

SUBGROUP V. CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMS

Series 1. Administrative, 1868-1899. 2 document boxes. 1 cubic foot.
Arranged by institution, folder units in random arrangement.

1. Church of the Pilgrims

These folders contain documents related to administrative matters from the Church of the Pilgrims, such as informal notes, annual meeting reports, and special meetings notes. They also contain annual reports made by the Secretary, Superintendent, and Examining Committee, as well as resolutions and motions. Also included in held here are correspondence both to and from the Church of the Pilgrims, some basic census information and statistical information. There are also notes from both the Entertainment committee (of 1891), the Young Men's Club, and a letter calling for parisioners to support dry Sundays. The bulk dates are 1873, 1879-80, 1888, 1893-4, 1899, while the scope of documents ranges between 1872 to 1899.

2. Church of the Pilgrims Sunday School

These folders contain documents from the Church of the Pilgrim's Sunday School, a subsidiary of the Church of the Pilgrims. There are both formal and informal notes from the Annual Meeting. There are also several Annual Meeting reports, in addition to numerous reports and informal notes made by the Librarian, Treasurer, and Secretary. Included in this subseries is a wealth of correspondence both to and from the Church of the Pilgrims, including letters to and from the teachers. There are also numerous informal meeting notes pertaining to a variety of topics and roll sheets. The bulk dates are 1870-71, 1879-79, 1890-99, while scope ranges from 1868-1899.

3. Warren Street School

These folders contain documents pertaining to the Warren Street School, an institution receiving some funds from the Church of the Pilgrims. These files contain Annual Reports made to the Church of the Pilgrims, as well as the Superintendent's report, both of which include some financial information and reports. Also here are ephemeral papers pertaining to the Warren Street School, mostly in informal notes and correspondence. The scope ranges 1868-1876, with no significant bulk dates.

4. Plymouth Church

These folders contain papers pertaining to the Plymouth Church, a parallel institution to the Church of the Pilgrims, that split and was later reunified. These files contain meeting minutes and annual meeting notes, as well as Annual Reports, Resolutions, and reports by the Treasurer. There are some committee notes, which pertain to a respolution on the

Church's discipline policy. This file also contains correspondence both to and from the Plymouth Church. Most items are undated, save one from 1873.

5. Pilgrim Chapel

These folders contain documents relevant to the Pilgrim Chapel. This includes annual reports of the Sunday School and Chapel Memberships, and the Superintendent's Report. There is also correspondence to and from the Chapel, and informal and formal meeting notes. There notes pertaining to the total seat and membership, as well as some general statistical information. The documents are interspersed regularly throughout 1881-91, while the scope reaches from 1879-91.

6. Miscellaneous

These units contain some formal publications by other institutions, such as the Mannhatan Congregational Conference statistics of the Churches reporting for 1890. There are also Formal Church Bylaws (print) and their certificate of incorporation in 1869; an Annual Report from the Bethlehem Sabbath School, and various letters (1890, 1891 and 1879) that are not identified to any institution. This folder's scope ranges 1869-1890.

[View Container List](#)

Series 2. Financial, 1865-1895, 1897-1898. 2 document boxes. 1 cubic foot. Chronologically arranged.

This series contains receipts and reports all relating to the financial transactions of the Church of the Pilgrims. The receipts record money paid to local merchants for supplies such as coal and wood as well as money donated to several different charitable organizations. The financial reports include yearly treasurer's reports, the missionary account report, the Sunday school treasurer's report, and the Deacon's Fund treasurer's account. Many of the reports are signed by Eli Mygatt or Samuel F. Phelps who served as treasurers of the church. There are a small number of church collection reports which list the names of church members and the amounts that each member donated.

The church purchased goods and services from many local merchants in Brooklyn. Some of the merchants who did regular business with the church over many years include Kelseys & Loughlin, Jr. Coal and Wood Dealers, Henry Owen, Grocer, William T. Johnson, Coal and Wood, Thomas McMullen, Importer of Wines, Brandies, and Liquors, F.J. Huntington & Co., Publishers and Booksellers, Pott, Young & Co., Booksellers, Publishers, and Importers, Union Steam Printing, Brooklyn City Safe Deposits, J.M. Hopper, General Furnishing Undertaker, and A. Lennart, General Furnishing Undertaker.

The church also made regular donations to several different missionary and charitable organizations including the American Home Missionary Society, the American Sunday School Union, the American Congregational Union, the American Board of

Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the American Seaman's Friend Society, and the Sea-Side Home for Children.

[View Container List](#)

Series 3. Memberships, 1846 - 1868, 1870 - 1899. 3 document boxes. 1.5 cubic feet. Chronologically arranged; with materials divided yearly within folders with spanning years. One Undated folder for membership items that were undated or had no clear date of creation, organized in a random arrangement within this folder.

This series contains certificates, recommendations, letters to and from members, and meeting minutes all relating to the membership records of the Church of the Pilgrims.

The certificates are both of admission and dismissal from the Church of the Pilgrims. Recommendations come from other churches primarily for individual approval for admission. The letters are predominantly from those who want to be admitted or dismissed from the church; there are also a select number of letters from the church to individual members regarding their membership written typically by Rev. Storrs. The meeting minutes come in two forms either lists of individual's names admitted to the church or during later years (1890 -) the figure of how many members admitted, dismissed, suspended, members to be disciplined or deceased. Also the membership lists from (1890 -) seemed to be used for creating a book of members of the church. The meeting minutes appear to fall under the work of the Examining Committee, for annual reports of the work of the Examining Committee see Series 1.

[View Container List](#)

Series 4. Interchurch Affairs, 1865, 1867-1876, 1878-1898. 1 document box. 0.5 cubic feet.

Chronologically arranged, with materials divided by year or two-year span; random arrangement within folders. One Miscellaneous folder for an undated item.

This series contains interchurch correspondence both originating from and sent to the Church of the Pilgrims, and consisting primarily of invitations to church councils and conferences, letters from other churches requesting advice or financial assistance from the Church of the Pilgrims, and miscellaneous correspondence.

Interchurch conferences generally addressed doctrinal or policy issues. Interchurch council invitations were issued to surrounding churches in order to address pastoral appointments and missionary ordinations, or to address intra- or inter-church disputes. Many invitations include a list of invited prominent clergymen and representatives from area churches, including Plymouth Church, Elm Place Congregational Church, Broadway Tabernacle Church, Central Congregational Church, Parkville Congregational Church, Lee Avenue Congregational Church, and State Street Congregational Church. Requests for aid came from as far away as New Orleans (1880) and Pawnee, Oklahoma (1897),

and even include an 1898 request from the newly formed Iglesia Congregacional Hispano-Americana to join the regional association of Congregational churches.

Also included in the series are several notices of dues assessments from the General Association of New York, a copy of the 1872 Constitution of the Congregational Church Extension and Aid Committee, and statistical reports on member churches of the Manhattan Congregational Association, available after 1891.

Notable miscellaneous correspondence includes a set of letters from 1873 to 1874 covering an interchurch debate between the Church of the Pilgrims, allied with Clinton Avenue Congregational Church, and Plymouth Church. The interchange includes letters signed by Henry Ward Beecher.

[View Container List](#)

Container List, Subgroup V: Church of the Pilgrims

Series 1: Administrative

Box 1, Folders 1-7

- Folder 1 Church of the Pilgrims, #1
- Folder 2 Church of the Pilgrims, #2
- Folder 3 Church of the Pilgrims, #3
- Folder 4 Church of the Pilgrims Sunday School, #1
- Folder 5 Church of the Pilgrims Sunday School, #2
- Folder 6 Church of the Pilgrims Sunday School, #3
- Folder 7 Church of the Pilgrims Sunday School, #4

Box 2, Folders 1-4

- Folder 1 Warren Street School
- Folder 2 Plymouth Church
- Folder 3 Pilgrim Chapel
- Folder 4 Miscellaneous

Series 2: Financial

Box 3, Folders 1-12

Folder 1	Financial records – 1865
Folder 2	Financial records – 1866
Folder 3	Financial records – 1867
Folder 4	Financial records – 1868
Folder 5	Financial records – 1869
Folder 6	Financial records – 1870
Folder 7	Financial records – 1871
Folder 8	Financial records – 1872
Folder 9	Financial records – 1873
Folder 10	Financial records – 1874
Folder 11	Financial records – 1875
Folder 12	Financial records – 1876

Box 4, Folders 1-21

Folder 1	Financial records – 1877
Folder 2	Financial records – 1878
Folder 3	Financial records – 1879
Folder 4	Financial records – 1880
Folder 5	Financial records – 1881
Folder 6	Financial records – 1882
Folder 7	Financial records – 1883
Folder 8	Financial records – 1884
Folder 9	Financial records – 1885
Folder 10	Financial records – 1886

- Folder 11 Financial records – 1887
- Folder 12 Financial records – 1888
- Folder 13 Financial records – 1889
- Folder 14 Financial records – 1890
- Folder 15 Financial records – 1891
- Folder 16 Financial records – 1892
- Folder 17 Financial records – 1893
- Folder 18 Financial records – 1894
- Folder 19 Financial records – 1895
- Folder 20 Financial records – 1897
- Folder 21 Financial records – 1898

Series 3: Membership

Box 5, Folders 1-12

- Folder 1 Memberships – 1846 - 1849
- Folder 2 Memberships – 1850
- Folder 3 Memberships – 1851
- Folder 4 Memberships – 1852
- Folder 5 Memberships – 1853
- Folder 6 Memberships – 1854 - 1857
- Folder 7 Memberships – 1858 - 1860
- Folder 8 Memberships – 1861 - 1864
- Folder 9 Memberships – 1865 - 1867
- Folder 10 Memberships – 1868

Folder 11 Memberships – 1870 - 1874

Folder 12 Memberships – 1875 - 1877

Box 6, Folders 1-12

Folder 1 Memberships – 1878 - 1879

Folder 2 Memberships – 1880

Folder 3 Memberships – 1881

Folder 4 Memberships – 1882

Folder 5 Memberships – 1883 - 1884

Folder 6 Memberships – 1885

Folder 7 Memberships – 1886

Folder 8 Memberships – 1887

Folder 9 Memberships – 1888

Folder 10 Memberships – 1889

Folder 11 Memberships – 1890 - 1892

Folder 12 Memberships – 1893

Box 7, Folders 1-6

Folder 1 Memberships – 1894

Folder 2 Memberships – 1895

Folder 3 Memberships – 1896

Folder 4 Memberships – 1897

Folder 5 Memberships – 1898 - 1899

Folder 6 Memberships – Undated

Series 4: Interchurch Affairs

Box 8, Folders 1-27

- Folder 1 Interchurch correspondence – 1865
- Folder 2 Interchurch correspondence – 1867-1868
- Folder 3 Interchurch correspondence – 1869
- Folder 4 Interchurch correspondence – 1870
- Folder 5 Interchurch correspondence – 1871
- Folder 6 Interchurch correspondence – 1872
- Folder 7 Interchurch correspondence – 1873
- Folder 8 Interchurch correspondence – 1874
- Folder 9 Interchurch correspondence – 1875-1876
- Folder 10 Interchurch correspondence – 1878
- Folder 11 Interchurch correspondence – 1879
- Folder 12 Interchurch correspondence – 1880
- Folder 13 Interchurch correspondence – 1881-1882
- Folder 14 Interchurch correspondence – 1883
- Folder 15 Interchurch correspondence – 1884
- Folder 16 Interchurch correspondence – 1885
- Folder 17 Interchurch correspondence – 1886
- Folder 18 Interchurch correspondence – 1887
- Folder 19 Interchurch correspondence – 1888
- Folder 20 Interchurch correspondence – 1889-1890
- Folder 21 Interchurch correspondence – 1891-1892
- Folder 22 Interchurch correspondence – 1893

Folder 23 Interchurch correspondence – 1894

Folder 24 Interchurch correspondence – 1895

Folder 25 Interchurch correspondence – 1897

Folder 26 Interchurch correspondence – 1898

Folder 27 Miscellaneous interchurch materials