

Finding Aid to the Fine Arts Club of Fargo Records

Fine Arts Club (Fargo, N.D.)

Fine Arts Club of Fargo records, 1911-1979

10 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 34

[History](#)

[Scope and Content](#)

[Box and Folder List](#)

OVERVIEW

Links: Finding aid to a later accessioning of the [Fine Arts Club of Fargo Records](#)
Finding aid to the [Fine Arts Club of Fargo Photograph Collection](#)

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Fine Arts Club of Fargo, North Dakota, 1980 (Acc. 2057 and 2058).

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Fine Arts Club of Fargo Records, MS 34. Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

The Fine Arts Club of Fargo, North Dakota had its origins in the Fargo Amateur Music Club. In the spring of 1911, Mrs. Frank J. Thompson consented to assume the presidency of the Music Club on condition that it be merged into a new organization consisting of several departments. This was accomplished and in September 1911 the Fine Arts was formally organized at the home of Mrs. Thompson. There were five original sections representing Music, Writers (Quill), Drama, Art, and

Sociology (Social Economics). The first meeting was held December 2, 1911 and the first yearbook published in 1912. The club became federated on October 4, 1912 and joined as a member of General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1925. The club continued to grow with the addition of the Home Economics Section in 1913, the Literature Section in 1922, the Women's Sports Section in 1926, and the History Section in 1926. Clubhouse facilities continually changed until November 5, 1930 when the gift of Watson Hall (formally of Fargo College) from Mrs. John H. Watson was formally accepted as a permanent residence. A Fine Arts Library was projected for the 1934-35 season and dedicated March 29, 1935. An addition of a stage and auditorium was accomplished in 1937. The Fine Arts Club continues to function, today, at the Watson Hall.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records of the Fine Arts Club of Fargo, North Dakota can be loosely categorized in three general areas; records pertaining to the club as a whole, those pertaining to the nine individual sections of the club, and scrapbooks. All scrapbooks are included at the end of the collection with the exception of two individual books of the Quill Section which are filed with the remaining section material. Scrapbooks are listed both in their proper order and under their section listings. Subsequent accessions of club records have been processed as Mss 248 and include all donations from 1984 to 1999. Consult the separate finding aid to that collection regarding its contents.

The [General Club Materials](#) records consist of by-laws, meeting minutes, presidential material, correspondence, finance, and clubhouse material.

The [Meeting Minutes Series](#) consists of annual reports from the officers, sections, and treasurer for the years 1955 to 1975. Executive Board minutes are available from 1919 to 1944, and 1951 to 1975.

The [Presidential Material Series](#) includes calendar books, 1955-1975, and personal notebooks, 1964-1975. The Club's Annual Booklet is available for every year with the exception of 1912/13, 1915/16 - 1919/20, 1921/22 - 1923/24, 1928/29 - 1932/33, 1934/35, 1936/37 - 1937/38, 1977/78, and through 1978/79. The correspondence is of the most general character.

The [Financial Records Series](#) may be valuable for membership lists, and they are fairly consistent since 1926.

The [Clubhouse Material Series](#) is of the most varied -type, including caretaker and rental agreements, a 1970 insurance evaluation by H.R. Arneson, and a framed set of rules.

The [Subject Files Series](#) is equally varied presenting "pourers" for the general tea, 1949-1975, a guest book from the 1930's to 1975, a Christmas Party Notebook, and statements of accounts from the Watson Trust, 1958-1968. A short club history, through 1939, and a Histogram script into the 1950's are also in the subject files. An unsigned manuscript on the life of Thomas Masaryk is included.

[Section Material](#) contains documents related to the many club sections. Each individual section is represented by constitutions and by-laws (except the History Section) and meeting minutes. The minutes of the Home Economics Section (1917-1922 and 1930-1974), Literature (1943-1976), and Social Economics (1919-1965) are the most complete.

There are twenty-five scrapbooks in the [Scrapbook Section](#). Thirteen pertaining to the club in general, and twelve for the sections, including eight for the Sports Section alone. They cover the general activities of each section and include some photographs.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

The following non-manuscript items were removed from the **Fine Arts Club of Fargo, North Dakota** Records and sent to the sections indicated.

Movies (Institute movie collection)

- Sport Section bowling at *The Bowler*, 1963, (Black & White, 35 mm) (Movie 1)

Photographs (Institute Photograph Collection 2003)

- 12 - Historama program, 1951
- 13 - General photographs of club activities
- 4 - Meeting places of club
- 3 - Scenes of program of Sports Section, ca 1928-1930

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Historical material and finding aid
	General Club Material Series
1/2	Constitution, by-laws, and articles of incorporation
	Meeting Minutes Series
	Annual Reports—
1/3	1955-1956
1/4	1956-1957
1/5	1957-1958
1/6	1958-1959
1/7	1959-1960
1/8	1960-1961
1/9	1961-1962
1/10	1962-1963
1/11	1963-1964, 1964-1965
1/12	1965-1966

1/13	1966-1967
1/14	1967-1968
1/15	1968-1969
1/16	1969-1970
1/17	1970-1971
1/18	1971-1972
1/19	1972-1973
1/20	1973-1974
1/21	1974-1975

Executive Board—

2/1	September 18, 1919 - September 20, 1927
2/2	October 12, 1927 - December 1, 1936
2/3	December 1, 1936 - April 12, 1944
2/4	September 11, 1951 - April 30, 1963
3/1	1963-1964
3/2	1964-1965
3/3	1965-1966
3/4	1966-1967
3/5	1967-1968
3/6	1968-1969
3/7	1969-1970
3/8	1970-1971
3/9	1971-1972
3/10	1972-1973
3/11	1973-1974
3/12	1974-1975

Correspondence Series

3/13	1955-1957
3/14	1958-1960

Presidential Material Series

Calendar Books—

4/1	1955-1956
4/2	1957-1957
4/3	1958-1959
4/4	1960-1961
4/5	1962-1963
4/6	1964-1965
4/7	1966-1967
4/8	1968-1969

5/1	1970-1971
5/2	1972-1973
5/3	1974-1975
	Personal Notebooks—
5/4	1964-1965, 1965-1966
5/5	1967-1968, 1968-1969
5/6	1969-1970
5/7	1971, 1972, 1973
5/8	1973, 1974, 1975
	Annual Booklets—
6/1	1913/1914 - 1914/1915, 1920/1921
6/2	1924/1925 - 1927/1928, 1929-1930, 1933/1934, 1935/1936, 1938/1939- 1945/1946
6/3	1946/1947 - 1953/1954
6/4	1954/1955 - 1961/1962
6/5	1962/1963 - 1969/1970
6/6	1970/1971 - 1976/1977, 1978/1979

Financial Records Series

	Journal—
7/1	September 1926 - March 1944
7/2	April 1944 - November 1948
21	Ledger, April 1950 - April 1966
21	Journal-Ledger, April 1955 - March 1974
	Treasury Reports—
7/3	1931, 1933-1934, 1947, 1948-1950
7/4	1955-1957
7/5	1957-1960
7/6	1960-1963
7/7	1961-1966
7/8	1963-1966, 1967-1969
	Finance Commission Reports—
7/9	1964-1973
7/10	1959-1966, and passbooks, 1956-1971, 1972
7/11	Financial, Miscellaneous

Clubhouse Material Series

8/1	Annual Reports of Chairman, 1946, 1947-1962, 1965
8/2	Proposed Budgets and Treasury Reports, 1945-1963
8/3	Caretaker's Agreements, 1947/1948 - 1969/1970
8/4	Rental Agreements and Privileges
8/5	Insurance Evaluation by H. R. Arneson, 1970

8/6 Inventories and Accounts, 1937-1948
8/7 Repairs and Expenses, 1931, 1947-1967
8/8 Rules (framed)
8/9 Miscellaneous

Subject Files Series

8/10 Christmas Party Notebook, 1948-1968
8/11 *Fine Arts Letter*, March 5, 1946; *Fine Arts Newsletter*, April 2, 1946; *Fine Arts Facts*
8/12 Guest Book, 1930's - 1971
8/13 Historama Script
9/1 History of Club, 1911 - 1939
9/2 Manuscript: Life of Thomas Masaryk
9/3 Members, Active and Sustaining, 1946-1950
9/4 Miscellaneous
9/5 Newspaper Clippings, 1930's - 1960's
9/6 Pourers for General Tea, 1949-1975
9/7 Recommendations for membership, 1947-1971
9/8 Watson Trust Statements of Accounts 1958-1968

Section Material

Art Section—

9/9 Constitution, By-laws
9/10 Meeting Minutes, 1945-1951
9/11 Meeting Minutes, 1951-1964
9/12 Minneapolis Trip

Drama Section—

10/1 By-laws
10/2 Meeting Minutes, September 1911 - March 1919
10/3 Meeting Minutes, March 1919 - December 1924
10/4 Meeting Minutes, October 1958 - November 1967
10/5 Play (1928) and Newspaper Clippings, 1974
22 Scrapbook, 1942, 1962

History Section—

10/6 Meeting Minutes, 1945-1956

Home Economics Section—

10/7 Constitution, By-laws, 1923-1958
10/8 Meeting Minutes, October 1, 1917 - May 4, 1922
10/9 Meeting Minutes, March 6, 1930 - May 9, 1940

11/1 Meeting Minutes, September 26, 1940 - May 13, 1948
11/2 Meeting Minutes, September 23, 1948 - May 10, 1956
11/3 Meeting Minutes, September 27, 1956 - September 23, 1965
11/4 Meeting Minutes, October 14, 1965 - May 10, 1974
12/1 Chairman's Notebook, September 1962 - May 24, 1970
12/2 Chairman's Notebook, September 1970 - May 12, 1977
12/3 Correspondence, Business, 1938-1970
12/4 Correspondence, Business, 1970-1974
12/5 Correspondence, General, 1954-1976
12/6 Miscellaneous and Newspaper clippings, 1950's-1960's
12/7 Recommendations for Membership
18/5 Scrapbook, 1936-1948

Literature Section—

12/8 By-laws
12/9 Meeting Minutes, September 24, 1943 - May 24, 1946
12/10 Meeting Minutes, September 27, 1946 - May 28, 1952
13/1 Meeting Minutes, September 26, 1952 - May 13, 1955
13/2 Meeting Minutes, September 23, 1955 - May 9, 1958
13/3 Meeting Minutes, September 26, 1958 - May 13, 1966
13/4 Meeting Minutes, September 23, 1966 - March 9, 1973
13/5 Meeting Minutes, March 23, 1973 - February 13, 1976
13/6 Correspondence, 1953-1976
13/7 Treasury, 1970-1978
13/8 Recommendations for Membership

Music Section—

13/9 Constitution, By-laws
13/10 Meeting Minutes, September 1919 - September 1923
13/11 Meeting Minutes, December 1942 - November 1960
14/1 Correspondence, 1928-1961
14/2 Treasury, 1919-1960
14/3 Newspaper Clippings

Quill (Writers) Section—

14/4 By-laws and Statement of Purpose
14/5 Meeting Minutes, 1911/12 - November 1922
14/6 Meeting Minutes, February 1923 - September 1924
14/7 Meeting Minutes, 1930 - April 1935
14/8 Meeting Minutes, 1938 - January 1948
14/9 Meeting Minutes, 1948 - September 1949
14/10 Meeting Minutes, October 1949 - April 1953
15/1 Meeting Minutes, May 1953 - May 1964

- 15/2 Meeting Minutes, September 1964 - May 1965
- 15/3 Miscellaneous, (from minutes)
- 15/4 Scrapbook, 1932
- 15/5 Scrapbook, September 1964 - January 1965

Social Economics Section—

- 15/6 By-laws
- 15/7 Meeting Minutes, 1919 - April 1926
- 15/8 Meeting Minutes, October 1926 - January 1934
- 15/9 Meeting Minutes, October 1934 - April 1941
- 16/1 Meeting Minutes, September 22, 1941 - April 25, 1949
- 16/2 Meeting Minutes, September 1949 - May 1951
- 16/3 Meeting Minutes, September 1951 - April 1954
- 16/4 Meeting Minutes, September 1954 - April 1956
- 16/5 Meeting Minutes, 1956-1958
- 16/6 Meeting Minutes, 1958-1960
- 16/7 Meeting Minutes, 1960 - May 1965
- 16/8 Correspondence, 1959-1965
- 18/1 Scrapbook, 1932-1961

Sports Section—

- 16/9 Constitution, By-laws
- 16/10 Meeting Minutes, September 1927 - 1931
- 16/11 Meeting Minutes, September 1931 - May 1933
- 16/12 Meeting Minutes, September 1933 - April 1935
- 16/13 Meeting Minutes, September 1935 - April 1939
- 16/14 Point System, The Twist Skating, 1929-1930
- 17/1 Scrapbook, 1926-1931
- 17/2 Scrapbook, 1931-1932
- 17/3 Scrapbook, 1932-1933
- 18/2 Scrapbook, 1933-1936
- 22 Scrapbook, 1938-1940
- 18/3 Scrapbook, 1940-1942
- 18/4 Scrapbook, 1947-1952
- 21 Scrapbook, 1959-1967

Scrapbooks Series

Sport Section—

- 17/1 1925-1931
- 17/2 1931-1932
- 17/3 1932-1933
- 18/2 1933-1936
- 22 1938-1940

18/3	1940-1942
18/4	1947-1952
21	1959-1967
	Social Economics Section—
18/1	1932-1961
	Home Economics Section—
18/5	1936-1948
	Publicity—
19/1	1911-1920
19/2	1927-1929
19/3	1930-1931
19/4	1931-1933
19/5	1933-1935
19/6	1940-1947
19/7	1942-1947
20/1	Presidents, 1920-1943
20/2	Club Members, Prominent in other Activities, 1929-1934
20/3	Miscellaneous, 1925-1934
	General
21	1928-1933
20/4	1941-1947/48
20/5	1948-1954
22	Drama Section, 1942-1962
22	Sports Section