

Woods Hole Historical Collection
P.O. Box 185
Woods Hole, MA 02543

REGISTER

Woods Hole Methodist Church
ca. 1884 – 1984

1 box

WOODS HOLE METHODIST CHURCH

HISTORY

Methodism in Woods Hole began in the 1870s when itinerant preachers visited the village and preached in the schoolhouse. Later the meetings were held at the home of Sanford Herendeen. He and Marshall Grew were devoted to religious works. Marshall Grew's daughter Abigail Grew gave the land on the south side of Water (Main) Street and in 1879 a plain wooden Greek Revival-style church was erected at the cost of \$2,500. There was no entry hall until 1890. It was moved to 15 School Street in 1949 on land donated by Dr. & Mrs. Redfield.

The building was moved in 1949 to School Street where the Methodist Church continued to be an active organization until 1970, when a number of small Methodist churches within the town of Falmouth formed the John Wesley United Methodist Church in Falmouth on Gifford Street.

The building was sold to the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution at that time (1970). It is used as the Exhibit Center for W.H.O.I.

SCOPE NOTE

The collection includes correspondence and deeds for the original Woods Hole Main Street property, church programs, xerox copies of the history of the church, xerox copies of the minutes of the organizational meeting and copies of newspaper clippings.

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BOX LIST

- 1-1a. Correspondence about deed for land on Main Street (Water Street), 1949.
(Accession Number 97-3)
- 1-1b.: Facsimile copy of 1953 deed and trustee agreement for church land.
(Accession Number 97-3)
- 1-2. Church Programs: 1918 (1 copy) and 1949 (4 copies) (Accession Number 97-3)
- 1-3. Photocopies of Documents of History of Methodist Church for Exhibit at WHHC:
 - a. Grace Howes: History of Methodist Church
 - b. Winifred Eldridge: History of Women's League
 - c. Minutes of Organizational Meeting: July 14, 84 (1884)
- 1-4. Ephemera, Letters and Newspaper Clippings
 - a. Souvenir card with poem, "Woods Holl M.E. Church, March 3, 1898 at 8 P.M."
 - b. Postcard. Photo of sanctuary interior. Postmarked 1941.
 - c. Newsclipping. "Photographers Numerous as Woods Hole Church Crosses Main Street", May 13, 1949 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox copy.
 - d. Newsclipping. "Photographers Numerous as Woods Hole Church Crosses Main Street", May 13, 1949 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox, copied with clipping "Moving of Woods Hole Methodist Church Approved" (n.d.).
 - e. Newsclipping. "Methodists Burn Church Mortgage At Woods Hole", November 30, 1950 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox copy.
 - f. Newsclipping. "Methodists Burn Church Mortgage At Woods Hole", November 30, 1950 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox, copied with clipping "June 28 Is Last Methodist Service", June 12, 1970 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox copy.
 - g. Newsclipping. "Old Woods Hole Church Now Rec Center For Lab", March 10, 1972 (Falmouth *Enterprise?*). Xerox copy.
 - h. Letter from Bob Dinsmore to Bill Dunkle, January 5, 1984. Includes xerox copy of "Extract from Souvenir History of The New England Southern Conference by Rennetts C. Miller, 1887."
- 1-5. Newspaper. The Woods Hole Herald, September 5, 1910. Original and xerox copy.

1-6. Printed manuscript. "Woods Hole Methodist Church and Other Churches in Woods Hole"

by E. Frances Shepherd, 2003.

1-7. Working list of Methodist Church ministers.