CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

ARCHIVES

Christ Church Cranbrook

Records, 1923-1990
10.5 linear ft.

Acquisition Number: 1992-01

Acquisition: Transferred to the Archives in various lots, which were unified during processing. The records are a compilation of the papers of the office of the Parish Administration, the papers of Max Fruhauf (vestry man), Jervis B. McMechan's “History of the Parish” drafts and manuscripts, and the publications of Christ Church Cranbrook.

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Preferred Citation: Christ Church Cranbrook Records, Cranbrook Archives, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Photographs: In Photographs Special File.

Index: See end of finding aid.

History

On 15 May 1904 Henry Wood Booth, father of George Gough Booth, pitched a tent on the bluff overlooking Cranbrook and Lone Pine Roads and preached a Sunday sermon for his fifteen neighbors. The property was a small corner of the 175 acres that George Booth purchased in January 1904, and on which he built his country home in 1908.

Henry Booth continued to conduct his Sunday services in the tent, on the porch of Cranbrook Cottage, and in the Studio of his son's home until 1918. In 1918 George Booth built the Meeting House, now Brookside School, and on the first Sunday in January 1919 Henry Booth conducted religious services for "the people of the community who do not regularly go to church."

The simple missionary services continued, but in 1923 George Booth, sensing the need for an orthodox church in the Bloomfield Hills community, wrote to his friend Reverend Samuel S. Marquis, former Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in Detroit, his ideas concerning the establishment of an Episcopal church on the Cranbrook property. In his letter George Booth offered to finance the building of the church and to contribute funds to sustain it.

By early 1924 the plans for Christ Church Cranbrook accelerated. The Bishop's agreement was obtained and the southwest corner of Cranbrook Road and Lone Pine Road was selected as the site. The architectural firm of Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue Associates was commissioned, and Oscar H. Murray chief designer and architect, with George Gough Booth, agreed upon a design with a total estimated cost of $550,000.

The construction contract was awarded to Charles R. Wermuth and Sons. Ground breaking took place 5 Jul 1925 and to commemorate the day Reverend Samuel Marquis conducted the first service for the Christ Church Cranbrook Mission at the Meeting House. (Henry Wood Booth, the creator of the tent church, had died 17 Mar 1925).

On 21 Jun 1926, as all the foundations neared completion, the laying of the cornerstone was conducted, and the consecration of Christ Church Cranbrook (29 Sep 1928) by Bishop Herman Page was followed on 30 Sep 1928 by the dedication of the Carillon. The Carillon consisted of 46 bells cast by the Taylor Bell Foundry, Loughborough, England and given to Christ Church Cranbrook by Harold L. Wallace, his wife Grace Booth Wallace and their five children.

As construction of the church continued, George Booth and his family consulted with artisans who provided carved woodwork, stained glass windows, appropriate paintings and sculpture, tapestries and metalwork. From the early tent services of Henry Wood Booth in 1904 Christ Church Cranbrook has firmly established itself on the corner of Lone Pine and Cranbrook Roads.
Scope and Content of Collection

The Christ Church Cranbrook Papers are divided into the following series: THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK; THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK; PUBLICATIONS; and PHOTOGRAPHS. Each series is divided into subseries based on specific content. All arrangements are alphanumeric.

THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK series delineates the Booth family's religious history and the philosophy that led to the establishment of the Meeting House and to the eventual organization and development of Christ Church Cranbrook. Legal papers concerning the early financial structure; the acquisition of property; the Cranbrook Foundation’s organization, dissolution and restructure are also contained in this series, as are papers relating to the construction, alteration, maintenance, grounds and purchase of art objects are included. This series is divided into three subseries: HISTORY; FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION; and BUILDING AND FURNISHINGS.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK series is concerned with the various aspects of the administration of the church-- personnel, ceremonies, sermons, missions and finances. Papers relating to these concerns and a collection of financial reports comprise this series, which is divided into five subseries: PERSONNEL; CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS; MISSIONS; SOCIAL ISSUES; and ANNUAL REPORTS.

The PUBLICATIONS series contains the many publications of Christ Church Cranbrook. The weekly publications-- The Carillon (1928-1967); Newsletter, Calendar and Soundings (1968-1972); and Communicator (1972-1983) are included. In addition, some national publications containing articles and photographs of Christ Church Cranbrook are in this series, which is divided into two subseries: CHIRST CHURCH CRANBROOK PUBLICATIONS and NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS.

The PHOTOGRAPHS series contains photographs of the church, its staff and congregation, and congregational activities.

Related Collections

- Cranbrook Architectural Office Records (1989-01)
- George G. Booth Papers (1981-01)
- Good News (1995-51) [catalogued as a serial publication]
- Samuel S. Marquis Papers (1983-07)
THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: HISTORY

This subseries contains correspondence, journals and notes relating to the background and development of Christ Church Cranbrook. Included is the partial manuscript of Jervis B. McMechan's book, *Christ Church Cranbrook, 1928-1978*.

**Box 1**

1. Booth Family Background; notes, n.d., 1949
2. Booth, George G.; correspondence, 1918
5. McMechan, Jervis B.; correspondence, 1978
7. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter II, 1978
8. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter III, 1978
9. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter IV, 1978
10. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter V, 1978
11. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter VI, 1978
12. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter VII, 1978
13. McMechan, Jervis B.; Manuscript- Chapter VIII, 1978
14a. McMechan, Jervis B.; *Christ Church Cranbrook*, photo negatives list, n.d.
15. Page, Herman Rev.; note, 1924

THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION

This subseries contains documents relating to the acquisition of property; the establishment of endowments and trusts; the dissolution of trusts and the 1973 reorganization agreement.

18. Booth, George G.; Corporation, 1927, 1960
20. Booth Newspapers, Inc; Stock Sale, 1976

**Box 2**

.5 Pamphlet, "Christ Church Cranbrook...Gift of George G. Booth..."
THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION (cont.)

Box 2 (cont.)

1. CCC Building Fund, 1924-1926, 1933
2. CCC By-laws, 1964-1979
3. CCC Parish Endowment Trust, 1946-1962
5. CCC Documents, 1924-1925
6. CCC Documents, 1924-1926
7. Cranbrook Academy of Arts; Organization Documents, 1942
8. Cranbrook Foundation; Trust Indenture, 1927
9. Cranbrook Foundation; Agreement, 1968
10. Cranbrook Foundation; Trust Dissolution, 1971, 1973
11. Cranbrook Foundation; Supplemental Trust, 1960
12. Cranbrook Foundation; Supplemental Trust Dissol., 1973
13. Cranbrook Institute of Science; Trust Indenture, 1932
15. Cranbrook Reorganization Agreement, 1973
17. Cranbrook Schools; Organization Documents, 1972

THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: BUILDING AND FURNISHINGS

This subseries contains papers concerned with the building, alterations, additions and purchases of art objects for the church. Also included are building and maintenance records, some landscape plans, and programs of the 1926 laying of the cornerstone and consecration of the church. In addition, there is a manuscript describing the photographs in the Christ Church Cranbrook album.

Box 3

2. Art Objects; Booth, George G. memo, 1927
3. Art Objects; Correspondence, 1950-1974
4. Art Objects; GGB Scrapbook clippings, 1923-1924
5. Baptism Font
8. Building and Grounds; minutes and reports, 1971-1973
THE BOOTH FAMILY AND CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: BUILDING AND
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Box 3 (cont’d)

9. Christ Church Cranbrook Album, descriptions, n.d.
11. Consecration Service, 1928
12. Cornerstone, laying of the, 1926
13. Egyptian Tapestries, 1983
14. Exterior Lighting Dedication, 1989
15. Founders’ Memorial, 1979
16. McEwan, Katherine; Fresco, 1945, n.d.
17. Inventory, Unvalued Church Articles, 1937
18. Landscape Planning, 1927, 1951, 1988
20. St. Dunstan’s Chapel Dedication, 1928
21. Script; Tour of CCC, 1945
22. Sketches, n.d.
23. Slides, Souvenir, 1960
25. West Porch Dedication, 1929

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: PERSONNEL

Papers concerned with the leadership of various pastors-- Samuel Marquis, Charles Cadigan, Robert DeWitt, Gerald O'Grady and others-- during the years 1924-1983 are contained in this subseries. In addition, minutes, notes, lists of various organizations within the church (vestrymen, ushers, women's organizations, scout troops, etc.) are included.

Box 4

1. Alter Guild Manual
2. Boy Scout Troop 1005, 1968-69
3. Clergy; Aulenbach, W. Hamilton, 1930, 1938
4. Clergy; Cadigan, Charles H., 1943, 1945, 1947
6. Clergy; Marquis, Samuel S., 1923-1953
9. Clergy; Thorp, Almus, 1982-1983
10. Clergy; General, 1938-1992
12. Committees; Memberships, 1988
17. Personnel, Church, 1954-1984
18. Annual Reports, 1983
19. Reports; Clergy, 1982
20. Reports; Rector, 1982-1983
21. Reports; Senior Warden, 1979, 1981

Box 5
1. Trustees; Acceptances, 1956-1975
2. Usher; Eden, C.E. (Pat), 1957
3. Usher Lists, 1939-1962
4. Vestry Men, 1927-1982
5. Vestry Minutes, 1964-1966
6. Volunteers and Lay Ministers, 1989

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: CHURCH
ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS

This subseries contains reports, programs and sermons, mainly from 1960-1966. Also included are papers concerning various church festivals.

11. Feast of Nativity, 1928
12. Festival of Dedication, 1945-1988
13. Festival of Dedication; Preparation, 1970-1988
14. Festival of Gifts, 1928-1930
15. Festival of Gifts, 1947-1979

Box 6
1. Festival of Lights, 1960
5. Protestant Episcopal Church Convention, 1961

Box 6 (cont’d)
5.5 Sermons, various dates by S.S. Marquis
7. Sermons, Mar 1960 - Nov 1961
8. Sermons, Jan-Dec 1962
9. Sermons, Jan-Apr 1963
10. Sermons, May-Dec 1963
11. Sermons, Jan-Dec 1964
12. Sermons, Jan-Dec 1965
13. Sermons, Jan-Aug 1966
15. Service, Rogation Sunday, 1924

Box 7
1. Services; Baccalaureate, 1941-1944
2. Services; Booth Henry S., memo, 1953
2.5 "Talk Given at the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration...", 1953
3. SPTU Evaluation, 1972
4. Vespers Evaluation, 1946-1953

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: MISSIONS

Christ Church Cranbrook helped build and maintain four missions--Church of the Advent, Nativity Episcopal Church, St. Gabriel's Mission and St. Stephen's Church. The information in this subseries emphasizes the years 1947-1968.

5. Church of the Advent
10. Story of the Three Missions, n.d.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: SOCIAL ISSUES

This subseries contains papers, clippings, reports, and other documents primarily related to the issues of the 1960s.

12. Black Manifesto; clippings, 1969
15. Ordination of Homosexuals, 1979

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK: FINANCIAL REPORTS
Budgets, statements, annual reports and parochial reports are contained in this subseries. The reports are concentrated on the years 1940-1970.

**Box 7 (cont’d)**
18. Cash and Reserve Fund, 1948-1950  
19. Receipts and Disbursements, 1940-1943  
20. Receipts and Disbursements, 1944-2947

**Box 8**
1. Reports; Annual, 1947-1948  
2. Reports; Annual, 1961-1967  
3. Reports; Annual, 1986  
5. Reports; Operating, 1948, 1983-1984  
6. Reports; Parochial, 1927-1930, 1939, 1940  
7. Reports; Parochial, 1941-1950  
8. Reports; Parochial, 1951-1953  
9. Reports; Parochial, 1954-1956  
10. Reports; Parochial, 1957-1960  
12. Reports; Parochial, 1967-1972  
13. Reports; Treasurer, 1927-1928, 1931-1932  
14. Reports; Your Church Reports, 1951-1960  

**PUBLICATIONS: CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK PUBLICATIONS**


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**Box 10**
1. *The Carillon*, 1928-1933  
5. *The Carillon*, 1941-1942

**Box 11**

**Box 12**
1. *The Carillon*, 1951
2. *The Carillon*, 1952
5. *The Carillon*, 1956

**Box 13**
3. *Christ Church Cranbrook*, 1928-1933
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8. *Christ Church Cranbrook*, 1966

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7. Communicator, 1972-1974

Box 17
2. Communicator, 1977-1978
6. Cranbrook, 1929
7. Lectionary of Bible Readings, 1952-1959

Box 18
1. Newsletter, 1952-1953
6. Parish Directories, 1987

Box 19
1. Pilgrim's Guide, 1953

Box 19 (cont’d)
7. Soundings, 1969
10. Stationary, n.d.
12. *This is Christ Church Cranbrook*, 1956, 1969

**Box 20**


**PUBLICATIONS: NATIONAL PERIODICALS**

This subseries contains periodicals (1927-1964) with early photographs of and articles about Christ Church Cranbrook.

5. *Afterglow*, Nov 1927
7. *American Magazine of Art*, 1929
9. *Churchman*, 1931

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