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**Finding Aid to the
Young Men's Christian Association (NDSU)
Records**

Young Men's Christian Association (North Dakota State University)

Young Men's Christian Association (NDSU) records, 1901-1990

3 linear ft.

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OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives

Provenance: Donated by the YMCA of NDSU 1981 (Transfer from IRS, Acc. 2065); and 1985 (Acc. 9).

Property rights: The University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Young Men's Christian Association of North Dakota State University Records, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) at North Dakota State University was officially recognized on December 18, 1901, although apparently YMCA meetings had been held for several years prior. The early years were spent in social, recreation, and study session activities. By 1902, they were granted a permanent meeting room in the Engineering Building, moving to Old Main in 1914. With membership booming, the YMCA secured a professional secretary, Ray Sweetman. Under his guidance and efforts, a building program was begun which saw fruition in a completed building in December 1919.

Funding for the building came from students, faculty, the City of Fargo, a statewide campaign, and \$25,000 from the Rockefeller Institute.

The “Y” continued to be an active, social; center for the campus, serving as the “union” until its destruction by the 1957 tornado. Thereafter, it headquartered in the Library and South Engineering. In 1970, it purchased a house off-campus as its headquarters which it had rented the previous 2 ½ years. In 1978, the “Y” began renting space in the United Campus Ministries building, selling its former home in 1980. The YMCA also built several apartment buildings in 1968 near the campus, which they ran until selling them in 1982.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records of the YMCA of NDSU consist of meeting minutes, membership lists, correspondence, annual reports, financial records, newsletters and subject files.

The [Meeting Minutes Series](#) has been organized chronologically by the specific board, which includes the Board of Directors (formerly the Advisory Board) and the cabinet. The earliest, 1901-1913, appear to be general student minutes. There are gaps in the series, primarily 1913-1919, 1925-1938 (Advisory Board), and 1926-1929 for the Cabinet.

The [Membership Lists Series](#) is limited, with only 1983 - 1985 records.

The [Correspondence Series](#) is very incomplete. The 1916 is a letter enclosed in an envelope. The 1918 and 1919 section deals mainly with the Student’s Army Training Corp (S.A.T.C.) and the scheduling of movies for the soldiers stationed on campus. The correspondence, organized chronologically, consists of both incoming and outgoing letters. The correspondence for these two years appear to be complete concerning these two matters.. The 1926 folder is limited. The correspondence for the 1950s is incomplete and consists mainly of the executive secretary dealing with the general administration of the YMCA, and building problems, both before and after the 1957 tornado.

The [Annual Reports Series](#) of the Executive Director (formerly Executive Secretary) is also very incomplete with the period 1956 to 1976 being the only complete section. The [Financial Records Series](#) is very sketchy, containing a journal (1902-1913) of Finance Committee meeting minutes for several years and monthly and yearly annual financial reports. The [Newsletter Series](#) contain several Brown Bag Seminar fliers and promotional material.

The [Subject Files Series](#) contains a wide variety of material, again dating mainly from the 1950s and 1960s. All files are quite small and self-explanatory by title in the Box Listing. The two folders of “Solicitors File/Canvassing notebook” date from the statewide fund raising campaign for the new YMCA building in 1917. They include much material on the organization and its proposed building. The *Survey Report* published in 1953 was done by the Area Student Secretary from Minneapolis. The 36-page report is an appraisal of the present work of the YMCA with recommendations for the future. The various scrapbooks include newspaper clippings, photographs, and copies of its newsletter, *The Y’s Bison*.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

- **Broadsides** (to Broadside Collection): “Deputation Team, Agricultural College Y.M.C.A., Male Quartette.”
- **Photographs** (to University Photograph Collection): 160 photographs of activities, groups, buildings, and people.
- **Artwork** (to Broadside Collection): 1 watercolor of YMCA building after tornado by Else Hertel, 1957.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

BOX 1

- 1/1 Historical Material and Inventory
- 1/2 Articles of Incorporation, constitutions and bylaws

Meeting Minutes

- 1/3 December 18, 1901 - May 6, 1913
- 1/4 Ledger - (Index pages 271-284); Cabinet meetings, 1919-1925; Board of Trustees, 1920-1925; Advisory Board, 1919-1925; Financial Reports, 1916-1923; General Secretary Reports, 1919-1922; Miscellaneous committee reports; and State Financial Campaign, 1922
- 1/5 Advisory Board - November 8, 1938 - 1940
- 1/6 Advisory Board - 1941 - May 1943
- 1/7 Board of Directors - August 1943 - February 1946
- 1/8 Board of Directors - March - December 1946
- 1/9 Board of Directors - 1947
- 1/10 Board of Directors - 1948
- 1/11 Board of Directors - 1949

BOX 2

- 2/1 Board of Directors - 1950
- 2/2 Board of Directors - 1951
- 2/3 Board of Directors - 1952
- 2/4 Board of Directors - 1953
- 2/5 Board of Directors - 1954-1955
- 2/6 Board of Directors - 1956
- 2/7 Board of Directors - 1957-1959

2/8	Board of Directors - 1960-1962
2/9	Board of Directors - 1963-1965
2/10	Board of Directors - 1966-1967
2/11	Board of Directors - 1968-1969
2/12	Board of Directors - 1970-1971
2/13	Board of Directors - 1972-1973
2/14	Board of Directors - 1974-1975
2/15	Board of Directors - 1976-1977
2/16	Board of Directors - 1978
2/17	Cabinet - 1929-1931
2/18	Cabinet - 1932-1935
2/19	Cabinet - 1936-1938
2/20	Cabinet - 1939-1940
2/21	Cabinet - 1941-1943

Membership Lists

2/22	Board of Directors, 1983 - 1985
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BOX 3

3/1	Cabinet - 1945-1946
3/2	Cabinet - 1947-1948
3/3	Cabinet - 1949-1950
3/4	Cabinet - 1956-1958
3/5	Prep "Y" Club

Correspondence

3/6	1916
3/7	1918
3/8	1919
3/9	1926
3/10	1935, 1950-1956
3/11	January - June 1957
3/12	July - December 1957
3/13	1958-1959

Annual Reports

3/14	1918/1919
3/15	Executive Secretary - 1950/1951, 1956/1957 - 1959/1960
3/16	Executive Secretary - 1960/1961 - 1966/1967
3/17	Executive Director - 1966/1967 - 1976

- 3/18 Operations, 1982-1983
- 3/19 Executive Director - 1983-1984

Financial Records

- 3/20 Finance Committee meeting minutes - 1958-1961, 1969
- 3/21 Finance reports, 1950-1955, 1960-1961
- 3/22 Reports, 1981 - 1984

BOX 4

- 4/1 Journal, 1902-1913

Newsletters

- 4/2 Brown Bag Seminars, 1980s
- 4/3 Freshman Camp (N.D.)
- 4/4 Promotion, 1980

Subject Files

- 4/5 Activities reports, 1950/1951
- 4/6 Appraisals of building, 1950, 1969
- 4/7 Auditor's report, 1952
- 4/8 Board of Director's listings and committees, 1956/1957 - 1961/1962
- 4/9 Contributor's lists, 1917-1923
- 4/10 Contributions - United War Work, 1918-1919
- 4/11 Destruction of Building agreements, 1957
- 4/12 Membership list
- 4/13 Miscellaneous material
- 4/14 News releases
- 4/15 Program for 1960/1961
- 4/16 Report of Area Student Secretary, 1953
- 4/17 Report of Leo F. Johnson on years study at Boston University, 1963
- 4/18 Scrapbook, 1937-1938
- 4/19 Solicitors File/Canvassing notebook, June 1917 (part 1)
- 4/20 Solicitors File/Canvassing notebook, June 1917 (part 2)

BOX 5

- 5/1 *Survey Report*, YMCA, NDAC, 1953
- 5/2 *The Y's Bison* newsletter
- 5/3 Student Program Coordinator, Mary Jaschke, 1984
- 5/4 Friendship Family Program, 1984

5/5 Health, 1981, 1984, 1990
5/6 Health Fairs, 1980, 1981, 1984
5/7 Women's Issues, 1983, 1984, 1989, 1990
5/8 International Day, 1982
5/9 Banquet, 1963
5/10 Approved Rooms for Men, N.D.
5/11 Agreement with ND Board of Higher Education, 1958
5/12 Promotion Brochure, 1960s
5/13 Newspaper Clipping, 1962

BOX 6

Scrapbook, 1938-1940
Scrapbook, 1949-1950