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Willimantic Public Library Collection  
1833-2006

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Arranged and Described  
By  
Tara L. Hurt, Archivist, Head of Archives & Special Collections  
with M. Kurnyk, C. Hayden and S. McGeowan

October, 2013  
Willimantic, Connecticut

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## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Title	Willimantic Public Library Collection, 1833-2006.
Extent	10 linear feet. 21 boxes.
Arrangement	The materials were sorted into twenty series arranged in chronological order within series where possible. The first three series are library documents. Series IV-VIII are local history and Series IX & X are special collections.
Provenance	The library director donated early Willimantic Public Library records and its historical collections to the Archives and Special Collections in order to preserve the resources and to provide secure public access to these records.
Finding Aid	Printed finding aid available in repository. Electronic version: <a href="http://ecsu.archives.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/">http://ecsu.archives.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/</a>
Preferred Citation	[Series, Date, Folder description], Willimantic Public Library, 1833-2006. University Archives, J. Eugene Smith Library, Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, Connecticut 06226.
Access points	Public Libraries – Connecticut Willimantic (Conn.)
Restrictions	Access to Series X - Civil War Memorabilia requires permission of the administrative staff and supervised viewing.
Document types	Correspondence. Publications. Manuscripts. Interviews. Awards. Memberships. Reports.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

This collection includes information about the public library of Willimantic, Connecticut. It includes library ledgers & correspondence, board minutes, Bicentennial Commission Scrapbooks, local photographs & sketches, town history, contemporary oral histories and Windham cemetery inscriptions. It also includes a gift collection of European Postcards donated by the Hathaway family and a small collection of Civil War related memorabilia.

## **SERIES DESCRIPTION:**

### Series I – Board Minutes

This series includes library board minutes dating from 1930-1969.

### Series II – Bound Volumes

This series includes a number of ledgers including the 1833 collection listing, accession (new material) records, library committee minutes from 1894-1929 and circulation records from 1893-1975.

### Series III – Correspondence

This series includes some correspondence, two ballots, a letter to Tom Beardsley and a visitation card naming the Hartford Phalanx.

### Series IV – Cemetery Inscriptions – Windham

This series offers listings of cemetery inscriptions taken from Windham area cemeteries in 1934-1935 with an overall alphabetical name index and a table of contents with cemetery locations which was added in 1937.

### Series V – Photographs

This series includes a collection of area photographs dating from 1904-1999. Photographs include views of Main Street, Mills, schools, parades & special events and peoples.

### Series VI – Scrapbooks

This series includes news clippings collected by the Windham Bicentennial Commission which document activities between 1974 and 1976.

### Series VII – Town History

This series offers news clippings about Willimantic's Baseball Teams from 1898-1906 and a variety of documents concerning the Windham Frogs past and present.

### Series VIII – Oral History

This series includes audiocassette recordings of interviews with local citizens plus recordings of historical music and folklore.

### Series IX – Hathaway Postcards

This series includes a collection of 66 postcards primarily collected from European cities with a few cards representing New England.

**Series X – Civil War Memorabilia**

This series includes some ‘Confederate Notes’ with a letter from the U.S. Treasury, two copies of the *Willimantic Journal* dated 1864 and a Grant, Memorial Album, 1822-1885.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

N/A

**RELATED COLLECTIONS:**

Related material may be found in the following collections: Windham-Willimantic Collection; Willimantic Chamber of Commerce and Willimantic Community Development.

The University Archives has a substantial collection of university archives material and also houses the Connecticut Studies Collection. For more detailed information on these collections please speak with a staff member, call 860-465-5563 or visit the Smith Library Archives & Special Collections online at <http://ecsu.archives.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/>

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Box    Folder

Date

Series I – Board Minutes

1	Board Minutes	Jan. 1930- Dec. 1933
	Board Minutes	Jan. 1934- Jan. 1935
	Board Minutes	June 1934
	Board Minutes	July 1934
	Board Minutes	Oct- Dec. 1935
	Board Minutes	Feb- April 1935
	Board Minutes	Feb- May 1936
	Board Minutes	June- Dec. 1936
	Board Minutes	Jan- June 1937
	Board Minutes	Oct- Nov. 1937
	Board Minutes	Jan- June 1938
	Board Minutes	July 1938 (fol. II)
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1938
	Board Minutes	Apr- Nov. 1939
	Board Minutes	Feb- June 1940
	Board Minutes	Jan- June 1941
	Board Minutes	Feb- Dec. 1941
	Board Minutes	March 1942
	Board Minutes	Sep.-Nov. 1943
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1944
	Board Minutes	Sept.-Nov. 1944
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1945
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1945
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec 1946
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1947
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1947
	Board Minutes	Jan- June 1948
	Board Minutes	Sept- Nov. 1948
	Board Minutes	Sept- Nov. 1948
	Board Minutes	Sept-Nov. 1949
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1950
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1950
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1951
	Board Minutes	Sep.- Dec. 1951
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1952
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1952
	Board Minutes	Jan. - June 1953
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec 1953
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1954
	Board Minutes	Sept- Dec. 1954
	Board Minutes	Jan- May 1955
	Board Minutes	Sept.- Dec 1955

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series I – Board Minutes		
1	Board Minutes	July- Dec. 1956
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1957
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1957
	Board Minutes	Sept.- Dec 1957
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1958
	Board Minutes	Aug.- Dec.- 1958
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1959
	Board Minutes	July- Dec. 1959
	Board Minutes	Jan.- May 1960
	Board Minutes	Sept.- Dec. 1960
	Board Minutes	Jan.- Dec 1961
	Board Minutes	Jan.- Dec 1962
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1963
	Board Minutes	Sept.- Dec 1963
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1964
	Board Minutes	Sept.- Dec 1964
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1965
	Board Minutes	Nov. 1965
	Board Minutes	Jan.- May 1966
	Board Minutes	July- Dec. 1966
	Board Minutes	Jan.- June 1967
	Board Minutes	July- Dec. 1967
2	Board Minutes	Jan. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Jan. 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Feb. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Feb 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Feb. 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	Mar. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Mar. 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Mar. 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	Mar. 1968 (IV)
	Board Minutes	Apr. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Apr. 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Apr. 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	May 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	May 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	May 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	May 1968 (IV)
	Board Minutes	June 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	June 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	July 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Aug. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Aug. 1968 (II)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series I – Board Minutes</b>		
2	Board Minutes	Sept. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Sept. 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Sept. 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1968 (I)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1968 (II)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1968 (III)
	Board Minutes	Nov. 1968
	Board Minutes	Dec. 1968
	Board Minutes	Jan. 1969
	Board Minutes	Mar 1969 (I)
	Board Minutes	Mar 1969 (II)
	Board Minutes	Mar 1969 (III)
	Board Minutes	Mar 1969 (IV)
	Board Minutes	April 1969 (I)
	Board Minutes	April 1969 (II)
3	Board Minutes	May 1969
	Board Minutes	June 1969
	Board Minutes	July 1969
	Board Minutes	August 1969
	Board Minutes	Sept. 1969
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1969 (I)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1969 (II)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1969 (III)
	Board Minutes	Oct. 1969 (IV)
	Board Minutes	Nov. 1969 (I)
	Board Minutes	Nov. 1969 (II)
	Board Minutes	Dec. 1969 (I)
	Board Minutes	Dec. 1969 (II)
	Board Minutes	Dec. 1969 (III)
<b>Series II – Bound Volumes</b>		
4	Circulation Ledger Volume I	1893-1953
	Circulation Ledger Volume II	1954-1975
5	Catalogue	3 December 1883
	Catalogue	3 December 1883
	Catalogue	3 December 1883
	Catalogue	3 December 1883
	Catalogue	3 December 1883
	Catalogue	3 December 1883
6	Minutes - City Library Co. Committee Meetings	Feb 1894-Nov 1929
	Willimantic Library Committee - Treasurer's Book	Oct 1871-Dec 1892
7	Accessions Ledger	1899-1921



<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series III – Correspondence</b>		
8	John L. Hunter	24 August 1891
	Letter	n.d.
	Official Ballot	3 November 1900
	Official Ballot	3 October 1904
	“Dear Mr. Beardsley...”	22 August 1999
	Visiting Card - “Putnam – Phalanx”	n.d.
<b>Series IV – Cemetery Inscriptions - Windham</b>		
	Table of Contents / Locations	December 1937
	Ridges Cemetery (Ancient)	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 2-20	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 21-39	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 40-65	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 66-95	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 96-108	24 December 1934
	Old Cemetery 109-133	24 December 1934
	New Cemetery 134-144	7 January 1935
	St. Joseph’s Cemetery 145-169	18 December 1934
	St. Joseph’s Cemetery 170-194	18 December 1934
	St. Joseph’s Cemetery 195-208	18 December 1934
	St. Joseph’s Cemetery 209-226	18 December 1934
	North Windham Cemetery 227-240	12 December 1934
	Windham Cemetery 241-255	5 December 1934
	Windham Cemetery 256-269	5 December 1934
	Windham Cemetery 270-285	5 December 1934
	Windham Cemetery 286-305	5 December 1934
	Windham Cemetery 206-317	5 December 1934
	Greek Cemetery 318	8 January 1935
	Barber-Brooks Cemetery 319	14 December 1934
	Name Index – All Cemeteries 321-344	December 1934
	Name Index – All Cemeteries 345-379	December 1934
	Name Index – All Cemeteries 380-414	December 1934
<b>Series V – Photographs</b>		
9	Misc. Willimantic (10)	[1920s]
	South Park St. (1)	1930s
	New England Hurricane (3)	1938
	Main Street at night (3)	1940s
	V.F.W. Junior State Champions – drum & bugle corps (1)	n.d.
	American Thread Company (1)	n.d.
	Main St., Town Hall, Foot Bridge (3)	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series V – Photographs</b>		
9	Main St. Horse and Buggy (1)	n.d.
	Sketches (2)	n.d.
	Mayor Fiorimond Bergeron	1950
	Main St., Town Hall, Mills (4)	1970s
	Main St. Building Fire (4)	1987
	Panoramic Main St. South East (18)	July 1995
	Panoramic Main North East (14)	July 1995
	Panoramic Main St. North (13)	July 1995
	Panoramic Main St. North West (5)	July 1995
	Panoramic Main St. North West (12)	July 1995
	Panoramic Main St. YMCA (10)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St. North (8)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St. from Memorial Park (6)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main Street- Mills (8)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St. from Post Office (9)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St. and Memorial Park (9)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St.- Building Frog Bridge (6)	December 1999
	Panoramic Main St. (9)	December 1999
10	Canadian Lumbermen (1)	n.d.
	Baseball Team (1)	[1940s]
	Fire (3)	n.d.
	National Guard	1904
	Five Men	[1905]
	Group of People at Town Hall (with listing)	n.d.
	Mill Workers	n.d.
	Five Men	n.d.
	Girls with Flower Wreaths	n.d.
	St. Mary's Graduating Class	n.d.
	St. Mary's First Basketball Team	n.d.
	Group of People	[1920s]
	Road	n.d.
	Danger Narrow Bridge	n.d.
	Stone Wall Lined Road	n.d.
	Bridge	n.d.
	Bridge	n.d.
11	Reward of Merit	n.d.
	Architecture of Willimantic Butterick and Spencer	1976
	100 Windham Rd. – Spencer	1976
	Town Hall – Spencer	1976
	American Thread Mill #2 – Spencer	1976
	First Baptist Church – Butterick	1976
	116 Prospect St. – Butterick	1976
	Peter and Cook Architects – Interior	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series V – Photographs</b>		
11	Peter and Cook Architects – Exterior	n.d.
	Old Photos Calendar	2004
	Old Photos Calendar	2005
	Vintage Postcards Calendar	2006
	Main St. and Union Station (4)	[1900]
	Theodore Roosevelt (1)	1902
	Main St. Parade WWI (6)	[1915]
<b>Series VI – Scrapbooks</b>		
12	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 1-20	April-June 1974
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 21-40	July-Nov 1974
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 41-60	Jan-15 April 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 61-75	15-30 April 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 76-100	May-June 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 101-119	July 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission I - pp. 120-127	August 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 1-19	Aug-Oct 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 20-36	Oct-Dec 1975
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 37-48	Jan-March 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 49-68	March-April 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 69-89	May-June 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 90-109	June 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 110-120	June 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 121-132	1-5 July 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 133-142	6-16 July 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 143-154	Aug-Nov 1976
	Windham Bicentennial Commission II - pp. 115-160	Jan-May 1977
<b>Series VII – Town History</b>		
13	Willimantic Baseball	
	Chronicle Articles (2)	1898
	Chronicle Articles (3)	1899
	Chronicle Articles (13)	1901
	Chronicle Articles (7)	1902
	Chronicle Articles (2)	1903
	Chronicle Articles (1)	1906
	Photograph (1)	n.d.
	Team Photographs (3)	n.d.
	Membership Certificate	5 December 1936
	Bonnett	14 May 1995
	The Colts – History	n.d.
	Spiros - Timeline	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series VII – Town History		
13	Windham Frogs	
	Bacchus of Windham and the Frog Fight	1930
	Bull Frogs of Windham	17 April 1933
	References	January 1952
	The Hills of My Connecticut	1961
	Battle of Frogs Most Famous...	8 September 1967
	Tercentenary Treat	17 March 1992
	The Frogs of Windham	24 July 1992
	The Lowdown on Leavitts	24 July 1992
	The Frogs (and Spools) of Windham Bridge	25 August 1996
	New England Construction	14 August 2000
	The Gigantic Frogs of Windham	2003
	Frog Fest 2005	2005
Series VIII – Oral History		
14	Sophie Kaminski	13 March 1992
	Betty Tianti - Tape 1	25 March 1992
	Betty Tianti - Tape 2	25 March 1992
	Gladys Tantaquidgen	1994
	Larry Schiller - Tape 1	24 February 1998
	Larry Schiler - Tape 2	24 February 1998
	Irene Monroe - Tape 1	24 February 1998
	Irene Monroe - Tape 2 / Bill Potvin - Tape 1	24 February 1998
	Bill Potvin - Tape 2	24 February 1998
	Alan Reynolds	25 February 1998
	Charles Pruitt	17 January 2001
	Virginia Stevens	17 January 2001
	Alice Abel	n.d.
	Charlie Johnson	n.d.
	Joseph Lariviere	n.d.
15	Barbara McSweeney	n.d.
	Linda Rich	n.d.
	Stanley Sheldon	n.d.
	Laura	n.d.
	Interview – unidentified	n.d.
	Interview – unidentified	n.d.
	Interview – unidentified	n.d.
	Interview – unidentified	n.d.
	Campground/ Narragansett	n.d.
	Willimantic Journals, 1865 – Readings	n.d.
	Broadcast Recording – Tom Beardsley	n.d.
	Sally Rogers – Quinebaug/Shetucket – Heritage Songs	1998

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series VIII – Oral History</b>		
15	Immigrants Songs	n.d.
	-The Working River/Passage to New England	
	Hosmer Mountain Soda Jingle	n.d.
	An Evening of English Music Hall	n.d.
<b>Series IX –Postcards</b>		
16	1. England – Royalty and Celebrities (12)	1900s
	2. England – Royalty and Celebrities (12)	1900s
	3. England – Royalty and Celebrities (12)	1900s
	4. England – Portraits/Paintings (11)	1900s
	5. England – Portraits/Paintings (12)	1900s
	6. England – Etched/Embossed (3)	1900s
	7. England – Castles (8)	1900s
	8. England – Castles (7)	1900s
	9. England – Churches/Cathedrals (8)	1900s
	10. England – Cathedrals/Churches (8)	1900s
	11. London (12)	1900s
	12. London (12)	1900s
	13. London (8)	1900s
17	14. Great Britain – England (12)	1900s
	15. Great Britain – England (12)	1900s
	16. Great Britain – England (6)	1900s
	17. Great Britain – England (11)	1900s
	18. Great Britain – England (12)	1900s
	19. Great Britain – Wales (7)	1900s
	20. Great Britain – Wales (7)	1900s
	21. Great Britain – Scotland (11)	1900s
	22. Great Britain – Scotland (7)	1900s
	23. Great Britain – England (7)	1900s
	24. Ireland (12)	1900s
	25. Ireland (12)	1900s
	26. Ireland (14)	1900s
18	27. Switzerland (13)	1900s
	28. Holland (11)	1900s
	29. Holland (10)	1900s
	30. Holland (12)	1900s
	31. Holland (11)	1900s
	32. Holland (6)	1900s
	33. Holland – Portraits/Paintings (6)	1900s
	34. Germany/Austria (12)	1900s
	35. Germany/Austria (12)	1900s
	36. Germany/Austria (11)	1900s
	37. Germany/Austria (11)	1900s

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Series IX- Postcards</b>		
18	38. Holland – Paintings/Embossed (8)	1900s
	39. France (12)	1900s
19	40. France (12)	1900s
	41. France (13)	1900s
	42. France (6)	1900s
	43. France – Paintings (8)	1900s
	44. France – Portraits (10)	1900s
	45. France – Statues (3)	1900s
	46. France – Hand Painted/Etched (8)	1900s
	47. Italy (12)	1900s
	48. Italy (12)	1900s
	49. Italy (12)	1900s
	50. Italy (12)	1900s
	51. Italy (16)	1900s
	52. Italy (13)	1900s
	53. Italy – Italian Art (11)	1900s
20	54. Italy – Hand Painted/Embossed (2)	1900s
	55. Brussels (12)	1900s
	56. Brussels (12)	1900s
	57. Spain (1)	1900s
	58. Luxembourg (1)	1900s
	59. Egypt (1)	1900s
	60. Canada (2)	1900s
	61. Lindburg (3)	1900s
	62. Colonial America (12)	1900s
	63. Colonial America (16)	1900s
	64. Colonial America (15)	1900s
	65. Colonial America (11)	1900s
	66. Boston (2)	1900s
<b>Series V – Civil War Memorabilia - <i>Restricted</i></b>		
21	Confederate Notes w/ Letter from Washington D.C.	2 Sep 1861-6 Apr 1863
	Willimantic Journal (First Year)	Jan-Dec 1863
	Willimantic Journal	22 January 1864
	Grants Memorial Album, 1822-1885	[1890s]