



Grace Church records, 1846-2001
SCHS 435.00

Creator: Grace Episcopal Church (Charleston, S.C.)

Description: 17 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical note: Grace Episcopal Church was established in 1846, and the church building was completed in 1848. During the Civil War, the church was closed for a period because of the Federal bombardment of the city of Charleston. An entry in the vestry meeting minutes of Jan. 20, 1864, states: "Resolved unanimously that Grace Church be closed for the present, in consequence of the proximity of the shells thrown from the enemy's guns on Morris Island." The church building suffered serious damage from the explosion of a single shell. The silver communion vessels of Grace and other Episcopal churches of Charleston were sent to Columbia (S.C.), and were either stolen or destroyed when that city was burned by Federal forces.

Scope and content: Records include registers, vestry minutes (1846-1994), parish annual reports (1977-1999), building and property records, financial records (1846-2000), correspondence, records of auxiliary organizations, photographs, and miscellaneous items. Also included are papers of rectors William Way and Ralph S. Meadowcroft. Rev. Meadowcroft's papers consist of correspondence, clippings, sermons, and reminiscences by his wife. Papers of William Way are cataloged separately.

Registers include a full register (1847-1898); three marriage registers (1945-1995); and church service registers (1957-1998).

Building and property records pertain to the church windows, church furnishings, a pipe organ, restoration of the steeples and pinnacles (with specifications), the construction of a parish house, the rectory at 19 Tradd Street, and lighting, electrical, and sound systems.

Auxiliary organization records include financial records of the Grace Church Men's Club (1946-1969); Chancel Guild minutes (1918-1952); and annual reports, correspondence, handbooks, and minutes of the Women's Auxiliary (1885-1998). Women's Auxiliary records also include letters (1940s) relating to World War II war work of the St. Agnes Chapter, which supported a British child.

Photographs include an album (1979-1982) which is "a pictorial record of the steeple pinnacles restoration."

Preferred citation: Grace Episcopal Church (Charleston, S.C.) Grace Church records, 1846-2001. (435.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Meadowcroft, Ralph S.
Grace Episcopal Church (Charleston, S.C.)
Grace Episcopal Church (Charleston, S.C.) -- Records and correspondence.
Church buildings -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Church furniture -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Church maintenance and repair -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Church work -- Episcopal Church.
Episcopal Church -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Episcopalians -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Spires.
Women -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Religious life.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Civilian relief -- Great Britain.
Church records.
Photographs.
Sermons.
Specifications.

Collection/Series overview:

435.01 (A) Auxiliary organizations records
435.01 (B) Building and property records
435.01 (F) Financial records
435.01 (M) Miscellaneous records
435.01 (P) Parish annual reports
435.01 (R) Registers
435.01 (V) Vestry minutes
435.02 Ralph S. Meadowcroft Papers
435.03 William Way Papers
435.04 Photographs and visual material

Container list:**BOX 1**

435.01 (A) Auxiliary organization records
435.01 (A) 01 Grace Church Men's Club records: financial records, 1946-1969
435.01 (A) 02 Chancel Guild minutes, 1918-1928; 1947-1952
435.01 (A) 03 Women's Auxiliary records
435.01 (A) 03.01 Annual reports, 1946-1949 (St. Agnes and other chapters)
435.01 (A) 03.02 Correspondence, 1947-1950
435.01 (A) 03.03 Minutes, 1885-1949 (minutes for 1885-1893 include Anna E. Pinckney memorial)

BOX 2

435.01 (A) 03.03 Minutes, 1949-1977

BOX 3

435.01 (A) 03.04 St. Agnes Chapter minutes, 1950-1959

- 435.01 (A) 03.05 Financial records: accounts of receipts and disbursements, 1885-1891; 1942-1948
 435.01 (A) 03.06 Handbooks, 1955-1959

BOX 4

- 435.01 (A) 03.06 Handbooks, 1959-1998
 435.01 (A) 03.07 Miscellaneous items (includes constitutions; clippings about an “Heirloom Exhibition” of silver and china in 1952; and letters relating to World War II war work of the St. Agnes Chapter, which supported a British child)
 435.01 (B) Building and property records
 435.01 (B) 01 Records pertaining to church windows
 435.01 (B) 01.01 Correspondence, 1951-1974 (includes letters about the “Connelly Memorial” window, 1958-1962)

BOX 5

- 435.01 (B) 01.02 Records pertaining to Willett Stained Glass Studios (includes correspondence, receipts, and contracts)
 435.01 (B) 01.03 Window dedication records, 1963-1964
 435.01 (B) 01.04 Miscellaneous items relating to windows
 435.01 (B) 01.05 Pamphlet: “The Windows of Grace Church”
 435.01 (B) 02 Church furnishing records
 435.01 (B) 02.01 Records relating to a pipe organ
 435.01 (B) 02.02 Miscellaneous furnishings records

BOX 6

- 435.01 (B) 03 Miscellaneous building and property records, 1848-1923 (includes pew deeds, including that of Henry Pinckney Walker, 1858; and real estate conveyances)
 435.01 (B) 04 Parish House records (mostly building specifications)
 435.01 (B) 05 Parish Hall addition records, 1997
 435.01 (B) 06 Records pertaining to the Rectory (19 Tradd Street)
 435.01 (B) 07 Youth Club construction records, 1959
 435.01 (B) 08 Building Committee records, 1971-1974
 435.01 (B) 09 Miscellaneous building and maintenance records, 1970s-1990s

BOX 7

- 435.01 (B) 09 Miscellaneous building and maintenance records (includes records pertaining to lighting, electrical, and sound systems; and an interior conditions and finishes study, 1990)
 435.01 (B) 10 Steeple and pinnacle restoration records
 435.01 (B) 10.01 “The Restoration” story, etc.
 435.01 (B) 10.02 B.A.R. permits, 1979-1981
 435.01 (B) 10.03 Records pertaining to lightning protection
 435.01 (B) 10.04 Adkins Manufacturing Co. records
 435.01 (B) 10.05 Iron pinnacle crockets sketches, etc.

435.01 (B) 10.06	Pinnacle erection records
435.01 (B) 10.07	Steeple sketches
435.01 (B) 10.08	Correspondence and other records pertaining to fiberglass materials
435.01 (B) 10.09	Records relating to the Edon Company
435.01 (B) 10.10	Herbert proposal relating to the reconstruction of the spires
435.01 (B) 10.11	Miscellaneous items
435.01 (F) 01	Financial records
435.01 (F) 01	Miscellaneous financial records, 1846-1873 (includes subscription lists, 1846)

Note: Some OVERSIZE building records, including floor plans as well as sketches and blueprints of steeples and pinnacles, are located in the Map Room in a flat file drawer.

BOX 8

435.01 (F) 02	Receipt book, 1847-1864
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BOX 9

435.01 (F) 03	Cash book: record of payments out, 1847-1868
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BOX 10

435.01 (F) 04	Cash account book, 1894-1898
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BOX 11

435.01 (F) 05	Account ledger, 1964-1977
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BOX 12

435.01 (F) 06	Financial and treasurer's reports, 1942-1977
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BOX 13

435.01 (F) 06	Financial and treasurer's reports, 1979-1994
435.01 (F) 07	Endowment Fund records, 1985; 2000

BOX 14

435.01 (M)	Miscellaneous items
435.01 (M) 01	Papers relating to Rev. R. M. Jones, Asst. Rector, 1970-1971
435.01 (M) 02	Papers relating to Rev. John W. Thomas, Asst. Rector, 1971-72
435.01 (M) 03	Correspondence regarding Dr. Spear, with portrait
435.01 (M) 04	Church charter and covenant
435.01 (M) 05	Miscellaneous correspondence, 1979-1991
435.01 (M) 06	Grace Episcopal Kindergarten records, 1972-1980
435.01 (M) 07	Church service programs, etc.
435.01 (M) 08	Miscellaneous clippings
435.01 (M) 09	Historical sketch of Grace Church
435.01 (M) 10	Planning Committee records

435.01 (M) 11 Miscellaneous printed material
435.01 (M) 12 Papers relating to hurricane damages
435.01 (M) 13 Papers relating to "racial tension," 1969
435.01 (M) 14 "The Parish Record" newsletter, 1894-1908
435.01 (M) 15 Certificates of Jeanne Reid, 1928-1936
435.01 (M) 16 Interim report to the Diocese, 1990
435.01 (M) 17 Oversize miscellaneous items. (These include a commemorative calendar, 1996, and a matted photographic reprint of Grace Church.) Located in map room in flat file drawer.

BOX 15

435.01 (P) Parish records
435.01 (P) 01 Parish meeting records, 1977-1999

BOX 16

435.01 (R) Registers
435.01 (R) 01 Church registers in this box include a full register (1847-1898); and three marriage registers, 1945-1995

BOX 17

435.01 (R) 01 Marriage register, 1995-2001
435.01 (R) 02 Church service registers (5 vols.), 1957-1991

BOX 18

435.01 (R) 02 Church service register, 1991-1998
435.01 (V) Vestry records
435.01 (V) 01 Miscellaneous vestry records
435.01 (V) 02 Transcriptions of vestry meeting minutes, 1846-1876

BOX 19

435.01 (V) 02 Vestry meeting minutes, 1846-1876
Note: The next four volumes of vestry minutes, 1876-1896; 1896-1917; 1917-1934; and 1935-1940, are wrapped and located on the shelf between Boxes 19 and 20.

BOX 20

435.01 (V) 02 Vestry minutes (3 volumes), 1941-1953.

BOX 21

435.01 (V) 02 Vestry minutes (3 volumes), 1953-1962

BOX 22

435.01 (V) 02 Vestry minutes (3 volumes), 1963-1976

BOX 23

435.01 (V) 02 Vestry minutes (3 volumes), 1977-1987

BOX 24

- 435.01 (V) 02 Vestry minutes (2 volumes), 1988-1994
435.01 (V) 03 Vestry wardens' notes, special meeting minutes, correspondence, etc., 1970s
435.02 Ralph S. Meadowcroft Papers
435.02.01 Correspondence, clippings, etc., 1912-1983
435.02.02 Sermons

BOX 25

- 435.03 William Way Papers
435.03 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1876-1951
435.03 (C) 02 Correspondence relating to Way's history of Grace Church
435.03 (C) 03 Clippings collected by William Way
435.03 (M) Miscellaneous items (includes obituaries)
435.01 (N) Notes on the prayer book
435.03 (P) Printed material
435.03 (P) 01 John Bull tracts
435.03 (P) 02 Miscellaneous printed religious material
435.03 (P) 03 Printed sermons

BOX 26

- 435.03 (S) Sermons and related material
435.03 (S) 01 Manuscript sermons, 1904-1935

BOX 27

- 435.03 (S) 01 Manuscript sermons, 1936-1953
435.03 (S) 02 Undated sermons

BOX 28

- 435.03 (S) 02 Undated sermons
435.03 (S) 03 Undated sermon or lecture series
435.03 (S) 04 Sermons with accompanying notes

BOX 29

- 435.03 (S) 04 Sermons with accompanying notes
435.03 (S) 05 Sermon notes

BOX 30

- 435.04 Photographs and visual materials relating to Grace Church (These include a bound album, 1979-1982, which is "a pictorial record of the steeple pinnacles restoration." Album is wrapped and located next to Box 30.)