

North Easton Monthly Meeting of Friends Records

1980-1994

3 boxes (1.25 linear feet)

Call no.: MS 902 N437



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Responding to a concern expressed in the New England Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in 1971, Quakers in eastern Massachusetts set out to create an intentional Quakerly community for the care of elder Friends. The first meeting for worship took place in 1977, with the first residents moving in to Friends Crossing in 1979, leading to recognition of North Easton as a monthly meeting under Rhode Island-Smithfield Quarter in 1980. In the following years, however, the reduction in numbers of older members and decline in attenders, led to the decision in 1994 to lay down the meeting.

The records of North Easton Monthly Meeting document the short career of a meeting built around a planned Quaker intentional community. The relatively complete set of minutes is accompanied by a mixed, but useful body of financial records documenting the meeting's dissolution.

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Background on North Easton Monthly Meeting of Friends

Responding to a concern expressed in the New England Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in 1971, Quakers in eastern Massachusetts set out to create an intentional Quakerly community for the care of elder Friends. In 1976, an 86 acre site in North Easton, Mass., was purchased, with a small cottage that became the first site for an independent worship group the following year.

Ground breaking for the planned community, Friends Crossing, took place in November 1978, with the first residents moving in a year later. Renting space for their meeting in town, in expectation that a meetinghouse would eventually be built, the community grew sufficiently that Rhode Island-Smithfield Quarter authorized them as a new monthly meeting in August 1980. By the early 1990s, however, the aging out of members sapped the meeting, and in the face of a sharp decline in attenders, the decision was made in 1994 to lay down North Easton Monthly.



Abbie Loring in Cape Cod Quaker attire, ca.1930.

Photo by Alton H. Blackington

Scope of collection

The records of North Easton Monthly Meeting document the short career of a meeting built around a planned Quaker intentional community. The relatively complete set of minutes is accompanied by a mixed, but useful body of financial records documenting the meeting's dissolution.

Inventory

Minutes

1980-1994

11:D3

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1980 Sept.-1981 June

Box 1: 1

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1981 Sept.-1982 July

Box 1: 2

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1982 Sept.-1983 June

Box 1: 3

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1983 Sept.-1984 June

Box 1: 4

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1984 Sept.-1985 June

Box 1: 5

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1985 Sept.-1986 June

Box 1: 6

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1986 Sept.-1987 June

Box 1: 7

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1987 Sept.-1988 July

Box 1: 8

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1988 Sept.-1989 June

Box 1: 9

North Easton Monthly: Minutes

1990-1993

Box 1: 10

North Easton Monthly: Meeting agendas

1988-1992

Box 1: 11

Correspondence and reports

1980-1994

11:D3

North Easton Monthly: Archives correspondence

1993-1994

Box 1: 15

North Easton Monthly: Clerk's correspondence

1989-1994

Box 1: 18

North Easton Monthly: Committee to lay down the meeting

1990-1994

Box 1: 19

North Easton Monthly: Nominating Committee

1986-1992

Box 1: 12

North Easton Monthly: Outreach

ca.1999

Box 1: 16

North Easton Monthly: State of Society reports and statistics

1980-1992

Box 1: 13

Worship and ministry

1989-1991

11:D3

North Easton Monthly: Ministry and Counsel minutes

1989-1991

Box 1: 14

Vital records

1980-1993

11:D3

North Easton Monthly: Member lists

1991-1993

Box 2: 12

North Easton Monthly: Members and removals

1980-1993

Box 2: 11

North Easton Monthly: Memorials: minutes and services

1990-1993

Box 2: 13

North Easton Monthly: Record book (members, meeting history)

1980-1993

Box 2: 10

North Easton Monthly: Removals, final transfers

1989-1994

Box 2: 9
Finance and property
1980-1994
11:D3
North Easton Monthly: Account book (checking)
1980 Sept.-1988
Bound vol.
Box 2: 1
North Easton Monthly: Account book
1981 June-1982 May
Bound vol.
Box 2: 2
North Easton Monthly: Account book
1986 June-1990 Mar.
Bound vol.
Box 2: 3
North Easton Monthly: Account book
1990 Apr.-1994 Jan.
Bound vol.
Box 2: 4
North Easton Monthly: Bank statements, closing accounts
1988-1994
Box 2: 6
North Easton Monthly: Finance Committee
1988-1992
Box 2: 5
North Easton Monthly: Finance: Correspondence
1990-1994
Box 2: 8
North Easton Monthly: Finance: Project Help
1990-1994
Box 2: 7
Newsletters and publications
1980-1991
11:D3
North Easton Monthly: Newsletters
1980-1986
Box 3: 1
North Easton Monthly: Newsletters
1987-1991
Box 3: 2
Miscellaneous
1980-1993
11:D3
North Easton Monthly: Guest book
1980-1993
Box 1: 20
North Easton Monthly: Photographs
1988
Box 1: 17

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends Records, March 2016.

Related Material

This collection is part of the [New England Yearly Meeting Records](#).

Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, November 2018.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use (More information)

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Search terms

Subjects

New England Yearly Meeting of Friends
North Easton (Mass.)--Religious life and customs
Quakers--Massachusetts
Society of Friends--Massachusetts

Contributors

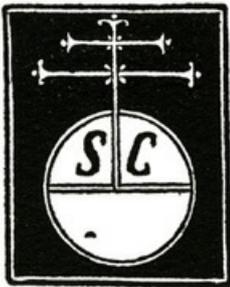
North Easton Monthly Meeting of Friends [main entry]

Genres and formats

Minutes (Administrative records)
Newsletters
Vital records (Document genre)

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Quakers
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