Cambridge Women’s Commission Collection

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dates c. 1850 – 1993

Extent 1 flat box

Access Collection is available for research; CHC rules of use apply.

Processing and finding aid completed by Emily Magagnosc, October 2016

Provenance and Collection Description


The collection is comprised of photographs, negatives, and planning materials relating to Cambridge Women’s Commission activities between 1979 and 1993. Subjects include the Meeting to Report on Credit in 1979, the Women’s History Photograph Exhibition of 1979, and the “Women Working” 1981 calendar. The collection also includes a number of loose captions from the 1979 Photograph Exhibition, though these are not attached to their respective images.

About the Commission

The Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women was founded in 1977 as a City department. The Commission works in an inclusive manner to promote equality for all women and girls and advocates on their behalf with other City departments and officials, local organizations, and state government to increase their opportunities through policy recommendations, program development, and public education in key issue areas identified by the Commission as significantly affecting women and girls.

Folder List

Folder 1 – Photographs, 1970s – 1980s

Contains 16 photographs relating to Commission Activities, including voter registration, Action for ERA and Violence Against Women, the 1982 induction ceremony at City Hall, and the Peace Commission.

Folder 2 – Meeting to Report on Credit, 1979

Contains 20 photographs of the 1979 Meeting to Report on Credit. Also includes a Maclone Studio of Photography Envelope in which the photographs were originally housed.

Folder 3 – Copywork Negatives/Contact Sheets, August 14-15, 1879

Contains 17 sets of negatives in flat sleeves and contact sheets labeled A through Q. All negatives are attributed to Tia Cross. Images are copies of photographs and images from the Radcliffe Institute Schlesinger Library Collection taken in preparation for the 1979 Women’s History Photography Exhibition. Also contains 1 unlabeled negative sleeve.

Folder 4 – Women’s History Exhibition, 1979 “Women’s Work”
Contains invitation, poster, and 19 photographs from the 1979 “Women’s Work” Photograph Exhibition.

Folder 5 – Women’s History Exhibition Photographs, 1979
Contains 32 photographs used in the 1979 Women’s History Exhibition.

Folder 6 – Women’s History Exhibition Photographs, 1979
Contains 9 photographs of children used in the 1979 Women’s History Exhibition. Also included is one newspaper clipping dated Thursday, May 27, 1948.

Folder 7 – “350 Years of That Cambridge Look,” c. 1980
Contains 1 program for and exhibition prepared by the Cambridge Public Library for the 350th anniversary of the founding of Cambridge.

Folder 8 – “Women Working, a Calendar for 1981”
Contains planning materials by the Commission for the creation of a women’s history themed calendar based on the Women’s History Photograph Exhibition of 1979. Includes summary of calendar purpose and image selection notes.

Folder 9 – “Women Working, a Calendar for 1981”
Contains calendar cover mock up and 10 photographs and photocopies of photographs c. 1980. Also includes 2 mounting boards and captions for missing photographs.

Folder 10 – Diversity Day 1993
Contains planning materials and photographs related to the August 11, 1993 Diversity Day event. Includes 1 envelope of photographs, handwritten interview notes about 7 women employees of the City of Cambridge, scheduling and display notes, and memorandums. Gift of Cambridge Women’s Commission to CHC, 8/2006.

Folder 11 – Diversity Day 1993
Contains 37 photocopied photographs and captions mounted on construction paper from displays exhibited during the August 11, 1993 Diversity Day event.

Additional Enclosure
Contains typed captions for photographs included in the 1979 Women’s History Photograph Exhibition. Captions are not attached to the photographs they describe.

Return to CHC Collections home:
http://www.cambridgema.gov/historic/researchaids/archivalcollections