

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

1977.56

Central Massachusetts Disaster Relief Committee Record
Books 1953- 1956 Collection

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Collection Information

Abstract : The collection consists of four notebooks, dated 1953-1956, containing reports, memoranda, correspondence, photographs, and newspaper clippings concerned with the relief efforts for victims of the tornado of 9 June 1953.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of the American Antiquarian Society

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings

Historical/Biographical Notes

The Central Massachusetts Disaster Relief Committee was formed on 11 June 1953 to coordinate local relief activities after the tornado of 9 June 1953. The committee was to raise as much money as possible for the victims and then disburse it through such agencies as the Red Cross, Catholic Charities, Temple Emanuel and other organizations. Members of the committee were appointed by Massachusetts governor, Christian A. Werter, and included George F. Booth () as chairman and also Evererett F. Merrill (1898-1955), as secretary and the Most Reverend John J. Wright () as treasurer.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of four notebooks, dated 1953-1956, containing reports, memoranda, correspondence, photographs, and newspaper clippings concerned with the relief efforts for victims of the tornado of 9 June 1953.

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Records of Central MA Disaster Relief Committee, Inc. June 1953- June 1955

Series 2: Town Committee Final Reports (Requests, Allotments, and Final Reports)

Series 3: Reports and Correspondence of Worcester Agencies involved in Aid

Series 4: Red Cross controversy (National)

Series 5: Legal Documentation of the Organization and Termination of the Committee

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Series 1. Records of Central MA Disaster Relief Committee, Inc. June 1953- June 1955

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1-9	1977.56.1	Records the organization of the committee and contains letters, minutes of the meetings, records of financial contributions, photographs and newspaper clippings.

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Series 2. Town Committee Final Reports (Requests, Allotments, Final Reports)

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	10	1977.56.2.1	Barre, MA
1	11	1977.56.2.2	Franklin, MA
1	12	1977.56.2.3	Holden, MA
1	13	1977.56.2.4	Northbridge, MA
1	14	1977.56.2.5	Petersham, MA
1	15	1977.56.2.6	Rutland, MA
1	16	1977.56.2.7	Shrewsbury, MA
1	17	1977.56.2.8	Southboro, MA
1	18	1977.56.2.9	Sutton, MA
1	19	1977.56.2.10	Westboro, MA
1	20	1977.56.2.11	Wrentham, MA

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Series 3. Reports and Correspondence of Worcester Agencies that Aided in Recovery

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	21	1977.56.3.1	Assumption College
1	22	1977.56.3.2	Bay State Society for the Crippled
1	23	1977.56.3.3	Catholic Charities Diocese of Worcester
1	24	1977.56.3.4	Worcester Community Chest and Council
1	25	1977.56.3.5	Greater Worcester Council of Churches
1	26	1977.56.3.6	Red Cross
1	27	1977.56.3.7	Worcester County Safety Council
1	28	1977.56.3.8	Temple Emanuel

1 29 1977.56.3.9 Worcester Welfare Department

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Series 4: Red Cross controversy (National)

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	30	1977.56.4	National records of a controversy, involving the American Red Cross, about how funding was used after the crisis.

Central Massachusetts Disaster Relief Committee Record Books 1953- 1956 Collection
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Series 5: Legal Documentation of the Organization and Termination of the Committee

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	31	1977.56.5	Legal Documents concerning the organization and termination of the committee and the transfer of funds to a new trust.