

WORCESTER HISTORICAL
MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Home Farm
Collection #2

2003.19

Processed by Lee Ann B. Amend
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Collection Information

Abstract: The Home Farm Collection # 2 contains the bound annual reports from the periods of: March 5, 1891 to April 23, 1913 and then again from September 29, 1925 to June 3, 1948. The years from 1913 to 1925 are not contained in this bound volume nor are there pages missing. There is also a folder of contents of this volume consisting of a proposed schedule of wages for 1937, a general policy statement for 1944 and a letter of admittance regarding a homeless lady.

Finding Aids: Finding Aid in print form available in the Repository. Folder level control.

Preferred Citation: Archives of the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Museum purchase

Access: The Finding Aid is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsh, appm, tgm.)

Historical/Biographical

The Home Farm was a home for those who were homeless and for those who couldn't pay their bills. Individuals could work off what he owed in back taxes at jobs ranging from farming and collecting the city's garbage to paving roadways. The original site for the Home Farm was at the Jennison Tavern, since known as O.A. Kelley Place in 1818 and was bequeathed to the city by Mrs. Jennison. The "new" almshouse or home farm, (poor farm), was purchased in 1853-1855 and was located on Lincoln Street, Worcester, Mass. There lived, on the average, about 160 inmates. The site, in 1917, consisted of 376 acres of land and among the buildings on the grounds were the; main home, barns, brick heating plant, poultry houses and the piggery. Garbage was collected from the city and brought to the piggery at the home farm for the pigs to eat. The governing board consisted of 3 appointed members, two of whom were the President of the Common Circle and the Chairman of the Common Circle, and six members elected for a term of three years. The office of the "overseers of the poor" was in the City Hall building and an admittance letter was sent from the clerk at City Hall to the Superintendent of the Home Farm for and individual to be admitted.

Scope and Content

The collection comprises the annual report from the years, March 1891 to April 1913 and then again from September 1925 to June 1948. There is also a folder of contents found in the bound volume which includes a proposed wage schedule for 1937, a policy statement from 1944 with photocopies and a letter of admittance for a single individual who is homeless.

Series Description

Series 1: Annual Report from March 1891 to April 1913 and then again from Sept. 1925 to June 1948. Loose contents of this volume in folder 14.

Home Farm Collection #2
2003.19

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	13	2003.19.1	Bound volume, "Records of the Committee on Farm Overseers of the Poor". March 5, 1891 – April 23, 1913 and then again from September 29, 1925 to June 3, 1948.
1	14	2003.19.2	Proposed schedule of Wages, Worcester Home Farm, July 1, 1937.
1	14	2003.19.3a-b	General Policy Statement from Feb. 3, 1944.
1	14	2003.19.4	Photocopies of item 2
1	14	2003.19.5	Photocopy of item 3.
1	14	2003.19.6	Correspondence from Freeman Brown, Clerk, Office of the Overseers of the Poor at City Hall to Superintendent of the Home Farm. January 3, 1912.