

Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club Collection, 1916-1982
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

mawelhs

Local Identifier

2019.07

Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society

229 Washington Street

Wellesley, MA 02481

(781) 235-6690

www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club Collection, 1916-1982

Date

1916-1982, bulk 1916-1963

Extent

1.5 linear feet, 3 document boxes

Name of Creator

Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club

Biographical Note

The Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club was formed 1916. According to their 1934 Constitution, the “object of this Club is to promote neighborhood friendliness and to work for any worthy object which may be approved by vote of the Club” (Constitution, 1934 version). The club acted as a type of neighborhood improvement society, but they were predominantly concerned with social activities within the membership circle.

During World War II they were heavily involved with the Red Cross sewing and producing dressings and bandages for the war effort. The club focused on many other philanthropical activities, not limiting themselves solely to the town of Wellesley.

Wellesley Farms is generally the area around Glen Road, where the Wellesley Farms MBTA station is located.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains account books and records pertaining to the meetings and activities of the Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club. See Scope and Content Note with each Series for more details.

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System of Arrangement

The collection is organized into four series, organized by type. Each series is organized chronologically.

- I. Account Book: 1917-1960
- II. Board Records, 1916-1982
- III. Photographs, c.1963-1982
- IV. Notebook (Grenfell Mission), 1954-1958

Library of Congress Index Terms

Citizens' associations
Neighborhoods
Historic districts
Wellesley (Mass.)
Women—Societies and clubs

Conditions Governing Access

The Collection is 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

Immediate Source of Acquisition

N/A

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to this collection in the future; however, no further accruals are currently expected.

Description

DACS-compliant Finding Aid created in May 2017 by Alden Ludlow. Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee.

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Container List

I. Account Book: 1917-1960

This series contains an account book, tracking membership dues and other expenses.

Box 1

Folder 1: Account book, 1917-1960

II. Board Records, 1916-1982

This series contains the records of the executive board. The board structured their meetings around the academic calendar, meeting about 12 times a year from October through May until the 1940s, when they decided on monthly meetings; the club's activities were year-round. Box 3, Folder 8 (1960-1961) contains a list of all club presidents from 1916-1961, as well as a copy of the Bylaws. Amended versions of the Bylaws and Constitution can be found in Box 2, Folder 4 (1933-1934). Each year, in May, the club Secretary submitted an annual report. Box 2, Folder 6 contains the 1936 annual report, which includes a retrospective history of the group at the time of its 20th anniversary.

The board meetings followed a pattern. First, the business meeting, after which the hostesses would take over, and the members would participate in a wide range of activities, from games, to knitting, presentations, and cooking, just to name a few. The group also acted as a book club, with members agreeing to read and discuss chosen books. Members greeted newcomers to the neighborhood, visited the sick and mourning, and raised funds for various projects, both local and international.

The materials in this series include meeting minutes, descriptions of various social activities, treasurer and secretary reports, correspondence, member lists, and other business-related material.

Box 1

Folder 2: 1916-1917

Folder 3: 1917-1918

Folder 4: 1918-1919

Folder 5: 1919-1920

Folder 6: 1920-1921

Folder 7: 1921-1922

Folder 8: 1922-1923

Folder 9: 1923-1924

Folder 10: 1924-1925

Folder 11: 1925-1926

Folder 12: 1926-1927

Folder 13: 1927-1928

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Folder 14: 1928-1929
Folder 15: 1929-1930

Box 2

Folder 1: 1930-1931
Folder 2: 1931-1932
Folder 3: 1932-1933
Folder 4: 1933-1934
Folder 5: 1934-1935
Folder 6: 1935-1936
Folder 7: 1936-1937
Folder 8: 1937-1938
Folder 9: 1938-1939
Folder 10: 1939-1940
Folder 11: 1940-1941
Folder 12: 1941-1942
Folder 13: 1942-1943
Folder 14: 1943-1944
Folder 15: 1944-1945
Folder 16: 1945-1946
Folder 17: 1946-1947
Folder 18: 1947-1948
Folder 19: 1948-1949
Folder 20: 1949-1950
Folder 21: 1950-1951
Folder 22: 1951-1952
Folder 23: 1952-1953

Box 3

Folder 1: 1953-1954
Folder 2: 1954-1955
Folder 3: 1955-1956
Folder 4: 1956-1957
Folder 5: 1957-1958
Folder 6: 1958-1959
Folder 7: 1959-1960
Folder 8: 1960-1961
Folder 9: 1961-1962
Folder 10: 1962-1963
Folder 11: 1963-1964
Folder 12: 1964-1965
Folder 13: 1965-1966
Folder 14: 1966-1967
Folder 15: 1967-1968
Folder 16: 1968-1969

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Folder 17: 1969-1970
Folder 18: 1970-1971
Folder 19: 1971-1972
Folder 20: 1972-1982

***III.* Photographs, c.1963-1982**

This series contains 12 photographs taken at various Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club events. The photographs were taped to paper in a makeshift photo album in 1982, and includes photographs from the 50th anniversary celebration in 1966, and other events. The photographs have been removed from the paper, but a color copy of the original pages is included, with original notes.

Box 3

Folder 21: Photographs, c.1963-1982

***IV.* Notebook (Grenfell Mission), 1954-1958**

This spiral-bound notebook/scrapbook contains information and correspondence pertaining to the Grenfell Mission. During the 1950s the Club elected to support the Grenfell Mission as one of its philanthropy recipients; members of the Club were associated with the New England Grenfell Association (New England Friends of the Grenfell Mission) in Boston. Additionally, the Mission was supported by the Wellesley Branch of the New England Needlework Guild, which shared membership with several of the women in the Wellesley Farms Neighborhood Club. The Mission provided support for people living in the difficult conditions in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. This notebook contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other information associated with local support for the Grenfell Mission.

Box 3

Folder 22: Notebook (Grenfell Mission), 1954-1958