

# Fairfield Fire Companies- Papers 1893-1985

## Ms B 35

### Summary Information

**Repository**

Fairfield Museum and History Center

**Title**

Fairfield Fire Companies- Papers 1893- 1985

**ID**

Ms B 35

**Date [inclusive]**

1893-1985

**Extent**

10 1/2 Linear feet 1 box, Approx 3005 items

**Language**

English

**Preferred Citation note**

Item, Collection Title, Collection number (Box #, Folder #). Fairfield Museum and History Center, Fairfield, Connecticut.

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### Biographical/Historical note

The *Fairfield Fire Companies* collection deals primarily with the late nineteenth and early twentieth century phenomena of the volunteer fire department. Volunteer fire companies were fraternal organizations with strict membership rules and lifetime membership. The three companies represented in the collection are Fairfield Hook and Ladder No. 1, Southport, and Pine Creek. The volunteer companies were active primarily from the 1890s until the 1950s. Gradually, more and more paid firemen were hired by the town, and eventually the volunteer fireman was no longer needed in Fairfield. Paid companies continue to the present day. Fairfield No. 1 was established in 1893, Southport in 1895, and Pine Creek in 1942. Pine Creek was later disbanded in the early 1960s. The volunteers, as well as fighting fires, served as an important social group in the community. Among other events, the companies were active in parades, musters, carnivals, and fairs.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

The collection is in sixteen boxes. It covers the time period between 1893 and 1985. The collection contains Thank You notes, bills, sympathy cards, Letters to the companies, reports of the Auditor, Treasurer, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Chief Mechanic, House Committee, Hose Captain, and Social Committees, Minutes from regular meetings, titles, bank documents, cash receipts, membership files, by-laws, oversized photos, and binders of photos. Boxes 1 through 8 contain Southport material. Boxes 9 through 14 contain Fairfield No. 1 material. Boxes 15 and 16 contain Pine Creek material.

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## **Administrative Information**

### **Publication Information**

Fairfield Museum and History Center  
370 Beach Rd.  
Fairfield, CT  
203-259-1598

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

### **Conditions Governing Use note**

Use of the material requires compliance with the Fairfield Museum and History Center regulations.

### **Processing Information note**

Collection processed by Catie White, May/ June 2014

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

**Personal Name(s)**

**Subject(s)**

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## **Collection Inventory**

## **Box I: Southport Fire Department**

Folder A: Forest Fire Vouchers 1931  
Folder B: Thank you notes 1911, 1913-1917  
Folder C: Thank you notes 1918, 1920, 1926-29  
Folder D: Thank you notes 1930-34, 36-39  
Folder E: Thank you notes 1941-42, 44-45  
Folder F: Thank you notes (undated)  
Folder G: Thank you notes (undated)  
Folder H: Bills 1913-1918  
Folder I: Bills 1920, 22, 24-29  
Folder J: Bills 1930-34  
Folder K: Letters 1928-29  
Folder L: Letters 1930-31, 35, 37, 39  
Folder M: Letters 1940-42, 45  
Folder N: Letters (Board of Fire Commissioners, 1928-29, 31)  
Folder O: Permits and Letters 1925, 35, 36, 39-42  
Folder P: Letters- State 1915, 30, 32, 41, 45  
Folder Q: Ct. State Firemen's Assoc. 1921, 30  
Folder R: Auditor's Report 1913-26, 33-35, 38, 40-42, 45  
Folder S: Letters to 1913-1914  
Folder T: Letters to 1915  
Folder U: Letters to 1916-1918  
Folder V: Letter to 1920-25  
Folder W: Letters to 1926-27, 29  
Folder X: Letter to 1927

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## **Box II: Southport Fire Department**

Folder A: Letters to 1930-34  
Folder B: Letters to 1935-37  
Folder C: Letters to 1935-37  
Folder D: Letters to 1940-41  
Folder E: Letters to 1942-43  
Folder F: Annual Report of Fire Chief, 1916-18, 1920-28, 31-36  
Folder G: Annual Report of Hose Captain 1914-20, 21? 22? 23?  
Folder H: Annual Reports of Sec. and Finan. Sec. 1914, 1916-21, 1923-4, 1926-41, 1933-41, 1945-46  
Folder I: Report of the House Committee 1915? 1917-24, 1927, 1929-31, 1933-36  
Folder J: Report of Hook and Ladder 1913-1918?, 1920-24  
Folder K: Report of Financial Secretary 1914-16, 1928-33, 1936-37, 1942-43, 45-46  
Folder L: Report of Treasurer, 1914, 1937-45  
Folder M: Report of Head Chauffeur, Master Mechanic 1915-1928  
Folder N: Plans and reports on New Fire House 1908-10, 1912-14

Folder O: Social Committee Reports 1915-1919  
Folder P: Social Committee Reports 1920-23, 1934-35  
Folder Q: Sympathy letters, Bills, Thank you notes 1914-16  
Folder R: Sympathy letters, 1917-1918  
Folder S: Sympathy letters, 1919-1920  
Folder T: Sympathy letters 1921-23, 25, 26, 29  
Folder U: Sympathy letters, 1921-23

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**Box III: Southport Fire Department**

Folder A: Letters to- Bills- Thank you 1924-25  
Folder B: Letters to- Bills, Thank you 1926-27, 29  
Folder C: Carnival, 1945  
Folder D: Carnival, 1938  
Folder E: Members in service, 1944  
Folder F: Letters to – Bills, Thank you 1938-1939  
Folder G: Letters to 1940-41  
Folder H: Letters to 1948, 51  
Folder I: Letters 1969-71  
Folder J: WWII letters from Baldino & Baker  
Folder K: WWII letters 1943-46  
Folder L: WWII letters 1942-46  
Folder M: Service News 1944-45  
Folder N: Letters; Bills 1929, 34, 36-39  
Folder O: Receipts, 1970-71  
Folder P: Firemen Index (?); Street Index 1955  
  
Folder Q: Letters to, Bills, 1942-46

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**Box IV: Southport Fire Department**

Folder A: Order books 1933-35, 35-37, 37-39  
Folder B: Monthly Inspection of Apparatus Reports 1933-1947  
Folder C: Contract between the Town of Fairfield and Southport Fire Department-1938  
Folder D: Misc. exhibit  
Folder E: O'Dwyer Papers [L90March15]  
Folder F: Pequot Fire Company Certificate, 1899; Pequot Drum Corps, The Third Grand Ball [L87 June 5]  
Folder G: Notes re. South F.D. by Arthur H. Selleck  
Folder H: Certificate to William Middlebrook, 1938

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**Box V: Southport Fire Department**

Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1895-1899

Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1899- 1905  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1905-1914  
Fire Record Dec. 1930- Sept 1932  
Carnival Records August 22-27, 1904  
Treasurer's Book August 27- Sept 1, 1906  
Fund Drive 1983

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**Box VI: Southport Fire Department**

Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1915-1920  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1920-1929  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1929-1934  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1934-1941

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**Box VII: Southport Fire Department**

Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1915 -1920  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1948 -1956  
Minutes Book for Regular Meetings 1956 - 1965  
Minutes for Board of Directors Meetings 1895-1931

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**Box VIII: Southport Fire Department**

Minutes Book for Board of Directors Meetings 1932 – 1972  
Fire Record Oct. 1933- April 1936  
Cash Book Sept. 1943- Sept. 1969  
Roll Book Jan 1927- Sept 1946  
Concert and Ball program 1900, 1902  
Pequot Fire Company- Annual Ball Program, 1897

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**Box IX: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1**

Folder A: Land Title – Court Documents – 1938  
Folder B: Land Titles, 1940, 41, 43, 44  
Folder C: Land Titles 1945-48  
Folder D: Bank documents, land documents 1950, 56, 57  
Folder E: Bills, 1963  
Folder F: Bills 1964  
Folder G: Bills 1964  
Folder H: Past Dues 1960  
Folder I: Radio receiver loans, 1966  
Folder J: Letters to: 1962, 54, 66, 68, 69  
Folder K: Newsletter (1970), Insurance Policy (1974), Index (1978)  
Folder L: Bills, Receipts  
Folder M: Financial reports 1981-82-83  
Folder N: Report of National Board of Fire Underwriters

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**Box X: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1**

Folder A: Bills, receipts, letters 1982-83  
Folder B: Bills, receipts, letters 1983  
Folder C: Bills, receipts, bank statements 1984- 85  
Folder D: Cancelled checks 1964  
Folder E: By-laws; Active volunteers 1981-83  
Folder F: By-laws, 1955, 1985; Fire Alarm code 1939, 1943  
Folder G: Programs-Muster 1961, 63-66  
Folder H: History 1916  
Folder I: Unused applications, envelopes, dues, statements N.D.  
Folder J: Service certificate to John E. Doxey 25 and 40 years (Gift of Fred Doxey)

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**Box XI: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company No. 1**

Cash Disbursements 1961-63, 1969  
Cash Disbursements 1954-63  
Cash Receipts 1961-62  
Muster Records 1965-66  
W. Carroll Notebook 1976-1980

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**Box XII: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company No. 1**

Minutes 1931-44  
Expenditures 1970-84  
Personal Fireman Account Summary 1910-1941

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**Box XIII: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company No. 1**

Summary of payments 1940-54  
Cash Receipts 1940-1954  
Personal Fireman Account Summary 1920-54  
Minutes 1917-1930  
Fire Department Lapel pin

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**Box XIV: Fairfield Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 & 2**

Folder A: Certificate of Organization 1895  
Folder B: Minutes Book 1893- 1895  
Folder C: Minutes, Membership & Account Book, 1896-1900  
Folder D: Treasurer's Accounts, 1893-1913  
Folder E: Deeds, 1895, 1908, 1913, 1959, 1960, 1913 Tunxis Hill Voluntary F.D. Certificate  
Folder F: By-laws 1914, 1955  
Folder G: News Clippings 1937,45, 49, ND  
Folder H: Map of old firehouse 1952  
Folder I: Locations- Fire Alarm codes 1959  
Folder J: Photos- 1939, 50, 62, 63, 65, 1936, 1911-12 Locomobile Trucks  
Folder K: Membership Files (Various Dates)  
Folder L: Photos of Fairfield Fire Chiefs  
Folder M: Miscellaneous (1894 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ball program; Certificate 1956, Joseph Elias completion Conn. Fire academy- Photocopies- pictures 182 firehouse  
Folder N: 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book (2 copies) Appreciation Book

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**Box XV: Pine Creek Volunteer Fire Company, No. 6**

Folder A: Membership files (Various dates) Fairfield F.D.  
Folder B: Minutes 1942-45 (Dissolution by forfeiture, 1962)  
Folder C: Handbook for Auxiliary Firemen (Civilian Defense)  
Folder D: New Clippings 1982, 1984, n.d.  
Folder E: Tickets, membership cards, letterheads  
Folder F: Firemen's memorial, 1966  
Folder G: Working papers, 1948, 1950  
Folder H: By-laws—Charter Members, 1942, 1945  
Folder I: Account Book 1943-45  
Folder J: Dues Accounts 1942-43  
Folder K: Expenditures 1951-58  
Folder L: Constitution/By-laws Pine Creek Fire Co. 6

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**Box XVI: Pine Creek Volunteer Fire Company, No. 6**

Minutes – Board of Governors 1945-52  
Minutes 1942-1950  
Cash disbursements, Receipt 1942-1951  
Cash disbursements, Receipt 1951-1958  
Secretary's Book 1951-1958  
Folder 1: Stratfield Fire Dept. Brochure, 1951

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**Oversize Item A:** Mill Plain Manor Fund Account Book, 1940-1948

**Oversize Item B:** Photo binders (1950-9; 1960-62; 63; 64-65; 62-67; Heritage Square, 65—  
Country club, 60, 70-80)

**Oversize Item C:** Pine Creek Women's Auxiliary certificate 1947

**Oversize Item D:** Pine Creek Aux. Historians Book 1945-1951

**Oversize Item E:** Daily reports of fires, 1958-59, Cash disbursements 1948, 1955, 1951-55

**Oversize Item F:** Certificate awarded to Charles J McClinch, 1950

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**Photographs**

See Photo Drawers, Fairfield Fire Department