

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Worcester Playground Association
Collection

2001.45

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
October 2001

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Collection Information

Abstract : Playgrounds for children established under state law after 1910 in Worcester, with appointment of a playground commission to oversee facilities and activities.

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

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Holy Cross College, October 2001.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lsh, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Worcester Playground Association.

Worcester Playground Commission

Playgrounds – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Playgrounds – Legislation – Massachusetts.

Outdoor recreation for children – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Historical/Biographical Notes

Legislation authorizing establishment of playgrounds for children approved in 1910 by the Massachusetts legislature, and programs started in Worcester that year. In 1911 a Playground Commission was established to develop playgrounds, and to oversee the facilities and activities. Earliest playground activities were held at Fitton Field at Holy Cross College.

Scope and Content

The collection comprises programs of playground activities sponsored by the Worcester Playground Association, later the Worcester Playground Commission in 1910 and 1911; and information relating to the playground movement in Worcester and nationally, 1910s-1926, and a draft of a speech on the history of the playground movement.

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Programs.

Series 2: Playground movement.

Series 1, Programs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2001.45.1.1a-b	Program of play festival, given by Worcester kindergarten children at the state normal school, Worcester, June 2, 1910. (2 copies)
1		2001.45.1.2a-c	Program of the first annual Tailtenn Games of the Worcester Playground Association, August 24, 1910 at Fitton Field. (3 copies)
1		2001.45.1.3	program of Worcester Annual Tailtenn Games of the municipal playgrounds, under the auspices of Worcester Playground Commission, August 30, 1911.

Worcester Playground Association Collection
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Series 2, Playground movement

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2001.45.2.1	Brochure relating to lectures etc. on playgrounds, ca. 1910.
1		2001.45.2.2	Article 'The Playground Movement: the example of Worcester, Mass.', reprinted from <i>Berrow's Worcester (Eng.) Journal</i> , April 5, 1913.
1		2001.45.2.3	Draft of speech <i>The playground movement</i> , annotated, ca. 1920. 20 p.
1		2001.45.2.4	Municipal reference library notes, Vol. XII, No. 13: Parks in the larger cities of the United States, April 7, 1926. 8 p.