

Portland Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.) Records, 1859-2010

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 82
Creator:	Portland Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.)
Title:	Portland Street Baptist Church Records
Dates:	1859-2010 (bulk 1979-1989)
Size:	1.251 linear feet (3 boxes)
Language(s):	Collection materials are English.
Abstract:	This collection contains historical materials, programs, newsletters, administrative reports, and newspaper clippings pertaining to the Portland Street Baptist Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Organizational History

The Portland Street Baptist church was founded in Haverhill, Massachusetts, in 1858 when the space at the First Baptist Church was found insufficient to house the growing numbers of congregants. The first meeting was held on 12 December 1858 under the name Third Baptist Church. For the first five years of its existence the church lacked a formal space and met in the Town Hall and Music Hall. The congregation funded the construction of the Portland Street location which was dedicated on 31 March 1864; the church's name was changed to reflect its location in 1866. Additions to the church were completed by 1871 to house the growing number of congregants which reflected the growing population of the town. A remodeling which enlarged the chapel and attached it to the church was finished in 1902. The church closed its doors in August of 2014 after 156 years of operation.

Succession of Pastors:

Benjamin Wheeler, 1859-1864
George William Lasher, 1864-1868
A.J. Padelford, 1868-1875
W.T. Burns, 1876-1881
J.W.B. Clark, 1881-1887
Welcome E. Bates, 1887-1897
Frank W. Padelford, 1897-1903
Robert L. Webb, 1904-1914
Franklin W. Irvin, 1914-1916
Hugh Chamberlin Burr, 1916-1921
Newton M. Simmonds, 1922-1925
S. James Cann, 1927-1935
Thomas Bird Walker, 1933-1937
Harold N. Nye, 1937-1942
Raymond L. Bates, 1943-1946
Clark T. Brownell (Interim) – 1946
A.R. Perron, 1946-1951
Joseph Woodbury, 1952-1957
Adam Arnold, 1958-1964
George F. Moore, 1965-
Aram Marashlian, 1995-

Arrangement

Series 1: Administrative, 1859, 1890-1920, 1975-1979, 1989 undated

Series 2: Pastoral Materials, 1885-1890, 1900-1909, 1920, 1932-1951, 1977-1989, 2009-2010, undated

Subseries 2.1: Programs, 1885-1890, 1900-1909, 1920, 1932-1950, 1977-1989, 2009-2010, undated

Subseries 2.2: Newsletters, 1951, 1979-1989, undated

Subseries 2.3: Photographs, undated

Series 3: Newspaper Clippings, 1859-2006, undated

Subseries 3.1: Pastor Clippings, 1887-1966, 1996

Subseries 3.2: Church Clippings, 1859-2006, undated

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains church histories, manuals, newsletters, programs, reports, and news clippings related to the Portland Street Baptist Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Series one contains administrative documents: an early administrative letter; church histories; and annual reports. Series two contains service programs and newsletters, as well as a small number of photographs. Series three contains news clippings relating to the church's pastors, public events, and history.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:	[Item Identification], Portland Street Baptist Church Records, MSS 82, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Custodial History:	Found in collection.
Acquisition Information:	Unknown.
Processing Information:	Processed by Dominic Scheidegger, 2021.
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 Collections:	None.
Separated Material:	Printed material was separated from the collection and cataloged separately.
Conservation Notes:	Newspaper clippings have been photocopied on archival quality paper to preserve their recorded information.
Subjects:	Church buildings Church bulletins Church finance Church history Church membership Haverhill (Mass.) -- Church History Lasher, George William (1831-1920) Portland Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.)

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Administrative, 1859, 1890-1920, 1975-1979, 1989 undated

This series contains administrative documents, published church histories and manuals, lists of officers, annual reports, and a proposed budget, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Letter, Sabbath school card, 1859, undated	1	1
Church histories, church manuals, officer lists, 1890-1920	1	2
Annual reports, 1975-1979	1	3
Officer list, proposed budget, 1989	1	4

Series 2: Pastoral Materials, 1885-1890, 1900-1909, 1920, 1932-1951, 1977-1989, 2009-2010, undated

This series consists of three subseries: 2.1, Programs; 2.2: Newsletters; and 2.3: Photographs.

Subseries 2.1: Programs, 1885-1890, 1900-1909, 1920, 1932-1950, 1977-1989, 2009-2010, undated

This subseries contains service and event programs hosted by the church and includes leaflets, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Concert program, Sunday school program, 50 th anniversary program, service programs, 1885-1950	1	5
Service programs, 1977-1979	1	6
Service programs, 1980	1	7
Service programs, 1981	1	8
Service programs, 1982	1	9
Service programs, 1983	1	10
Service programs, 1984	2	1
Service programs, 1985	2	2
Service programs, 1986	2	3
Service programs, 1987	2	4
Service programs, 1988	2	5
Service programs, 1989	2	6
Christmas service programs, 2009-2010	2	7

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Service programs, event programs, pamphlets, undated	3	1

Subseries 2.2: Newsletters, 1951, 1979-1989, undated

This subseries contains church monthly newsletters, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1951, 1979	3	2
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1980	3	3
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1981	3	4
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1982	3	5
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1983	3	6
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1984	3	7
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1985	3	8
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1986	3	9
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1987	3	10
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1988	3	11
<i>Omniscope</i> newsletters, 1989	3	12
Newsletter, undated	3	13

Subseries 2.3: Photographs, undated

This subseries contains photographs of Mr. and Mrs. George William Lasher as well as a glass photograph of the Portland Street Baptist Church.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Glass photograph of the church; George William Lasher photographs, undated	3	14

Series 3: Newspaper Clippings, 1859-2006, undated

This series consists of three subseries: 3.1, Pastor News Clippings; and 3.2, General News Clippings.

Subseries 3.1: Pastor News Clippings, 1887-1966, 1996

This subseries contains clippings related to the tenures of specific pastors. This subseries has been arranged chronologically by pastor's service.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
J. W. B. Clark, 1887-1889	3	15
W. E. Bates, 1897	3	16
Frank W. Padelford, 1897-1944	3	17
Robert L. Webb, 1904-1943	3	18
Frank W. Irwin, 1915	3	19
Hugh Chamberlin Burr, 1916-1937	3	20
Newton M. Simmonds, 1924-1938	3	21
S. James Cann, 1927-1943	3	22
Thomas Bird Walker, 1933-1937	3	23
Harold N. Nye, 1937-1974	3	24
Raymond J. Bates, 1943-1946	3	25
Arnold R. Perron, 1946-1961	3	26
E. Joseph Woodbury, 1951-1958	3	27
Adam Arnold, 1958-1964	3	28
George F. Moore, 1965-1966	3	29
Aram Narashilian, 1996	3	30

Subseries 3.2: General News Clippings, 1859-2006, undated

This subseries contains newspaper clippings relating to the church more broadly, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
General news clippings, 1859-2006, undated	3	31