



New Haven History Stewards

NEW HAVEN ARCHIVES DIRECTORY

*Compiled by
Jennifer Coggins &
Emma Q. Norden*

2025

PREFACE

This directory came out of informal gatherings of “New Haven History Stewards” in 2024 and includes organizations that steward collections and other resources documenting New Haven history.

It is not comprehensive; it includes only organizations that have responded to a call for entries and will continue to be updated. Please contact jennifer.coggins@yale.edu with additions and corrections.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Albertus Magnus College Archives	1
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University	1
Center Church on the Green	2
City of New Haven Clerk's Office	2
Cushing/Whitney Medical Historical Library, Yale School of Medicine	2
Ethnic Heritage Center	3
Greater New Haven African American Historical Society	3
Greater New Haven Labor History Association	4
Hopkins School Archives	4
The Institute Library	5
Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven	5
Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Archives	6
New Haven Museum – Whitney Library	7
New Haven Free Public Library – Local History Room	7
New Haven Preservation Trust	8
Shore Line Trolley Museum	8
Buley Library Special Collections and Archives, SCSU	9
Wooster Square Italian Immigrant Historical Society, Inc.	9
Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library Special Collections, Yale University	10
Yale New Haven Hospital Archives	10
Yale Divinity Library	11
Yale University Archives	11

Albertus Magnus College Archives

Rosary Hall Library, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511

<https://albertus.libguides.com/collegearchives/home>

The Albertus Magnus College Archives documents and preserves the College's social, cultural, and administrative history. Dating from the College's founding in 1925 to present day, the archive is home to yearbooks, scrapbooks, alumni and faculty publications, official memoranda, meeting minutes, photographs and more.

Accessible by appointment. In-person and virtual research appointments are available. Please contact the College Archivist at least 24 hours in advance to schedule an appointment.

Contact:

Catie White, College Archivist

scwhite@albertus.edu

(203) 672-6681

Instagram: @albertuslibrary

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale

<https://beinecke.library.yale.edu>

Beinecke Library's New Haven-related holdings include historic maps, city directories and other city publications, historic photograph and postcard collections, publications about New Haven, the papers of New Haven individuals and families, and some records of city agencies. The collections are particularly strong in 19th century New Haven and mid-20th century redevelopment. Just a few notable collections are: the Amos Beman Scrapbooks (documenting the early history of what is now Dixwell Ave. Congregational Church), the papers of mayors Richard Lee and Frank Logue, and the records of urban planner Edward Logue and the New Haven Office of Redevelopment.

Search <https://archives.yale.edu> to locate archives and manuscript collections. Publications can be found in the Yale library catalog at <https://library.yale.edu>.

To request material, you must be registered as a researcher. See here for full information about registering and requesting materials: <https://library.yale.edu/find-request-and-use/use/using-special-collections>

Collections are accessible to the public during regular hours, but materials must be requested in advance. See Beinecke hours: <https://beinecke.library.yale.edu/exhibitions-visiting/hours-andotherdetails>

Contact: beinecke.library@yale.edu

Center Church on the Green

<https://www.centerchurchonthegreen.org/>

Center Church on the Green, also known as the First Church of Christ in New Haven, stewards the 1814 Federal meetinghouse designed by Ithiel Town located at 250 Temple Street, which includes a crypt, a Tiffany window and accompanying liturgical items, box pews, and a Fisk organ (Opus 54); the 1852 Italianate parish house designed by Sidney Mason Stone located at 311 Temple Street; and records and artifacts dating from the congregation's founding in 1639 to present.

Contact:

Nicholas Mignanelli

nicholas.mignanelli@gmail.com

City of New Haven Clerk's Office

<https://www.newhavenct.gov/government/departments-divisions/city-clerk>

The City of New Haven Clerk's Office is home to official city records including land records. Records are publicly accessible during regular hours.

See <https://www.newhavenct.gov/government/departments-divisions/city-clerk> for hours and other information.

Contact:

Michael Smart, City Clerk

MSmart@newhavenct.gov

Cushing/Whitney Medical Historical Library, Yale School of Medicine

<https://library.medicine.yale.edu/historical>

The Cushing/Whitney Medical Historical Library's collections include a variety of materials related to the history of medicine and public health, with an emphasis on materials related to persons and institutions affiliated with the Yale Schools of Medicine, Public Health, Nursing, and Physician Associate Program; the city of New Haven; and the state of Connecticut.

Collections are accessible to the public during the library's regular hours. Learn more:

<https://library.medicine.yale.edu/historical/about/visit>

Contact:

historical.library@yale.edu

203-737-1192

Instagram: @yalemedhistlib

Ethnic Heritage Center

<https://ethnicheritagecenter.org>

The Ethnic Heritage Center is composed of the following five local historical societies: Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven, Italian-American Historical Society of CT, CT Ukrainian-American Historical Society, CT Irish-American Historical Society, and Greater New Haven African-American Historical Society. The Center has repositories from each of the societies, including ethnic heritage archives, photographs, books, magazines, newspapers, video and audio media, papers and rare collection material, as well as online exhibitions.

Collections are accessible by appointment only.

Contact:

(203) 392-6126 or (203) 269-5909

info@ethnicheritagecenter.org

Greater New Haven African American Historical Society

<https://www.gnhaahs.org/>

The Greater New Haven African American Historical Society's archives serve as a repository for documents, books, magazines, artwork, and journals about African American history and culture with a focus on the greater New Haven area. The Society is part of the Ethnic Heritage Center. Members of the public are welcome by appointment. The Society's archives are managed by volunteers who visit the archives when needed. Interested parties may call (203) 903-8411 to request an appointment.

Contact:

Carolyn Baker and Diane Petaway, Co-Presidents

info@gnhaahs.org

(203) 903-8411

Greater New Haven Labor History Association

www.laborhistory.org

The Greater New Haven Labor History Association researches and promotes the history of labor in the Greater New Haven area. Historic records collected or created by the Association are held at the University of Connecticut Library. These include records of unions, individual labor activists, the Association itself, and other materials. See a description of the collection:

<https://archivessearch.lib.uconn.edu/repositories/2/resources/1047>

The collection is accessible to the public at the Archives and Special Collections department of the University of Connecticut Library, located in the Dodd Center for Human Rights on the UConn Storrs campus. Learn how to access the collection: <https://lib.uconn.edu/location/asc/about/visit-us/>

Contact:

Steve Kass

stevekass@sbcglobal.net

(203) 214-4795

Hopkins School Archives

<https://www.hopkins.edu/about-us/mission-and-history>

The Hopkins School Archive includes collections related to the history of this independent day school, founded in 1660 through the efforts of the Rev. John Davenport. It includes administrative records, student publications, scrapbooks, and some photographs from each of its constituent schools: Hopkins Grammar, The Day School, The Prospect Hill School, and the successive merged schools. The school's alumni/ae include many leaders of New Haven politics, culture, and society.

Accessible by appointment only.

Contact:

Courtney Jaser

cjaser@hopkins.edu

The Institute Library

www.institutelibrary.org

The Institute Library holds a collection of books on the history of New Haven (approximately 24 linear feet). It also holds a significant run of New Haven's City Directories (1852-1974), which is always available for use right by the circulation desk. In a very real sense, the Library itself is a special collection of interest to those interested in New Haven's history. The collection tracks the reading habits and patterns of New Haven residents associated with the Library over a remarkable length of time. Though the current collection does not include the earliest volumes acquired at the time of founding, it does include the majority of pieces acquired from roughly 1880 to present day, making it quite a sociological study on its own.

Open to the public during regular hours ([see website](#)). You may find it useful to email a query in advance of your visit.

Contact:

Eva Geertz, Manager

eva@institutelibrary.org or Home@InstituteLibrary.org

203-562-4045

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/@TheInstituteLibrary>

Instagram: @TheInstituteLibrary

Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven

www.jewishhistorynh.org

The JHSGNH, which is part of the Ethnic Heritage Center at Southern Connecticut State University, is home to collections of documents, photographs, artifacts, and objects related to the social, cultural, civic, commercial, educational, and religious history of the Jewish communities of New Haven and the surrounding areas. Links to finding guides and online collections may be found on the Society's website.

Accessible by appointment only.

Contact:

Nicole Zador, Managing Archivist

info@jewishhistorynh.org

Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Archives

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Archives preserves the history of the Knights of Columbus, founded and headquartered in New Haven, with a focus on the work of its Supreme Council. The records of the supreme knights and other officers, the proceedings of the Supreme Council, and the organization's official publications form the core of the collection.

Topics included in the archives include anti-Catholicism such as the Mexican Persecution and the Bogus Oath, the Historical Commission, the Roman Playgrounds, the Oregon School Case, Columbian Squires, World War I, Reconstruction, World War II, and the James Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Statue. Material relating to the founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, and St. Mary's Church are also collected. The archives contain limited material relating to state and local councils.

The Columbus Library includes more than 400 volumes about Christopher Columbus and related topics such as the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 and the 1992 Quincentennial. Additional holdings include books written by Knights of Columbus members and those about events in history with which the Knights have been associated.

Researchers should contact the Archivist (archives@kofc.org) to review their research topic to ensure collections that support their research are available.

Contact:

Vivian Lea Solek, Archivist

archives@kofc.org

New Haven Museum - Whitney Library

<https://newhavenmuseum.org>

The Whitney Library collections include 30,000 printed works, 350 manuscript collections, architectural drawings, maps, broadsides, newspapers, scrapbooks, photographs, and microfilm. Accessible by appointment. Please email library@newhavenmuseum.org to schedule appointments.

Review manuscript collections at newhavenmuseum.org under the “Library” tab.

Contact:

Emma Q. Norden, Research Librarian

library@newhavenmuseum.org

(203) 562-4183 ext. 115

New Haven Free Public Library - Local History Room

<https://nhfpl.org/how-do-i/research/local-history/>

The New Haven Free Public Library’s Local History Room at the Ives Main Branch holds collections on the history of New Haven including books, city documents, newspaper clippings, photos, and maps.

Collections are accessible during regular hours. See <https://nhfpl.org/how-do-i/research/local-history/> for hours. It is recommended that you call (203) 946-8130 to verify before coming in.

Contact:

Allison Botelho, Local History Librarian

abotelho@nhfpl.org

New Haven Preservation Trust

<https://nhpt.org>

The New Haven Preservation Trust provides historic building information and photos. Of note is the Historic Resources Inventory (HRI), which includes professional descriptions of approximately 5,000 historic New Haven properties, presented on standardized forms used nationally, with construction dates, architectural detail, early ownership, and significance. NHPT staff offers technical services at no cost to property owners, architects, and developers regarding appropriate rehabilitation practices, following National Park Service guidelines. The NHPT website includes boundaries and descriptions of National Landmarks, City properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, national, state and local Historic Districts, information on state and federal tax credits for rehabilitation, and many other features.

Accessible online, by email, or by appointment. Open Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm.

Email preservationist@nhpt.org to request information about historic buildings in New Haven or call the Administrative Coordinator at (203) 562-5919 to check for an HRI listing.

Contacts:

Sarah Tisdale

preservationist@nhpt.org

Denise Darnell

Administrative Coordinator

administration@nhpt.org

General

info@nhpt.org

Shore Line Trolley Museum

<https://www.shorelinetrolley.org>

The Shore Line Trolley Museum's collections include operating and static streetcars from the Connecticut Company (1904-1948), photographs, maps, building and electrical schematics, trolley car ads, and other ephemera. The museum also operates an active railway on the only 1.5 remaining miles of the Connecticut Company New Haven Division trolley line and is a National Historic District.

Trolley cars and other materials on display can be accessed during regular hours (see <https://www.shorelinetrolley.org> for hours). Photographs, maps, ephemera, and other collection materials may be accessed by request/appointment.

Contact:

John Proto, Director

director@shorelinetrolley.org

Buley Library Special Collections and Archives, Southern Connecticut State University

<https://libguides.southernct.edu/specialcollections>

Buley Library Special Collections and Archives at Southern Connecticut State University's holdings related to New Haven history include manuscript collections related to greater New Haven politics and the records and papers of organizations and individuals with ties to SCSU and the greater New Haven community. Its New Haven political collections include the papers of New Haven mayors John DeStefano and Toni Harp. The library also has significant holdings of published materials related to New Haven in its Connecticut History collections. These include city directories, reports of city agencies and departments, books on New Haven history, and more.

Open to the public. Open by appointment Monday-Friday, 9 AM -12 PM. Open to walk-in visitors Monday-Friday, 1 - 4:30 PM.

To learn more, see: <https://libguides.southernct.edu/specialcollections/welcome/visit>

Contact:

specialcollections@southernct.edu

(203) 392-5746

Wooster Square Italian Immigrant Historical Society, Inc.

<https://woostersquare.org/>

The WSIHHS collects materials related to the Italian immigrant experience in Wooster Square, including photographs, records, oral histories and ephemera.

As this is a newly formed organization, there is not yet a formal process for access. Contact a member of the organization to learn more.

Contacts:

wsiihact@gmail.com

Dan Elliott, President

danelliott01@hotmail.com

Frank Carrano, Founder

f.carrano@att.net

Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library Special Collections, Yale University

Arts Library Special Collections holdings related to New Haven include records of several local arts organizations, graphic design firms, local architecture firms, and architecture and urban planning records documenting Yale and New Haven.

Accessible to the public during [regular hours](#). Collections are held offsite, so they must be requested online at least two days before your visit. Learn more:

<https://guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=295881&p=1972797>

Contacts:

haasalsc@yale.edu

Kathy Winsor Bohlman

Architecture Records

Archivist

kathy.bohlman@yale.edu

Adrienne Pruitt

Arts Archivist

adrienne.pruitt@yale.edu

Instagram: @yalehaasartslib

Yale New Haven Hospital Archives

<https://www.ynhh.org/about/hospital-overview/history-heritage/archives>

Yale New Haven Hospital Archives holds collections related to the history of Yale New Haven Hospital (previously known as the General Hospital Society of Connecticut, New Haven Hospital, and Grace-New Haven Community Hospital), Grace Hospital, and the Hospital of Saint Raphael. The collection includes administrative records, publications, ephemera, photographs, artifacts, and reference material.

Open to the public by appointment.

Contact:

YNHHArchives@ynhh.org

(203) 688-5450

Susan Dee, Archivist

susan.dee@ynhh.org

Yale Divinity Library

<https://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

The Yale Divinity Library's New Haven history holdings include collections related to churches, ministers, and interreligious organizations in and around New Haven since the 18th century.

Accessible to the public during regular hours. See current hours on the library's website:

<https://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

Contact:

divinity.library@yale.edu

Yale University Archives

Established in 1939, the University Archives is the official repository of the historical records of Yale University. The collections of the University Archives span from 1701 to the present, consist of a variety of formats, and include both administrative and student perspectives.

Many university records are restricted by university policy and in compliance with Federal privacy laws. University Archives staff are happy to work with researchers to either review restricted material or suggest alternative open sources. Questions about restricted material should be directed to archives@yale.edu.

Our collections are described in the Archives at Yale finding aid database: <https://archives.yale.edu>.

Collections with a call number starting with RU are University Archives collections.

We have an extensive collection of Yale publications which can be found in the Yale Library catalog: <https://library.yale.edu>. For more information about finding publications, see this guide: <https://guides.library.yale.edu/yalepubs>.

To request material, you must be registered as a researcher. See here for full information about registering and requesting materials: <https://library.yale.edu/find-request-and-use/use/using-special-collections>.

Collections are accessible to the public during regular hours, but materials must be requested in advance. See the Manuscripts and Archives reading room hours:

<https://web.library.yale.edu/building/sterling-memorial-library>.

Contact:

Michael Lotstein, University Archivist
michael.lotstein@yale.edu

Jeanne Lowrey, Associate University Archivist
archives@yale.edu



Help us update
this directory!

Send updates and
additions to
jennifer.coggins@yale.edu.