



Westport Town Records Collection RG 2

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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/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Westport Museum for History & Culture
Title:	Westport Town Records Collection
ID:	RG 2
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/36/resources/1148
Date [inclusive]:	1792-2015
Physical Description:	30 linear feet (24 boxes, 21 + oversize boxes, 58 bound volumes)
Physical Location:	Westport Museum for History and Culture Archives Room
Language of the Material:	English.
Abstract:	The Westport Town Records Collection contains town records that have been donated to or gathered by the Westport Museum of History and Culture. These are primarily records generated by or related to official town bodies.

Preferred Citation

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

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Historical Note

Like many other towns in New England, Westport's roots are in the Native Americans who frequented the area years ago. 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.

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Scope and Content of Collection

This collection primarily contains records generated or collected by official town bodies. It includes founding documents, meeting minutes, reports, documentation of various town departments, tax and voter records, and miscellaneous other documents. These records were donated to the Westport Museum of History and Culture by the Town of Westport, or were collected by the Museum over a period of years.

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Arrangement

The material is arranged in seven series: Series 1: Annual Reports Series 2: Historical and Governance Records Series 3: Town Departments, Commissions, Committees Series 4: Fire District/Department Series 5: Public Library Series 6: Tax and Property Records Series 7: Voter Records

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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

Donated by the Town of Westport and gathered by the Westport Museum for History and Culture.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Westport (Conn.)--History.
- Annual reports.

General

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

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Collection Inventory

Annual Reports		
Title/Description	Instances	
Selectmen's Report of the Accounts of the Town of Westport, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896	Box 1	Folder 1
Annual Report of the Town Meetings, Treasurer, Selectmen, Auditors, Board of School Visitors, Town Health offices of the Town of Westport, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902	Box 1	Folder 2

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Annual Report of the Town Meetings, Treasurer, Selectmen, Auditors, Board of School Visitors, Town Health offices of the Town of Westport, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907	Box 1	Folder 3
Annual Report of the Town Meetings, Treasurer, Selectmen, Auditors, Board of School Visitors, Town Health offices of the Town of Westport, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915	Box 1	Folder 4
Annual Reports, Town of Westport, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919	Box 1	Folder 5
Annual Reports, Town of Westport, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924	Box 2	Folder 1
Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Westport, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928	Box 2	Folder 2
Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Westport, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934	Box 2	Folder 3
Annual Reports of the Officers of the Town of Westport, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938	Box 3	Folder 1
Annual Reports, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942	Box 3	Folder 2
Annual Reports..., 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946	Box 3	Folder 3
Annual Reports..., 1947, 1948, 1949	Box 3	Folder 4
Annual Reports..., 1950, 1951, 1952	Box 3	Folder 5
Annual Reports..., 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958	Box 4	Folder 1
Annual Reports..., 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1966	Box 4	Folder 2
Annual Reports..., 1967-1968, 1968-1969, 1970, 1972, 1972, 1973	Box 4	Folder 3
Annual Reports..., 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977	Box 4	Folder 4
Annual Reports..., 1978, 1979, 1980	Box 4	Folder 5
Annual Reports..., 1996, 1997	Box 4	Folder 6

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Historical and Governance Records

Meetings, legal documents, reports

Title/Description	Instances	
CT General Assembly actions related to Saugatuck-Norwalk-Fairfield area (photocopies), 1798-1814	Box 5	Folder 1
General Assembly actions related to Westport area, 1835-1943	Box 5	Folder 2

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Petition to General Assembly to form town of Westport, General Assembly action, Charter, 1835	Box 5	Folder 3
Records of town meetings, 1835-1840	Box 5	Folder 4
Annexation of part of the Town of Fairfield to Westport, 1842	Box 5	Folder 5
Record of town meeting, 1853	Box 5	Folder 6
Record of town meeting re. providing support for the families of Westport men serving in the Civil War, 1862	Box 5	Folder 7
Miscellaneous legal documents, 1863-1945	Box 5	Folder 8
Records of town meeting ; list of voters on subscription of stocks to Saugatuck Railroad, 1871, undated	Box 5	Folder 8a
Notice, minutes, and certification of election of town officers, 1882	Box 5	Folder 9
Record of town meeting, 1898	Box 5	Folder 10
Board of Selectmen memos re. unemployment in Westport during Depression, 1931	Box 5	Folder 10a
Waiver of salary of Selectmen and Town Officers (copy); correspondence related to Selectmen, 1934	Box 5	Folder 11
Re. Town Charter revision, 1949	Box 5	Folder 12
Notebook related to Town Charter development; Town Government Study Committee, 1953-1956	Box 5	Folder 13
Drafts of Charter, 1956	Box 6	Folder 1
Town Charter, 1956	Box 6	Folder 2
Newspaper articles about Charter, 1956-1957	Box 6	Folder 3
Town Charter, 1974	Box 6	Folder 4
Westport census data, 1975	Box 6	Folder 5
Code of the Town of Westport and Charter, 1981	Box 6	Folder 6
Town of Westport directories, 1974, 1982	Box 6	Folder 7
Charter Revision Commission Final Report, 1986	Box 6	Folder 8
Inauguration program; Fiftieth Anniversary of Westport Representative Town Meeting, 1993, 1999	Box 6	Folder 9
Lists of Town Clerks and Selectmen, undated	Box 6	Folder 10

Marriage records

Title/Description	Instances	
Town of Westport Book of Marriages, 1835-1854	Box 24	Folder 1
Marriage index (typescript), 1828-1868	Box 24	Folder 2

Marriage indexes – transcriptions from Town Meeting minutes, alphabetized list of marriage records (typescripts), 1830s-1872	Box 24	Folder 3
Marriage certificates/registration slips from clergy to Town Clerk (originals) , 1840s	Box 24	Folder 4
Scope and Contents		
Some people of color are referenced in the records.		
Marriage certificates/registration slips from clergy to Town Clerk, 1850s	Box 24	Folder 5
Norwalk marriage records, including index compiled by Joan G. Ribidoux in 1991	Box 24	Folder 6
Scope and Contents		
Some people of color are referenced in the records.		

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Town Departments, Commissions, Committees

Commission for the Elderly

Title/Description	Instances	
Records, correspondence, 1972-1978	Box 7	Folder 1-2

Parks and Recreation Department

Title/Description	Instances	
Master plan, fee schedules, memos, reports, 1979-1981	Box 7	Folder 3
Fee schedules, memos, reports, 1982-1994	Box 7	Folder 4
Survey of Westport residents on Parks and Recreation issues, 1995	Box 7	Folder 5
Plans, standards, memos, informational booklet, 1997-2003, undated	Box 7	Folder 6

Planning and Zoning Department

Title/Description	Instances	
Zoning Regulations, 1930, 1942, 1950	Box 7	Folder 7
Zoning Regulations, 1953, 1977	Box 7	Folder 8
Town Plan of Development, 1959	Box 7	Folder 9
"Directions for Westport" – update of Town Plan, 1975	Box 7	Folder 10
Town Plan of Development, 1987		

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	Box 8	Folder 1
Westport Plan of Conservation and Development – draft, 1997	Box 8	Folder 2
Miscellaneous plan proposals, studies, reports, 1937, 1969-1982	Box 8	Folder 3
Study of Development Issues Among Residents of Westport, 1983	Box 8	Folder 4
Miscellaneous proposals, reports, 1989-1996	Box 8	Folder 5
Downtown Plan, Town of Westport; correspondence re. McFarland Hall, 2001	Box 8	Folder 6
Village District Study, 2014	Box 8	Folder 7
Miscellaneous proposals, reports, undated	Box 8	Folder 8
Miscellaneous drawings and maps, 1937, 1972-1998	Box 8	Folder 9

Police Department

Title/Description	Instances	
Poison Register – record of sales of poison, 1881-1913	Box 12	Folder 1
Newspaper clippings – reports of police activity, crime, accidents, 1923-1924	Box 12	Folder 2
Police Department Manual, 1935	Box 12	Folder 3
Dedication of Police building, 1953	Box 12	Folder 3
Newspaper clippings, 1938-2011	Box 12	Folder 4

Other town departments, committees

Title/Description	Instances	
Dog warden – dog license book, 1924	Box 8	Folder 10
Health District – Westport & Weston – formed 1966 – information sheet	Box 8	Folder 11
Symbolic Heritage Preservation Committee, 1984-1985	Box 8	Folder 12
Transit District – newsletter, maps, incl. for The Minny, 1973, 1982, undated	Box 8	Folder 13
Welfare Department – Stella Chapman, Welfare Director – newspaper clippings, case records, 1959-1973	Box 8	Folder 14

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Fire District / Department

Record books

Title/Description	Instances	
Meeting and financial records, 1906-1922	Box 9	Folder 1
Meeting and financial records, 1922-1927	Box 9	Folder 2
Westport Fire District Committee record book, 1922	Box 9	Folder 3
Engine 3 maintenance record, 1942-1946	Box 9	Folder 4

Annual meeting minutes, reports, and notices

Title/Description	Instances	
Records, 1909-1977	Box 9	Folder 5-10
Records, 1978-1988	Box 10	Folder 1-2
Report from study of Westport Fire Department, circa 1977	Box 10	Folder 3
Annual report, 1979-1980	Box 10	Folder 4

Governance documents

Title/Description	Instances	
Constitution and By-Laws of Vigilant Engine Co. No. 3, Westport, 1910	Box 10	Folder 5
By-Laws of Mayflower Hook & Ladder and Hose Co. No. 1, East Norwalk, 1978	Box 10	Folder 6
Wage Study Committee, circa 1949	Box 10	Folder 7

Fireman's Ball

Title/Description	Instances	
Ticket, programs, 1887, 1915, 1947	Box 10	Folder 8
Typescript narrative re. Ball of 1891	Box 10	Folder 9

Operational documents

Title/Description	Instances	
Re. work schedules and vehicle maintenance; Instructional material and procedure manual, 1948-1979, undated	Box 10	Folder 10-11
Incident reports, 1938-1946	Box 10	Folder 12
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1940-1983	Box 10	Folder 13-15

Historical narratives, articles, clippings

Title/Description	Instances	
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Historical statements, undated	Box 10	Folder 16
Memorabilia – medal, poem, invitation, undated	Box 10	Folder 17
Newspaper clippings and articles	Box 11	Folder 1

Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
Photos of fire scenes, undated	Box 11	Folder 2-4
Photos of engines, parades, events, including horse-drawn fire engine, 1976, undated	Box 11	Folder 5-6
Photos of individuals and groups, including Harold A. Shippey, (Chief 1946-1971)	Box 11	Folder 7
Photos of fire stations in Westport, undated	Box 11	Folder 8

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Public Library

Title/Description	Instances	
By-Laws; revised By-Laws , circa 1908, 1978	Box 12	Folder 5
Dedication ceremony, first report, 1908, 1909	Box 12	Folder 5
List of first borrowers, 1908-1909	Box 12	Folder 6
Clippings and articles about benefactors Mrs. and Mrs. Morris K. Jesup	Box 12	Folder 7
Clippings and articles – history and events, 1935-1999	Box 12	Folder 8-10
Invitation to CT Library Association meeting held at Westport , 1936	Box 12	Folder 11
Library brochures, newsletters, report, 1945-2015	Box 12	Folder 12
Trustees list and minutes, 1968	Box 12	Folder 12
Re. library automation, 1985	Box 12	Folder 13
Fundraising, and building renovations, 1957, 1983	Box 12	Folder 14
Riverwalk and Gardens; mural by Robert Lambdin, 1992-1999	Box 12	Folder 15
Renovation campaign and rededication, 1994-1998	Box 12	Folder 16

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Tax and Property Records

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Title/Description	Instances	
Green's Farms Society tax abstracts (photocopies), 1792, 1798, 1803-1806, 1808-1812, 1813-1816, 1818, 1820, 1827	Box 23	Folder 1-6
Green's Farms Society tax abstracts - summaries (photocopies), 1833, 1836, 1841	Box 23	Folder 7
Assessment records – small notebooks, 1881, 1887-1898	Box 13	
Assessment records – small notebooks, 1899-1909	Box 14	
Assessment records – small notebooks, 1910-1926	Box 15	
Tax lists – bound volumes, 1918, 1920-1923	Box 16	
Tax lists- bound volumes , 1925, 1928, 1929	Box 17	
Tax directories / Grand lists, 1927-1958, 1967	Box 18	
Photocopies – Greens Farms Society tax lists, 1792-1841	Box 18	
Miscellaneous property maps	Box 18	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1850-1859	Box OV-1	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1860-1865	Drawer OV-2	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1866-1871	Box OV-3	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1872-1876	Box OV-4	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1877-1880	Box OV-5	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1881-1884	Box OV-6	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1885-1888	Box OV-7	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes, 1889-1892	Box OV-8	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1893, 1895	Box OV-9	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1894, 1895	Box OV-9	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, Fire District, 1896-1898	Box OV-10	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, Fire District, 1899, 1900	Box OV-11	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1901-1903	Box OV-12	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1900-1902	Box OV-12	
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, Fire District , 1904-1905	Box OV-13	

Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1906-1907	Box OV-14
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1906-1908	Box OV-14
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1908-1910	Box OV-15
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1909-1910	Box OV-15
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1911-1913	Box OV-16
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1914, 1915, 1916	Box OV-17
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1911-1912, 1914, 1915-1916	Box OV-17
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920	Box OV-18
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1918-1919, 1920-1923	Box OV-18
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Town, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925	Box OV-19
Tax abstracts / Grand lists – bound volumes – Fire District, 1924-1927	Box OV-19

Bound volumes on shelves

Title/Description	Instances
Tax abstracts / Grand lists - 1926-1950 (25 volumes)	
Real Estate Rate Books (taxes paid) 1985-1995 (25 volumes)	
Personal property 1978-1992, 1990, 1995 (3 volumes)	
Land Records, Volume 1 and attachments, 1854-1887	
Land Records, Volumes 2,3,4,5,6A,6B,7A,8A,8B,9,10A,10B,11A,11B,12,13,14A,14B,15,16,17A,17B,18A,18B,19,20,21,22	

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Voter Records

Title/Description	Instances
Records of inactive voters / moved out of town A-L, 2005	Box 19
Records of inactive voters / moved out of town M-Z, 2005	Box 20

Records of voters removed from lists A-Z, 2009	Box 21
Moderator's Return Worksheet for election on October 2, 1944	Box 21
List of Electors 1836-1847	Box 22
Voting lists 1845-1891	Box OV-20
Voting lists 1895-1920	Box OV-21

Bound volumes on shelves

Title/Description	Instances
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Men, 1900 Sep 1 – 1919 Sep 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Men, 1920 Sep 1 – 1927 Sep 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Women, 1920 Sep 1 – 1927 Sep 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Men, 1938 Sep 1 – 1944 Jun 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Women, 1938 Sep 1 – 1944 Jun 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Men, 1944 Jul 1 – 1951 May 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Women, 1944 Jul 1 – 1951 May 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Men, 1951 Jun 1 – 1961 May 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, Women, 1951 Jun 1 – 1961 May 30	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, 1961 Jun 1 – 1972 Jul 31	
Records of Persons Admitted as Voters A-Z, 1972 Aug 1 – 1983 Apr 30	

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