

Lincoln Town Archives

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Title: Lincoln Library Trustees' Records

Date(s): 1970 – 2006 (inclusive)

Bulk: 1990-2003 (bulk)

Extent: 8 boxes

Collection No.: 2008.04

Scope and Content:

This collection comprises records related to the administration of the library (including minutes of the Lincoln Library Trustees from 1970 to 2007), library finances, building and grounds maintenance, personnel, and library activities and exhibits. Trustees' minutes prior to 1970 are with Lincoln Public Library Records, 2003.034.

Historical Background:

The free public library was established in 1870 with the donation of her personal library to the Town of Lincoln by Eliza Roach Farrar, widow of Prof. John Farrar. A room in lower Town Hall, formerly the High School classroom, became the first public library. A committee was formed by the town to oversee the library, the forerunners of the Library Trustees. Collections from the district school libraries were added to the public library collections, as well as the collections of the Third Social Library and the Agricultural Library. Retired Boston businessman and Lincoln native, George Grosvenor Tarbell, donated the present library building upon its completion in 1884. Tarbell also reached an agreement with the Town that library governance would be vested in a five member Board of Trustees comprising three self-perpetuating trustees, the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and the Chairman of the School Committee. Today there are six Trustees, three self-perpetuating, one appointed by the Selectmen, one by the School Committee, and one elected.

Series Descriptions:

Series 1: Minutes, 1970-2000 - Boxes 1 & 2 (38 folders)

Series 2: Administrative Records - Boxes 3 & 4 (28 folders)

Series 3: Financial Records - Box 5 (13 folders)

Series 4: Library Building Records - Box 6 (10 Folders)

Series 5: Personnel - Box 7 (13 folders)

Series 6: Library Activities and Exhibits - Box 8 (4 folders)

Source of the Collection:

Lincoln Public Library, 1970 -- ongoing.

Information about Access:

In-Library Use Only. Finding Aid and Inventory in print form available in Lincoln Town Archives Historical Room.

Preferred Citation:

Title of document, Creator, year(s), Accession No. Lincoln Town Archives, Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Collection Processed By:

Marjorie Hilton, 2011-2013

Finding Aid By:

Marie Wasnock, October 2015.