

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the New Haven West Association Records

GEN MSS 1296



by Beinecke Staff

2015

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1296

CREATOR: New Haven West Association (Conn.)

TITLE: New Haven West Association records

DATES: 1787-1909

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.04 linear feet (3 boxes) + 1 art

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: The collection contains bound volumes of manuscript meeting minutes for the New Haven West Association, along with other records and papers related to the business of the association such as missions to New York State and cases regarding specific clergy members. Also present are meeting minutes for the New Haven West Conference of Churches, the constitution of the Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County, a printed memorial to Reverend William Patton, and a decorated trunk that formerly held the records.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.newhavenwest>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.newhavenwest>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the New Haven West Association, 1916-1936.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The New Haven West Association Records is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

New Haven West Association Records. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

The records in this collection had been arranged by the association before being transferred to the Yale University Library. That arrangement was retained when the records were rehousing in 2015.

This collection includes materials previously identified by the following call number: MS Vault New Haven West

Associated Materials

New Haven East Association Records (GEN MSS 1295), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

New Haven West Association

The Association of the County of New-Haven, an organization of Connecticut Congregational ministers, was formed in 1709 following a meeting of twelve ministers and four church laymen called by the colonial legislature. Held in Saybrook, Connecticut, the meeting resulted in the "Saybrook Platform," a new constitution for the Congregational Church in Connecticut, which gave associations the responsibility to examine candidates for the ministry, and to oversee the behavior of the ministers. In 1787 the association was divided to form the New Haven East Association and the New Haven West Association, with the course of the Quinnipiac River as the geographical line. The two organizations were again united by unanimous resolution in 1893 to form the New Haven Union Association of Congregational Ministers in Connecticut. That organization merged with the New Haven Central Association in 1903.

The Consociation of the County of New-Haven, an organization of Congregational churches and pastors also formed in 1709, was devoted to the management of ecclesiastical discipline. That organization, with a membership composed of both church members and pastors, could impose discipline on specific churches and judge disputes that arose. It later evolved into two separate bodies called the New Haven East Consociation (established in 1787) and the Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County (established in 1799).

Scope and Contents

The collection contains bound volumes of manuscript meeting minutes for the New Haven West Association, along with other records and papers related to the business of the association such as missions to New York State and cases regarding specific clergy members. Also present are meeting minutes for the New Haven West Conference of Churches, the constitution of the Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County, a printed memorial to Rev. William Patton, and a decorated trunk that formerly held the records.

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Meeting Minutes, 1787-1909. II. Other Records and Papers, 1787-1879.

Collection Contents

Series I: Meeting Minutes, 1787-1909

0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

Series I contains four bound volumes and one folder of manuscript meeting minutes.

Series I is organized into two subseries: New Haven West Association and New Haven West Conference of Churches.

| New Haven West Association | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | Volume I | 1787-1814 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Volume II | 1814-1832 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Volume III | 1832-1893 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Other minutes | 1815-1848 |
| New Haven West Conference of Churches | | |
| b. 2, f. 5 | Volume I | 1865-1909 |

Series II: Other Records and Papers, 1787-1879*1.42 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Series II contains other records and papers related to the business of the association, including those on missions to New York State, and letters, reports, and testimonials relating to cases regarding specific clergy members. Also present is the constitution of the Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County, a printed memorial to Rev. William Patton, and a decorated trunk that formerly held the records.

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| b. 2, f. 6 | Ecclesiastical Constitution of the Consociation of the Western District of the County of New Haven | 1800 |
| b. 3, f. 7 | Certificates of church membership, applications for letters of admission and recommendations to associations and ordinations | 1814-1892 |
| b. 3, f. 8 | Creeds | 1839-1847 |
| b. 3, f. 9 | Reports on various matters, complaints, etc. | 1806-1877 |
| b. 3, f. 10 | Papers relating to missions to New York State | 1787-1809 |
| b. 3, f. 11 | Letters, reports, and testimonials relating to the case of Nathan S. Read | 1813-1815 |
| b. 3, f. 12 | Letters and statements regarding Seagrove W. Magill | 1834-1835 |
| b. 3, f. 13 | Letters, reports, and testimonials relating to the case of John B. Kendall | 1836-1837 |
| b. 3, f. 14 | Papers relating to the case of Alexander MacWhorter | 1847 |
| b. 3, f. 15 | Obituary notices (copied from original sources) | undated |
| b. 3, f. 16 | Miscellaneous documents relating to the association and individuals | 1796-1879 |
| b. 3, f. 17 | Miscellaneous documents relating to the association and individuals | 1788-1874 |
| b. 3, f. 18 | <i>Filial Tribute to the Memory of Rev. William Patton, D.D., by William W. Patton</i> | 1880 |
| b. 4 (Art) | Trunk formerly holding records | undated |

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Clergy -- Connecticut
Congregationalism -- Clergy

Geographic Names

New Haven County (Conn.) -- Religious life and customs

Genres / Formats

Minute books -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 18th century
Minute books -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 19th century
Minute books -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 20th Century
Trunks (containers) -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 19th century

Occupations

Clergy -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 18th century
Clergy -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 19th century
Clergy -- Connecticut -- New Haven County -- 20th Century

Names

Bacon, Leonard, 1802-1881
Kendall, John B. (John Ballard), 1799-1888
MacWhorter, Alexander, 1822-1880
Magill, Seagrove W. (Seagrove William), 1810-1884
Patton, William, 1798-1879
Patton, William W. (William Weston), 1821-1889 (Filial tribute to the memory of Rev. William Patton, D.D.)
Read, Nathan S., -1821

Corporate Bodies

Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County (Conn.)
New Haven West Association (Conn.)
New Haven West Conference of Churches (Conn.)

Contributors

New Haven West Association (Conn.)
Patton, William W. (William Weston), 1821-1889
Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County (Conn.)
New Haven West Conference of Churches (Conn.)