

Sturgis Library Archives

MS. 182 Christian Camp Meeting Association (CCMA) Archives

Extent: 19 boxes/containers

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of the records of the Christian Camp Meeting Association (CCMA) at Craigville in Centerville, including photographs, historical material, publications, correspondence, meeting minutes, annual reports, newsletters, ephemera, and other miscellaneous documents.

Biographical and historical information: *Adapted from author Christopher Setterlund's article on Craigville and the CCMA:*

In 1871, the New England Convention of Christian Churches voted to establish a Camp Meeting at the 160-acre Perry Farm in Barnstable. At the time, the main road passing through the area connected the center of 'Centerville' to the town wharf and shipyard on the harbor. In the summer of 1872, the Christian Camp Meeting Association held its initial ten-day camp. It was the creation of one of the first vacation communities on Cape Cod.

That first year families who came to stay at the camp lived in tents as no permanent dwellings had been erected. The success of the first year's camp allowed for expansion. By the time the second camp rolled around the following year the village was much larger and more stable. There were thirty-one cottages, many clustered close together, as they were built on the old tent sites. In addition, there were two large hotels, several large boarding houses, and the centerpiece -- a 72x48-foot Tabernacle, which cost \$600 (\$11,600 today), and was paid for by collections from camp members. Another change would be a road built to enter the community from the east; it would traverse Pink Lily Lake, bisecting it and creating today's Lake Elizabeth and Red Lily Pond.

The Christian Camp Meeting Association would continue its successful run every summer throughout the 1870's. Many prominent regional clergymen would attend and participate in the meetings and services. In 1881 J. Austin Craig, President of the Christian Biblical Institute in Stanfordville, NY gave a series of twelve lectures said to have attracted widespread interest as his fame as a scholar increased. The lectures were reported to have been Craig's 'Story of the World.' Plans were for the beloved leader to give the lectures later that year Lowell Society in Boston. However, fate intervened and Craig passed away mere weeks after the camp ended in August 1882. Shortly after, the village would take the name Craigville in honor of his work as a theologian and church leader. A few years later in 1888, the group would purchase 800-feet of beach directly across from the camp creating Craigville Beach. The village meetings during the summer would remain highly popular.

Craigville became a year-round destination in 1960 when the Craigville Conference Center was established. Today it is home to ninety families, about twenty of which live there year round. The village is tightly knit in both socially and architecturally. Very few homes have been sold; most get passed down within families. The village is every bit a throwback to a simpler time. One only needs to take a stroll down the gravel Midway that runs between two rows of quaint gingerbread-style cottages to get a glimpse into the past. Despite its being a mainly religious retreat village the people who live there are very welcoming to visitors. One does not have to attend the religious services at Craigville to appreciate just what a treasure the village is.

Access: Unrestricted. Credit Sturgis Library Archives for publication purposes.
Acquisition: Donated by the Christian Camp Meeting Association (CCMA) in 2022.

Processed by: Lucy Loomis, Archivist, 2022.

Related collections: The early collections of the CCMA, 1872-1975, are held at the Congregational Library in Boston, Massachusetts.

<https://www.congregationallibrary.org/finding-aids/CraigvilleMAChristianCamp1099>

CONTENTS:

BOX 1

Craigville history, publications, ephemera, etc.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Fldr 1 | Finding aid for CCMA collection held at the Congregational Libray & Archives (1872-1975) |
| Fldr 2 | Craigville -- History – World War II air-raid and laundry regulations for hotels and inns |
| Fldr 3 | Craigville – History & writings – Undated |
| Fldr 4 | Craigville – History & writings – 1895-2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes 1895 incorporation document• Includes 1972 letter from Rose Kennedy |
| Fldr 5 | Craigville – History & writings – by Marion Vuilleumier |
| Fldr 6 | Craigville – People |
| Fldr 7 | CCMA – Plans and Studies, 2010-2015 |
| Fldr 8 | CCMA Publication, brochures, & ephemera |

BOX 2

Craigville Chronicle, 1960-2007

- Fldr 1 1960-1965
- Fldr 2 1966-1969
- Fldr 3 1970-1972
- Fldr 4 1973-1975
- Fldr 5 1976-1979
- Fldr 6 1980-1983
- Fldr 7 1984-1989
- Fldr 8 1990-1994
- Fldr 9 2001-2007

BOX 3

Craigville Chronicle, 2008-2019

- Fldr 1 2008-2010
- Fldr 1 2011-2012
- Fldr 2 2013-2014
- Fldr 3 2015-2016

- Fldr 4 2017-2018
- Fldr 5 2019

BOX 4 Fldr 1 Craigville Chronicle, 2021-

BOX 5 Craigville Visitor, 1925-1932

- Fldr 1 1925-1929
- Fldr 2 1930-1932

Fldr 3 Craigville 100th Anniversary Centennial Celebration, 1971-1972

Fldr 4 Craigville Tabernacle, miscellaneous events and programs

Fldr 5 Craigville Tabernacle Bulletin, early/mid-20th century-1985

Fldr 6 Craigville Tabernacle Bulletin, 1986-2008

BOX 6 CCMA Annual Reports, 1977-2021

- Fldr 1 1977-1989
- Fldr 2 1990-1999
- Fldr 3 2000-2008
- Fldr 4 2009-2015
- Fldr 5 2016-2021

BOX 7 CCMA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 1923-2005

- Fldr 1 1923-1939
- Fldr 2 1940-1975
- Fldr 3 1976-1981
- Fldr 4 1982-1985
- Fldr 5 1986-1988
- Fldr 6 1996-1999
- Fldr 8 2000-2005

BOX 8 CCMA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 2006-April 2021

- Fldr 1 2006-2012
- Fldr 2 2013-2017
- Fldr 3 2018-2021

BOX 9 Fldr 1 CCMA membership lists 1964-2001

Fldr 2 CCMA Directors and officers, 1974-2006

Fldr 3 CCMA Annual Meeting, 1966-2010

Fldr 4 CCMA miscellaneous correspondence, 1934-2006

Fldr 5 CCMA Long Range Planning Committee, 1970s-2008

- BOX 10**
- Fldr 1 Craigville Beach Association (CBA), 1920-2020
- Includes 1920 scrapbook of articles about the Fall River Boy Scout Band's Cape Cod tour. They talk about two visits to Craigville Beach for swimming at "the most beautiful beach on Cape Cod."
- Fldr 2 Craigville Cottage Owner's Association (CCOA) – Correspondence & miscellany, 1972-2003
- Fldr 3 Craigville Cottage Owner's Association (CCOA) – Members, 1977-2003
- Fldr 4 Craigville Cottage Owner's Association (CCOA) – Meeting minutes, 1956-2006
- Fldr 5 Craigville Post Office, 2001-2017
- Fldr 6 Red Lily Pond – 1979-2009
- Fldr 7 CCMA Reports of the Treasurer – 1910-1975

BOX 11

Photographs -- People

- Fldr 1 Photographs – People – 1870s-1920s – Cabinet Cards
- Includes photographs of Luther "Daddy" Broad in front of his cabin with a group of people
- Fldr 2 Photographs – People – 1870s-1920s
- Fldr 3 Photographs – People – 1900-1920s – Ernest Chase, Mr. Patt, Mr. Pease, "City Hall"
- Fldr 4 Photographs – People – 1900-1920s – C.A. Tillinghast and family
- Fldr 5 Photographs – People – 1930-1950s
- Fldr 6 Photographs – People – 1960s-1970s
- Fldr 7 Photographs – People – 1960s-1970s – CCMA Staff
- Fldr 8 Photographs – People – 1980s
- Fldr 9 Photographs – People – 1990s
- Fldr 10 Photographs – People – 4th of July
- Fldr 11 Photographs – People – In Tabernacle – 1880s-1990s
- Fldr 12 Photographs – People – Tennis & volleyball

BOX 12

Photographs – Buildings

- Fldr 1 Photographs – Buildings – 1870s-1920s – Cabinet Cards
- Fldr 2 Photographs – Buildings – Luther “Daddy” Broads cabin, circa 1890s
- Fldr 3 Photographs – Buildings – Summer House north of Tabernacle, circa 1890s
- Fldr 4 Photographs – Buildings – 1870s-1940s
- Fldr 5 Photographs – Buildings – 1960s-1990s
- Fldr 6 Photographs – Buildings – Tabernacle, 20th century

BOX 13

Photographs – Miscellany

- Fldr 1 Photographs – Aerial views
- Fldr 2 Photographs – Beach and boardwalk, circa 1900 to 1990
- Fldr 3 Photographs – Lake Elizabeth, Red Lily Pond, river views, circa 1890s – 20th century
- Fldr 4 Photographs – Miscellany
- Fldr 5 Photographs – Roads, bridges, woods, grove, circa 1900s-1920s
- Fldr 6 Photographs – Storm damage, snow, construction of green

BOX 14 Small box Craigville & Cape Cod postcards

BOX 15 Small box

- 1937 Camp Haseltine Christian Youth Conference photos and negatives
- 2 small photo albums with images of Craigville circa 1900
- Collection of vintage negatives
- Small watercolor painting of Craigville River (?)

BOX 16 Small box 6 cassettes tapes with oral histories by the Buffington and Embree families

- BOX 17** Oversized
 box
- **Loose in box** – Hand colored photographs taken by C. A. Tillinghast and hand colored by daughter Eva Tillinghast Chase circa 1900-1920. Primarily views of Craigville.
 - **Fldr 1:** Photo album of Mrs. Howard Giffin, 1890s-1960s with photos of Craigville. (**NOTE: Some pages very fragile.**)
 - **Fldr 2:** Photo album (family unknown) with views of Craigville and family members, some in WWI uniforms. 1891-1894, 1909-1926.
 - **Fldr 3:** Eva Tillinghast Chase’s photo album with images of Craigville.
 - **Fldr 4:** Eva Tillinghast Chase’s photo album with photos of Craigville and Rhode Island, many of them taken by her father C A. Tillinghast.
- BOX 18** Oversized Slides of Craigville
 Box
- BOX 19** Tube Early blueprints of Craigville buildings