

Swansea Monthly Meeting (Society of Friends) Records

1708-1953

29 vols., 2 boxes (5.75 linear feet)

Call no.: MS 902 S936



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Quaker worship began at Swansea, Mass., by 1701, under the care of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, with the Swansea Monthly Meeting being set off in 1732. Situated in an area with a relatively large Quaker population, Swansea oversaw worship groups and preparative meetings in nearby Fall River, Freetown, Somerset, Taunton, and Troy. Swansea was divided by the separation of 1845, with the Wilburite meeting persisting for about twenty years.

The records of Swansea Monthly Meeting are a rich assemblage of meeting minutes, vital records, and other materials, covering

nearly two and a half centuries of Quaker activity on Cape Cod. The collection also includes records of the Fall River and Swansea Preparative Meetings.

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Background on Swansea Monthly Meeting

Quaker worship began at Swansea, Mass., by 1701, under the care of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, with the Swansea Monthly Meeting being set off in 1732. Situated in an area with a relatively large Quaker population, Swansea oversaw worship groups and preparative meetings in nearby Fall River, Freetown, Somerset, Taunton, and Troy. Swansea was divided by the separation of 1845, with the Wilburite meeting persisting for about twenty years.

Swansea was transferred to Sandwich Quarter in 1951 and the monthly remained active until recent years.

The Swansea Meetinghouse in Somerset, Mass., was initially built in 1702, with subsequent additions and modifications in 1747 and 1889, and is today considered the oldest surviving Quaker meetinghouse in Massachusetts. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014.

Swansea Monthly Meeting: worship groups and preparative meetings

Fall River Worship Group (1818-1824: became Troy)

Fall River Preparative Meeting (1834-1960)

Freetown Worship Group (before 1735-1778, 1856-1917)

Freetown Preparative Meeting (1778-1831)

Somerset Worship Group (ca.1790-)

Taunton Worship Group (before 1735/1831)

Troy Preparative Meeting (1824-1834: became Fall River Preparative)

Scope of collection

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Inventory

Swansea Monthly Meeting Records

1732-1928

Swansea Monthly Meeting: Minutes

1732-1928

Swansea Monthly Meeting: Minutes, Men

1732-1928

Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)

1732-1788

Bound vol.

09:D5

Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)

1788 Mar.-1824 Aug.

Bound vol.

09:D5

Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)

1824 Sept.-1844 Aug.



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

Photo by Alton H. Blackington

Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)
1844 Aug.-1867 May
Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)
1867 June-1888 Dec.
Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)
1889 Jan.-1897 Dec.
Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Men)
1898 Jan.-1910 Apr.
Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Clerk's notes 1829-1831)
1910 May-1928 Jan.
Bound vol.
09:D5
Swansea Monthly Meeting: Minutes, Women
1732-1895
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Women)
1732 Sept.-1804 Oct.
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Women)
1804 Nov.-1837 Apr.
Bound vol.
09:E1
Minutes, Women: rough
1829-1831
Box 1: 1
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Women)
1837 May-1878 Sept.
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Minutes (Women)
1878 Oct.-1895 Jan.
Bound vol.
09:E1
Ministry and Worship
1839-1950
Swansea Monthly: Ministry and Oversight
1911 July-1950 Oct.
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Select Preparative
1839-1868
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Select Preparative
1839-1911
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: List of Ministers who have visited NEYM, 1656-1896, by Gulielma Freeborn
1896

Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Index to ministers and companions visiting Swansea
Box 2
Vital records
1733-1953
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Acknowledgments and denials
1787 Mar.-1801
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Births and deaths
1784-1843
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Births and deaths (card index) in box (Card file wrapped)
1656-1895
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Births, deaths, and marriages
1740-1901?
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Births, deaths, and marriages
1802-1953
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Marriages
1733-1821
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Marriages
1823 July 4-1921 July 4
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Monthly: Vital records: Removals
1803-1857
Bound vol.
09:E1
Other records
1708-1897
Books and papers belonging to Swansea Monthly Meeting
1897
Box 1: 2
Brayton, Patience
1796
Box 1: 3
Discipline
1672-1763
Bound vol.
09:E1
Epistles: London Yearly Meeting
1795
Box 1: 4
Indigent members: receipts for support
1859-1879
Box 1: 5
Establishment of Swansea Monthly Meeting
1918
Box 1: 6

Meetinghouse: Deeds and copies
1708-1916
Box 1: 7
Meetinghouse (Fall River): Bills and receipts for construction
1836-1837
Box 1: 8
Miscellaneous
1807-1823
Box 1: 9
Osborn, Paul
1915
Box 1: 10
Receipts
1860-1878
Box 1: 11
Reinstatement requests
1806-1823
Box 1: 12
Swansea Monthly Meeting. Treasurer
1834 Feb. 20-1878 June 24
Bound vol.
09:E1
Taunton Meeting
1816-1823
Box 1: 13
Traveling certificates: Brayton, Patience
1783-1787
Box 1: 14
Year book and church directory of the Swansea Friends Meeting
1931
Box 1: 15
Fall River Preparative
1852-1931
Fall River Preparative: Friends Bible School
1852-1885
Bound vol.
09:E1
Fall River Preparative: Minutes
1888 Mar. 21-1909 Dec. 27
Bound vol.
09:E1
Fall River Preparative: Minutes
1910 Jan. 6-1931 Jan. 18
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Preparative
1708-1932
Swansea Monthly
1708-1932
Box: 0.5 lin. ft.
11:E6
Swansea Preparative: Minutes
1873-1901
Bound vol.
09:E1
Swansea Preparative: Minutes
1901-1914
Bound vol.
09:E1

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](#).

Current contact for the meeting

URL AND/OR ADDRESS

Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, October 2018.

Language:

English

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Search terms

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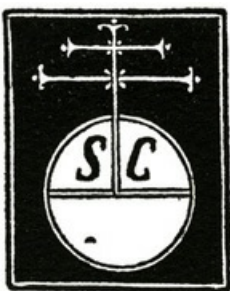
Swansea Monthly Meeting (Society of Friends) **[main entry]**

Genres and formats

Minutes (Administrative records)
Vital records (Document genre)

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