 1967
Folder 5:	Club Materials; 1967 – 1970

Box 4

Folder 1:	Club Materials; 1970 – 1971
Folder 2:	Club Materials; 1972 – 1977

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- Folder 3: Conservation Committee Materials; 1963 – 1982
- Folder 4: Horticulture Materials, #1 of 2; 1956 – 1972
- Folder 5: Horticulture Materials, #2 of 2; 1956 – 1972
- Folder 6: Nominating Committee Materials; 1990s
- Folder 7: Treasurer Materials; 1987 – 1988

V. Awards & Award Applications; 1962 – 1983, & undated

This series contains awards won by the club for exhibits and service projects. Also included in this series are the applications for service and project awards which were submitted by the club for consideration, mainly by state gardening organizations.

Box 5

- Folder 1: Award Certificates; 1962, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1976, & undated
- Folder 2: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. & Sears, Roebuck, & Co. Civic Beautification Program, Clock Tower Park; 1965
- Folder 3: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. & Sears, Roebuck, & Co. Civic Beautification Program, Elm Park (Containing Clock Tower Planting); 1967
- Folder 4: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. & Sears, Roebuck, & Co. Civic Beautification Program, Elm Park (Containing Clock Tower Planting); 1968
- Folder 5: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. Civic Projects Award, Installation of a Sprinkling System; 1972
- Folder 6: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., Design for Ecology in Wellesley for Consideration for Public Relations Award; 1970
- Folder 7: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., Garden Therapy at Newton Wellesley Hospital for Consideration for Garden Therapy Award; 1983
- Folder 8: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc., The Mildred Parker Conversation Award; 1974
- Folder 9: Governor's Citation of Excellency, Design in Ecology for Wellesley; 1971
- Folder 10: National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., Problem Rock for Consideration for Civic Concern B, Roadside Improvement Memorial; 1975
- Folder 11: Sears, Roebuck, & Co. Bay State Civic Beautification Contest, Clock Tower Park; 1962

Archives Oversize Box 15

- Folder 1: Massachusetts Horticultural Society New England Spring Flower Show Ribbon; 2000

VI. Events, Programs, & Projects; 1950 – 2015

This series contains materials related to the events, programs, and projects of the club. Events of note include Art in Bloom, Into the Garden/Beyond the Garden Gate, New England Flower Show exhibits, and club anniversaries.

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Box 5

- Folder 12: Art in Bloom, "Les Dames au Jardins"; November 1968
Folder 13: Flower Show Tickets & Tags; c. 1975
Folder 14: Hills Garden Club 50th Birthday Celebration; 2005
Folder 15: Hills Garden Club of Wellesley presents "Beyond the Garden Gate..."; June 15, 2004

Box 6

- Folder 1: Hills Garden Club of Wellesley presents "Into the Garden..." A Tour of 5 Private Gardens; June 10, 2008
Folder 2: Hills Garden Club of Wellesley's "Beyond the Garden Gate"; June 9, 2015
Folder 3: Hunnewell Garden for Massachusetts Horticulture Society Show; 1975
Folder 4: New England Regional Environmental Conference Materials; November 1971
Folder 5: Plant Name Tags from Flower Show; undated
Folder 6: Problem Rock Project; 1976 – 1977
Folder 7: Programs; 1950s
Folder 8: Programs; 1960s
Folder 9: Programs; 1970s
Folder 10: Roxbury Project; 1961

Box 7

- Folder 1: Scripts for Talks; 1973 & 1974
Folder 2: "Treasured Gardens of The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts"; 2014

VII. Scrapbooks & Photographs; 1955 – 2005

This series contains scrapbooks and photographs documenting club events, meetings, projects, and exhibits.

Box 7

- Folder 3: Annual Meeting & Flower Show Photographs; 1998
Folder 4: Civic Beautification Scrapbook; 1965
Folder 5: Elm Park Scrapbook; 1991 – 1996
Folder 6: English Flower Festival Photographs; 2002
Folder 7: Exhibit at New England Flower Show Scrapbook; 2000
Folder 8: Loose Scrapbook Pages; 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, & undated
Folder 9: Untitled Scrapbook; 1955 – 1990
Folder 10: Untitled Scrapbook; 1991 – 2000

Box 8

- Folder 1: Untitled Scrapbook; 2000 – 2005

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VIII. Correspondence; 1968, 1974, 1975, 2000, & undated

This series contains both inter-club correspondence as well as correspondence between the club and outside individuals and organizations.

Box 8

Folder 2: Correspondence; 1968, 1974, 1975, 2000, & undated

IX. Clippings; 1977 – 2015

This series contains newspaper and other press clippings concerning the club.

Box 8

Folder 3: Press Clippings; 1977, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2014, & 2015

X. Membership in Gardening Organizations; 1961 – 1990

This series contains materials regarding the Hills Garden Club of Wellesley's membership and participation in larger local and state wide gardening organizations.

Box 8

Folder 4: Council of Wellesley Garden Clubs Materials; 1961 – 1990

Folder 5: Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. Materials; 1981 – 1982

Folder 6: Leadership Guides from the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts Inc.; 1965 & 1981