

Bradford Public Library Records, 1889-1980

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ, US.
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 5
Creator:	Haverhill Public Library
Title:	Bradford Public Library Records, 1889-1980
Dates:	1889-1980
Size:	5 linear feet (9 boxes)
Language(s):	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	This collection contains the history of the Bradford [Massachusetts] Public Library, now part of the Haverhill Public Library, and the Bradford Library Association.

Organizational History

The Bradford Public Library first began as the Boys' Library Association in Haverhill, Massachusetts. In 1889, Dr. William Cogswell was instrumental in forming the Ladies Library Association to raise funds for the library. In 1890, the Bradford Library Association, Inc. (BLA) was incorporated to manage the library. In 1897, when the town of Bradford was annexed to Haverhill, the trustees of the BLA voted to turn over their property to the trustees of the Haverhill Public Library and the library became known as the Bradford Branch Library.

From 1892 to 1938, the library was located on the ground floor of a rented building. In 1935, the building that the BLA had bought from the Pearl estate (259 South Main Street) was found by engineers to be not strong enough to hold the weight of the books. Money was raised and the building was re-enforced. A formal opening of the library was held on 16 February 1938. The branch closed in 1982 or 1983.

Scope and Content Note

This collection provides information about the history and development of the Bradford Public Library and the Bradford Library Association. The records are organized into nine series. Series one contains a history of the Bradford Library Association along with Trustee Reports. Series two contains correspondence and information along with various notes. Series three has financial information that includes purchase orders, account books and other information.

Series four has member information. Series five has books lists that the library owned. Series six has catalogues of the library from 1895 and 1897. Series seven has postcard that give notice about Bradford Library Association annual meetings. Series eight has newspaper clippings. Series nine contains unsorted papers; these papers do not relate to any area in the collection and there are no dates for many of these papers.

Arrangement

- Series 1: Governing Documents, 1890-1906, 1955
 - Subseries 1.1: Report to Trustees, 1894-1906
 - Subseries 1.2: Massachusetts Acts of Resolves, 1897
 - Subseries 1.3: Women's Committee Bradford Library Association Minutes, 1929-1931
 - Subseries 1.4: Bradford Library Association Letterhead and Envelopes, undated
- Series 2: Correspondence and Information, 1892-1896, undated
 - Subseries 2.1: Correspondence, 1892-1896, undated
 - Subseries 2.2: Notes About Bradford Library Association, undated
 - Subseries 2.3: Flyer for New Bradford Library, undated
- Series 3: Financial Information, 1892-1933
 - Subseries 3.1: Purchase Orders, 1892
 - Subseries 3.2: Receipts, 1930, 1932, undated
 - Subseries 3.3: Bradford Public Library Account Book, 1930-1933
 - Subseries 3.4: Bradford Library Association Canvas Books, undated
- Series 4: Member Information, 1931, undated
- Series 5: Book Lists, 1890-1898
- Series 6: Bradford Library Association Catalogues, 1895-1897
- Series 7: Bradford Library Association Meeting Postcards, undated
- Series 8: Newspaper Clippings, 1890-1980
- Series 9: Unsorted Papers, 1892-1931

Administrative Information

- Preferred Citation:** [Item Identification], Bradford Public Library Records, 1890-1980, *Reference Code*, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
- Custodial History:** Materials were collected and created by the Bradford Library Association until they were transferred to the Haverhill Public Library.
- Acquisition Information:** Transferred from the Bradford Library Association to the Haverhill Public Library.
- Processing Information:** Processed by Erik R. Bauer, 2020. Updated by Tamara Gaydos, 2020.
- Access Rights:** Collection is open for research.

Phys. Access Restrictions: None.

Tech. Access Restrictions: None.

Copyright: Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

Related Material: HA1

Separated Material: None.

Conservation Notes: Staples and paper clips have been removed. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper.

Subjects: Bradford (Mass.)
Bradford Library Association, Bradford (Mass.)
Bradford Public Library, Bradford (Mass.)
Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
Haverhill (Mass.)—History
Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill (Mass.)
Haverhill Public Library—Trustees
Libraries

Collection Inventory

Series 1: History and Governing Information, 1890-1906, 1955

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
History of Bradford Library Association, 1955	1	1
List of Donors to the Bradford Public Library, 1892-1896	2	
Subseries 1.1 Governing Documents, 1890-1906		
Bradford Library Incorporation Papers, 1890	1	2
Report to Bradford Trustees, 1894	1	3
Report to Trustees, June 1895	1	4
Report to Trustees, June 1896	1	5
Reports to Trustees, June 1897	1	6

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Reports to the Haverhill Public Library, 1898	1	7
Report to Haverhill Trustees, 1906	1	8
Bradford Library Association Record Book, 1890-1930	3	
Subseries 1.2: Massachusetts Acts of Resolves, 1897		
Massachusetts Acts and Resolves, 1897	1	9
Subseries 1.3: Women's Committee Bradford Library Association Minutes, 1929-1931		
Women's Committee BLA Minutes, 1929-1931	1	10
Bradford Library Association Account Book, 1889-1896	4	
Ladies Library Association Record Book, 1889-1908	5	
Subseries 1.4: Bradford Library Association Letterhead and Envelopes, undated		
BLA Letterhead and Envelopes, undated	1	11
Series 2: Correspondence and Information, 1892-1896, undated		
Subseries 2.1: Correspondence, 1892-1896, undated		
Correspondence, 1892-1896, undated	1	12
Subseries 2.2: Notes About Bradford Library Association, undated		
Notes about Bradford Library Association (2 copies), undated	1	13
Juvenile Reference Readers Lists, 1907-1912	6	
Subseries 2.3: Flyer for New Bradford Library, undated		
New Bradford Library Flyer, undated	1	14

Series 3: Financial Information, 1892-1933**Subseries 3.1: Purchase Orders, 1892**

<u>Folder Title</u> Title, Dates	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Purchase Orders, 1892	1	15

Subseries 3.2: Receipts, 1930, 1932, undated

Receipts, 1930, 1932, undated	1	16
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Subseries 3.3: Bradford Public Library Account Book, 1930-1933

Bradford Public Library Account Book, 1930-1933	1	17
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Subseries 3.4: Bradford Library Association Canvas Books, undated

Bradford Public Library Canvas Books, undated	1	18
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Series 4: Member Information, 1931, undated

Bradford Library Association Pledge Card, undated	1	19
Bradford Library Association Membership Payment, 1931	1	20
Member Lists, undated	1	21
Members of Bradford Library Association by Streets and Numbers, 1930-1931, undated		
Members of Bradford Library Association by Streets and Numbers, undated	9	

Series 5: Book Lists, 1890-1898

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Title, Dates		
Books Presented to the Library, June 1890	1	22
Bradford Library Association Book List, 1892	1	23
Book List-Fiction, December 1898	1	24

Series 6: Bradford Public Library Catalogues, 1895, 1897

Bradford Public Library Catalogue, 1895	1	25
Bradford Public Library Catalogue, 1895	1	26
Bradford Public Library Catalogue, 1895	1	27
Bradford Public Library Catalogue, 1897	1	28
Bradford Public Library Catalogue and Bulletin, 1895, 1897	7	
Bradford Public Library Accession Book, 1891-1902	8	

Series 7: Bradford Library Association Meeting Postcards, undated

Bradford Library Association Meeting Postcard, undated	1	29
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Series 8: Newspaper Clippings, 1890-1980

Newspaper Clippings, 1890-1980	1	30
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Series 9: Unsorted Papers, 1892-1931

Unsorted Papers, 1892-1931	1	31
Notes and Rules for the Library, 1907-1912	9	