

Fortnightly Club (Haverhill, Mass.) Records, 1878-1993

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ, US.
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 61
Creator:	Fortnightly Club (Haverhill, Mass.)
Title:	Fortnightly Club Records
Dates:	1878-1993
Size:	2.709 linear feet (17 boxes)
Language(s):	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	The collection contains letters, record books, and photographs from the Fortnightly Club of Haverhill, Massachusetts, a men's club that held regularly scheduled meetings to discuss history, science, and current events.

Organizational History

At a meeting of 15 men at the house of James R. Nichols on 11 March 1878, the Fortnightly Club of Haverhill, Massachusetts, was founded "for the purpose of scientific, literary, and social improvement." The first meeting was held at the home of George W. Duncan on March 25, 1878. The rules and regulations originally adopted were few and simple. The number of active members was limited to 25, which was later increased to 30. Annual dues were set at \$1.00 (later raised to \$2.00). Essays on various topics were assigned to members in advance and discussion followed the presentation. Refreshments usually followed the formal part of the evening. When the ladies (wives) were periodically invited, music was played.

The Fortnightly Club dissolved in 1999 due to internal differences. A majority of members resigned together and formed the Essex Club.

Arrangement

- Series 1. Administration, 1881-1984, undated
- Series 2. Members, 1904, 1978-1986, undated
- Series 3. Record Books, 1878-1993, undated

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains letters, record books, and photographs from the Fortnightly Club of Haverhill, Massachusetts, a men's club that held regularly scheduled meetings to discuss history, science, and current events. Series one contains meeting invitations, treasurer's reports, correspondence, agendas, and attendance records for the club. Series two consists of two member books containing portraits of the club members, talks given by members, photographic portraits of some members, and a partial list of members from the inception of the club. Series three contains 14 record books of the club's meetings from its inception until 1993, two pages of notes about a 1982 meeting, and a partial transcription of the record books. Missing are records for 1935/1936 through 1946/1947, most of 1954/1955, and all of 1955/1956 and 1956/1957.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:	[Item Identification], Fortnightly Club Records, MSS 61, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Custodial History:	Material was acquired from creator.
Acquisition Information:	Some materials were a gift of David Splaine. The rest are from an unknown source.
Processing Information:	Processed by Tamara Gaydos, 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:	None.
Conservation Notes:	Photographs were sleeved to protect them. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper. Paper clips and staples were removed.
Subjects:	Administrative records Attendance records Black-and-white photographs Clubs Color photographs Fortnightly Club (Haverhill, Mass.)

Group portraits
Haverhill (Mass.)--History

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Administrative, 1881-1984, undated

This series contains meeting invitations, treasurer's reports, correspondence, agendas, and attendance records for the club, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Invitations, 1881-1984, undated	1	1
Treasurer's reports, 1949-1959	1	2
Correspondence, 1949-1985, undated	1	3
Agendas, 1952-1966	1	4
Attendance records (roll call), 1955-1963	1	5

Series 2: Members, 1903-1986, undated

This series consists of two member books containing portraits of the club members, talks given by members, photographic portraits of some members, and a partial list of members from the inception of the club, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Member book, 1904	2	
100 th Anniversary member book, 1978	3	
Group photograph, 1978 [2 copies]	1	6
Talk by Edmond M. Gagey, undated [1978]	1	7
Talk by Dr. George D. LeMaitre, 1984	1	8
Talk on light wave communications, 1983	1	9
Talks by Henry Gilman, 1903-1923	1	10
Member photographic portraits, 1986	1	11
Lists of members, undated	1	12

Series 3: Record books, 1878-1993, undated

This series contains 14 record books of the club's meetings from its inception until 1993, two pages of notes about a 1982 meeting, and a partial transcription of the record books, arranged chronologically. Missing are records for 1935/1936 through 1946/1947, most of 1954/1955, and all of 1955/1956 and 1956/1957.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Record book, 1878-1880	4	
Record book, 1880-1882	5	
Record book, 1882-1885	6	
Record book, 1885-1889	7	
Record book, 1889-1894	8	
Record book, 1894-1898	9	
Record book, 1898-1902	10	
Record book, 1902-1906	11	
Record book, 1906-1910	12	
Record book, 1910-1914	13	
Record book, 1914-1935	14	
Record book, 1947-1959	15	
Record book, 1973-1990	16	
Notes on November 15, 1982 meeting	1	12
Record book, 1990-1993	17	
Partial transcription of the record books, undated	1	13