



Westport Places Collection RG 3

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Description is in English

Westport Museum for History & Culture

25 Avery Place

Westport, CT 06880

Business Number: (203) 222-1424

archives@westporthistory.org

URL: <https://westporthistory.org/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Historical Note	3
Scope and Content of Collection	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5
General	5
Collection Inventory	5
Bridges and Roads	5
Cemeteries	6
Churches and Temples	7
Historic Houses and Buildings	8
Parks and Waterways	9
Sites and Landmarks	11
Surveys and Reports	12
Maps	13

Summary Information

Repository:	Westport Museum for History & Culture
Title:	Westport Places Collection
ID:	RG 3
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/36/resources/1147
Date [inclusive]:	1827-2015, n.d.
Physical Description:	8.5 linear feet 22 boxes
Physical Location:	Westport Museum for History and Culture Archives Room
Language of the Material:	English.
Abstract:	The Westport Places Collection includes documentation of bridges, roads, cemeteries, churches, temples, historic houses, parks, waterways, and other sites in Westport.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], , [Box no]., Westport Places Collection, Westport Museum for History and Culture

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Note

Like many other towns in New England, Westport's roots are in the Native Americans who frequented this area years ago. Names such as Saugatuck, meaning mouth of the tidal river, and Compo (Compaug), the bear's fishing ground, come from the early Paugussett tribe.

The colonial settlers came from three surrounding towns – Norwalk, Fairfield, and Weston, parts of which comprised Westport. The river was the dividing line between Norwalk and Fairfield, and vital to farmers as a pathway to markets for their produce. A small community of wharves, warehouses, stores and a tavern grew up on both sides of the river to become the Village of Saugatuck. The first church built in Westport was the Green's Farms Congregational Church, in 1711, and it served as the focal point of all town activities, from running the schools to collecting the taxes.

After the Revolutionary War, the Village of Saugatuck began to grow as a shipping center. In the 1830s, Daniel Nash, a leading resident, together with 130 other villagers made an application to the Connecticut General Assembly to incorporate Westport as a town. The charter was granted May 28, 1835.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content of Collection

The Westport Places Collection includes documentation of bridges, roads, cemeteries, churches, temples, historic houses and buildings, parks, waterways, and other sites in Westport. The documentation is primarily printed material collected by the Westport Museum for History and Culture over the years, but does include some original manuscript material, as noted in the finding aid. Records related to the Green's Farms Congregational Church are in a separate record group, RG 18. Records related to Westport public schools are found in Record Group 2, Westport Town Records. Records related to businesses in Westport, including mills, are found in Record Group 5, Westport Business and Commerce. Photographs of places documented in this record group may be found in Record Group 13, Westport Photographs.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

The material is arranged in eight series: Series 1: Bridges and Roads; Series 2: Cemeteries; Series 3: Churches and Temples; Series 4: Historic Houses and Buildings; Series 5: Parks and Waterways; Series 6: Sites and Landmarks; Series 7: Surveys and Reports; 8. Maps

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Westport Museum for History & Culture

25 Avery Place

Westport, CT 06880

Business Number: (203) 222-1424

archives@westporthistory.org
URL: <https://westporthistory.org/>

Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

For copyright status, please contact the Westport Museum for History and Culture.

Acquisition Information

The material was accumulated by the Museum over the years.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Westport (Conn.)--History.
- Pamphlets.
- Maps.

General

Collection guide written by:
Westport Museum for History and Culture staff

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Bridges and Roads

Title/Description	Instances	
Detailed listing of box contents and copies of clippings related to various bridges	Box 1	Folder 1

King's Highway Bridge

Westport Places Collection RG 3

	Box 1	Folder 2
Sasco Creek Bridge	Box 1	Folder 3
Saugatuck Bridge (Bridge St.) – includes study report for Local Historic District Designation, Saugatuck River Swing Bridge	Box 1	Folder 4-5
State Street Bridge	Box 1	Folder 5-6
"The Merritt Parkway: Driving Fairfield County to Economic Prosperity" – paper by Paul J. Tupper (2012)	Box 1	Folder 8
Merritt Parkway – clippings, photos, brochure, 2004, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 9

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Cemeteries

Title/Description	Instances	
Assumption Cemetery (Catholic Church of the Assumption) – see Box 2, Folder 3		
Westport Sexton Book, 1886-1900 March	Box 2	Folder 1
Burial Hill / Burying Hill	Box 2	Folder 2
Christ Church Cemetery and Assumption Cemetery	Box 2	Folder 3
Compo Colonial Cemetery	Box 2	Folder 4
Compo - correspondence of Edith Very Sherwood and William Gray Harman, 1929-1943	Box 2	Folder 4a
Evergreen Cemetery – Saugatuck Society	Box 2	Folder 5
Evergreen Cemetery - Report of Boy Scout Eagle Service Project of Chuck McBride, Troop 39 to clean up cemetery, presented to Saugatuck Congregational Church	Box 2	Folder 5a
Gray's Cemetery	Box 2	Folder 6
Green's Farms Lower Cemetery	Box 2	Folder 7-8
Green's Farms Upper Cemetery	Box 3	Folder 1a
Green's Farms – West Parish – Colonial Cemetery on Shore Road	Box 3	Folder 1b
Old Burial Ground / King's Highway Cemetery	Box 3	Folder 2
Platt Cemetery	Box 3	Folder 3
Poplar Plain Cemetery	Box 3	Folder 4
Willowbrook Cemetery	Box 3	Folder 5
General: Photocopy of "Record of Returns made by Sextons of Cemeteries", 1886-1909	Box 3	Folder 6

General: Photocopy from "Charles Hale Collection of Connecticut Headstone Inscriptions to approximately 1937 – Westport section, index of names	Box 3	Folder 7
General: Articles and notes re. Westport cemeteries. Copy of WHS publication "Buried in our Past: A Historical Presentation of Westport's Burial Grounds"	Box 3	Folder 8
General: Westport Sexton Book, 1886-1900	Box 2	Folder 1

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Churches and Temples

Title/Description	Instances	
Assumption Parish / Church of the Assumption	Box 4	Folder 1
Chabad Lubavitch Synagogue	Box 4	Folder 2
Christ Church - histories	Box 4	Folder 3
Christ Church – photocopies of parish records, 1836-1890	Box 4	Folder 4-5
Christ Church – photocopy of parish register, 1853-1887	Box 4	Folder 6
Christ and Holy Trinity Church	Box 4	Folder 7-8
Church of the Holy Trinity – including sermon by Rector Kenneth Mackenzie, 1901	Box 4	Folder 9
Church of St. Luke – history of church 1957-1982, postcards	Box 5	Folder 1
Conservative Synagogue, 1998	Box 5	Folder 2
Green's Farms Congregational Church – see Record Group 18		
Methodist churches – Methodist Episcopal Church, Saugatuck – documents certifying annual meetings of church and election of trustees, 1867-1933; Westport Methodist Church – election of trustees, 1938; articles of merger of Westport Methodist Church and Saugatuck Methodist Church, 1947, 1867-1947	Box 5	Folder 3
Methodist churches – histories and reminiscences, including "Methodism in Westport 1790-1990," booklet published by United Methodist Church; history of Community Methodist Church; newspaper articles re. Methodism	Box 5	Folder 4
St. Paul Lutheran Church – illustration on notecard	Box 5	Folder 5
Saugatuck Congregational Church (see also Record Group 21) - church publications including Confession of Faith, Covenant, Ecclesiastical Principles, 1857; bulletins; historical sketch, n.d.; 125th anniversary booklet, 1957; restoration report, 1993, 1857-1993	Box 5	Folder 6

Saugatuck Congregational Church (see also Record Group 21) – historical sketch re. church and Jesup Mansion (parsonage)	Box 5	Folder 7
Saugatuck Congregational Church (see also Record Group 21) - newspaper articles; program for benefit concert for soldiers' families, 1865	Box 5	Folder 8
Saugatuck Congregational Church (see also Record Group 21) – newspaper articles and photographs re. move of church building across Boston Post Road, 1950	Box 5	Folder 9
Saugatuck Congregational Church (see also Record Group 21) – newspaper article re. fire at church, 2011	Box 5	Folder 10
Temple Israel – news articles re. 40 year anniversary, 1988; typescript history	Box 6	Folder 1
Unitarian Church – brochure, articles about building; handwritten historical sketch; postcards, 1988, n.d.	Box 6	Folder 2
General: church and temples chronology, text from WHS exhibit "Houses of Prayer in Westport"	Box 6	Folder 3

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historic Houses and Buildings

Scope and Contents

See also in Record Group 8, Box 3: "Some Colonial and Revolutionary Homes in Westport" (1900-1901) – papers by Margaret Backus; See also at repository: 2 sets of files related to historic houses, arranged by street address

Title/Description	Instances	
15 Riverside Ave. (former Famous Artists School)	Box 7	Folder 1
Compo House (Winslow Mansion) - correspondence, clippings	Box 7	Folder 2
Driftwood – re. auction of waterfront estate, 1941	Box 7	Folder 2
Dunn House, Myrtle Ave. – blueprints	Box 7	Folder 2
Jessup House	Box 7	Folder 2a
Kemper House	Box 7	Folder 2b
Emily McLaury House, 99 Myrtle Ave. Documentation prepared in collaboration with Wendy Crowther, member of Emily McLaury House Committee: genealogical information including re. Emma McLaury, John King family, property maps, info. on home, 2007	Box 8	
National Hall	Box 7	Folder 2c
Toquet Hall	Box 7	Folder 3

Town Hall – architect's specifications for construction of Town Hall, 1908	Box 7	Folder 4
Westport Railroad Station – including design studies sponsored by WHS and Westport Historic District Commission, clippings, 1929, 1993-1995, 2001	Box 7	Folder 5
Wakeman-Gray-Couch House	Box 7	Folder 6

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Parks and Waterways

Title/Description	Instances	
Aspetuck Land Trust – records of donation of land, maps	Box 9	Folder 1
Canal Green , 1984	Box 9	Folder 1a
Compo Beach – beach rules, 1939; historical sketch of Compo Beach Park and Cedar Point Yacht Basin, 1947; commemorative booklet for 50th anniversary of Compo Beach Improvement Association, 1978; newspaper articles, incl. re. dogs on beach, 1989, 2002	Box 9	Folder 2-4
Jesup Green – news article re. founding; clippings, 1966, 1997	Box 9	Folder 5
Library Riverwalk and gardens brochure, clipping; Landscape plan for Remembrance Park, 1990, 1992, 1995	Box 9	Folder 6
Longshore Club Park – copies of historical deeds	Box 10	Folder 1
Longshore Club Park – historical research and sketches	Box 10	Folder 2
Longshore Club Park – by-laws, report of Longshore Club Park Executive subcommittee, lease, 1960-1966	Box 10	Folder 3
Longshore Club Park – correspondence and reports, 1976-1977	Box 10	Folder 4
Longshore Club Park – correspondence and reports, including re. Longshore Inn, 1981-1982	Box 10	Folder 5
Longshore Club Park – brochures and event announcements, incl. for Longshore Inn, Longshore Beach and Community Club, 1929-1933, undated	Box 10	Folder 6-7
Longshore Club Park – rules and regulations, 1981-1982, undated	Box 10	Folder 8
Longshore Club Park – 50th anniversary celebrations, 2010	Box 10	Folder 9
Longshore Club Park – newspaper clippings, 1960s-1990s	Box 10	Folder 10-13
Longshore Club Park – issue of "Longshore News", 1936	Box 10	Folder 14
Longshore Club Park – towel with Longshore C.C. logo	Box 10	Folder 15

Westport Places Collection RG 3

Longshore Club Park – sheet music for "Longshore Moon" – words by Fred Phillips, music by Emil Velazco	Box 10	Folder 16
Longshore Club Park – additional documentation re. town purchase of park	Box 10A	Folder 1-3
Grace K. Salmon Memorial Park	Box 9	Folder 7
Saugatuck River – including "Report and Map of the Survey of Saugatuck Harbor and River", 1827	Box 9	Folder 8
Saugatuck River – copies of historical documents about Westport Harbor and Saugatuck River, from Westport Harbor Committee	Box 9	Folder 9
Saugatuck River - re. restoration of river and booklet "Fishing the Saugatuck" by Dick Alley	Box 9	Folder 10
Sherwood Island State Park – brochures, newspaper clippings	Box 11	Folder 1
Sherwood Island State Park – Report of Stage 1 Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Arthur Sherwood, Folly Farm, and Sherwood Point Sites, 2013	Box 11	Folder 2
Sherwood Mill Pond Preserve - Real estate and tax information, Bill Fern's files, correspondence, Westport Conservation Department Water Quality Studies, list of pledges, Allen's Clam House reports and correspondence, etc, 1985-2013	Box 18	Folder 1-11
Scope and Contents		
<p>The Sherwood Mill Pond Preserve is located at 191 Hillspoint Road on the site of the former Allen's Clam House Restaurant. When Captain Allen's century-old shellfishing business and eatery closed, the property was put up for sale. To protect the site from developers, the town of Westport bought the property with the help of many local residents who donated nearly half the funds necessary to complete the purchase.</p>		
Sherwood Mill Pond Preserve - Correspondence, plans dredging and outlet work, phragmites , 1988-2007	Box 19	Folder 12-22
Sherwood Mill Pond Preserve - Allen's Clam House, phragmites rehabilitation project, correspondence, reports , 1986-2010	Box 20	Folder 23-32
Sherwood Mill Pond Preserve - Property value reports, Bill Fern files: assessment study, contributions, flyers and handouts, fact sheet, right of way access, reports, correspondence, publicity , 1985-2002	Box 21	Folder 33-45
Sycamore Park – newspaper clipping, 1987	Box 11	Folder 3
Wakeman Park – newspaper clipping , 1996	Box 11	Folder 4

Westport Places Collection RG 3

Westport Country Club indenture, 1912	Box 11	Folder 4a
Westport Park and Athletic Field – records of the Supervising Committee, 1926-1936	Box 11	Folder 5
Winslow Park – historical sketches of Winslow Park and Richard Henry Winslow	Box 12	Folder 1
Winslow Park – town documents re. purchase and development of park, Planning and Zoning documents, 1966-1968	Box 12	Folder 2
Winslow Park - acquisition of park land, Phelps vs.. Baron purchase and development – clippings , 1968-1970	Box 12	Folder 3
Winslow Park - Letter from Baron von Langendorff (Dr. W. Langer) to Barbara Elmer, President, Westport Historical Society, 1979 July 24	Box 12	Folder 3a
Winslow Park – League of Women Voters documentation re. Baron's properties (Evyon Perfumes, Inc.), referendum on purchase of land, 1985, 1987	Box 12	Folder 4
Winslow Park – town Planning and Zoning documents, League of Women Voters report on land use, 1990-1995	Box 12	Folder 5-6
Winslow Park – purchase of Precious property adjacent to park, 1988-1999	Box 12	Folder 7
Winslow Park – naming of park, 1993-1995	Box 12	Folder 8
Winslow Park – dog park, 1994-1995	Box 13	Folder 1
Winslow Park – newspaper clippings re. controversies related to park, 1968-2007	Box 13	Folder 2-3
Winslow Park – Friends of Winslow Park by-laws, 1997	Box 13	Folder 4
Winslow Park – property survey maps	Box 13	Folder 5
Winslow Park – maps of Precious property	Box 13	Folder 6
Winslow Park – related to park property	Box 13	Folder 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Sites and Landmarks

Title/Description	Instances	
Baron's Property South – including re. possible use of mansion as Museum of Westport History, 1999	Box 14	Folder 1
Cockenoe Island – Recreation and Resource Protection Plan, 1982	Box 14	Folder 2
Cockenoe Island – historical notes	Box 14	Folder 3

Cockenoe Island – 30th anniversary celebration of beginning of successful two-year campaign to keep United Illuminating Co. from building a nuclear plant on Cockenoe Island – plans and programs, 1997	Box 14	Folder 4
Cockenoe Island – Victory celebration clippings, entertainment script, 1997	Box 14	Folder 5-6
Nike site (Bayberry Lane) - correspondence, memos, clippings re. purchase of land from Aaron Rabinowitz by federal government to establish site for Nike surface to air guided missiles to protect Bridgeport industrial sites during Cold War (decommissioned 1960-1964), 1954-1957	Box 14	Folder 7
Nike site – correspondence re. repossession of land by Rabinowitz and gift to town, 1962-1964	Box 14	Folder 8-9
Nike site – clippings re. repossession of site, Rabinowitz's proposal to establish branch library as memorial to Lillian Wald, 1964, undated	Box 14	Folder 10
Nike site – clipping re. clean-up of site, 1992	Box 14	Folder 11
Saugatuck Historic District – miscellaneous, including map showing residences in area in 1914	Box 14	Folder 12
Village Square – documentation re. controversy surrounding demolition of buildings and development , 1996	Box 14	Folder 13
General: maps related to traffic patterns and parking in town center; map showing Main St. area buildings and owners	Box 14	Folder 14
General: clippings re. Tar Rock, Deerfield Park, presentation re. Town Owned Residence Properties, 2015	Box 14	Folder 15

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Surveys and Reports

Title/Description	Instances	
Historic District Commission – general information incl. Report of Westport Historic District Study Committee, 1972	Box 15	Folder 1
Saugatuck: An Architectural and Historic Resource Survey sponsored by Westport Historic District Commission, 1987	Box 15	Folder 2
Historical and Architectural Survey of Westport sponsored by Westport Historic District Commission, the Town of Westport, and Connecticut Historical Commission – report and forms filed by address, 1988	Box 16	
Westport Historic District and Properties Handbook – sponsored by National Park Service, Connecticut Historical Commission, Westport Historic District Commission, 1996	Box 17	Folder 1

Westport Historic District and Properties Handbook, Second edition, 1998	Box 17	Folder 2
Town of Westport Historic Resources Inventory and Survey Locator Key, submitted by Westport Historic District Commission, 1998	Box 17	Folder 3
Historic Architectural Survey Update – Early Twentieth Century Resources, Town of Westport, 2002, 2004	Box 17	Folder 4
Study report: Proposed Local Historic Property Designation for the Lower Green's Farms Colonial Burying Ground, 2008	Box 17	Folder 5
Study report: Proposed Evergreen Avenue Historic District, 2008	Box 17	Folder 6
Study report: Proposed Maplewood Avenue Local Historic District, 2014	Box 17	Folder 7
Study report: Proposed Cable's Landing Extension, Kings Highway Historic District, 2018	Box 17	Folder 8

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Maps

Title/Description	Instances	
Map of New York – Boston Post Road in 1776 (prepared in 1976 for Bicentennial)	Box 22	Folder 1
Early maps of Westport (photocopies of maps and drawings from 1700s-1921, including some from Christopher Colles collection of early maps, 1789)	Box 22	Folder 2
Street maps of Westport and Wilton, 1925,1930s	Box 22	Folder 3
Street map of Westport, 1947	Box 22	Folder 4
Street map of Westport; map showing voting districts , 1950s	Box 22	Folder 5
Pocket Directory and Indexed Map of Westport, 1962	Box 22	Folder 6
Maps of Westport and surrounding towns, 1970s	Box 22	Folder 7
Maps of Westport and Weston, 1980s	Box 22	Folder 8
Maps of Westport and Weston, 1990s	Box 22	Folder 9
Maps of Westport, 2000-2005	Box 22	Folder 10
Maps of Westport, 2009-2015	Box 22	Folder 11
Maps of Westport and area, Undated	Box 22	Folder 12
Map of Connecticut issued for Tercentenary, illustrated by Westport resident John Held, Jr., 1935	Box 22	Folder 13

Westport Places Collection RG 3

Miscellaneous maps of Connecticut, 1950s-2000s	Box 22	Folder 14
Maps of Bridgeport (1933), Norwalk (n.d.), Fairfield in 1779	Box 22	Folder 15
U. S. Coast Guard map – Approaches to New York, 1913	Box 22	Folder 16
Oyster grounds: Darien-Norwalk-Westport, 1954	Box 22	Folder 17
Map showing travels of George Washington 1732-1799	Box 22	Folder 18
Map of Sherwood Point	Box 22	Folder 19
Map chest, Drawer 6: Clarks map (1858); Beers Atlas map (1867); Bailey Aerial View of Westport (1870); School District boundaries (1875); Hurd map (1893)		
Map chest, Drawer 7: Hopkins maps; Jennings Trail map; Freehand sketch of roads prior to 1835 by Irving F. Putney; Price & Lee map of Westport, Saugatuck and Green's Farms (1927); Dolph & Stewart map – Towns of Westport and Weston (circa 1935) ; Map of Westport drawn by Edwin L. Howard (1947); Zoning map (1984)		
Map chest, Drawer 8: Sanborn maps (1885, 1891, 1896, 1901, 1910, 1923, 1931, 1940); Leachate and Wastewater Sources (1984); Water Quality Classification (1985); Proposed compost site (1992)		
Map chest, Drawer 9: Saugatuck (1835, 1893, 1918); Westport bridge (1869); Westport shipyard drawn by N. M. Belden (1891); Compo Beach map by W. H. Burr (1905); Henry Minor survey (1911); Post Road (1931); Main Street (1935); Westport in 1842 – map prepared by Dorothea Malm and Barbara Raymond (2000); U. S. Coast Guard map with King's Highway marked; Miscellaneous maps of Long Lots, including showing owners in 1867; 3 aerial photos of roads and bridges		
Map chest, Drawer 10: Property survey Compo Rd, Soundview Dr, Hillspoint (1948); Map from Aaron Rabinowitz file re. purchase by U.S. Government for Nike site (1957); Long range plans for Longshore Club parking (1960); Plans of Development and Zoning (1961); Harvest Commons (1979); Assessor's maps and map key (1990); Property surveys for Leon C. Hirsch (1991); Official Building Zone map of Westport, amended (1997); Maps of property of Lois Sherwood, Gertrude Fitzpatrick, Helen Brooks, Annette Vail Schlaet, Stauffer Chemical Co., Henry Peacock, Charles C. Wakeman, Stephen Novak and A. C. Knorr, Edwin Squires; Proposed Jesup Road Historic District; Map labeled "Riteway"		
Map chest, Drawer 11: Miscellaneous U.S. Coast Guard and Geodetic maps of Westport/Norwalk/Fairfield; Maps related to wetlands		
Map chest, Drawer 12: Hartford and Harlem Railroad map (1884); Oyster grounds (1912, 1920); Rand McNally		

Road Atlas distributed by Embalmers Supply Co. (1956); Westport Center Planning District Historic Resources Inventory (2012); Riverside-Post Road Historic District; North Main-Canal Historic District; Myrtle-Avery Historic District; Map showing town property near River, Redcoat, and Ford Roads; Westport voting districts; Miscellaneous maps of Westport; Miscellaneous maps of Connecticut

Map chest, Drawer 13: Birdseye view of Westport, O.H. Bailey & Co. Publishers (1878); Section of Westport Fire District (1920); Baron's Property, South (2007); Birdseye view of Green Orchard – Farnham Estate, Westport; Maps from George Penfield Jennings book Greens Farms, Connecticut, the old West Parish of Fairfield; Miscellaneous maps of Westport

Map chest, Drawer 15: Library building plans; Other building sites and blueprints

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)