



Boston Children's Museum  
308 Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02210  
(617) 426-6500

## ARCHIVES Finding Aid

<b>Accession #:</b> A 2018.16 <b>Date(s) Accessioned:</b> 2018 November 2
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### Building Records Collection

**Inclusive: 1932-1995, [Bulk: 1936-1969]**

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Collection ID:** A 2018.16

**Repository:** Boston Children's Museum Archives

**Title:** Building Records Collection

**Creator(s):** Various, include Harry LeBaron Sampson, Harry E. Davidson & Son, Architects, Charles L. Hibbard, Jr. Architect, Cambridge Seven Associates, and Will Twombly

**Dates:** Inclusive: 1932-1995, Bulk: 1936-1969

**Extent:** .25 linear feet; 1 box

**Language(s) of Materials:** English

**Abstract:** These records outline the various building records from Boston Children's Museum inception to its current residence in the Seaport. Records include correspondence with architects and contractors, building contracts, and copies of certificates.

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#### Conditions of Access and Use

**Conditions Governing Access:** Some restrictions apply.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:** Copyright belongs to Boston Children's Museum. All requests for permission to publish or quote for publication must be submitted in writing to the Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Boston Children's Museum as the owner of the physical items and as the owner of copyright in items.

**Citation:** [Item, Folder], Box 13, Building Records Collection, Boston Children's Museum Archives, Boston, MA.

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## Acquisition Information

**Provenance/Custodial History:** The records in this collection were discovered in a 2017 inventory of the 2006 Centennial collection.

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## Background Information

**Historical Note:** Boston Children's Museum was established in 1913. It has changed locations several times over the course of its history. First, Boston Children's Museum was located in the Refectory building in Franklin Park near the zoo. In 1913, it moved to Jamaica Plain to the Pine Bank building. Its existence there was tenuous, as Mayor Curley sought to evict the Museum in order to place the Parks and Recreation Department in that location, but the staff fought to remain. Thankfully, the mayor abandoned his project and the Museum stayed in Jamaica Plain. In 1936, the Museum moved to the Mitton house across from Jamaica Pond at 60 Burroughs Street. In 1979, Boston Children's Museum moved to Museum Wharf on Fort Point Channel, sharing the building with the Museum of Transportation. In 2007, Boston Children's Museum completed a major renovation and expansion project, and became the first gold LEED certified museum in Boston.

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## Collection Information

**Scope and Content:** This collection contains records concerning the succession of buildings that the Museum inhabited from its inception to the present. It contains contracts and notes pertaining to the Burroughs Street building. It also includes plans from various alterations and additions, from the early 1940s and the late 1960s. Facility Work Orders are also included, which encompass actions from repainting to clearing debris. There is some correspondence included in the collection between Harry LeBaron Sampson (who worked at the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company) and Mrs. Robert W. Sayles (the Treasurer) of the Museum, from 1932.

**Arrangement:** The items in this collection have been arranged by subject and format.

**Other Relevant Collections:** The Burroughs Street Auditorium Contract Collection at BCM Archives.

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## Processing Information

**Processed by:** Caroline Turner, 2018.

**Rules or Conventions of Finding Aid:** Prepared following Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)

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## Contents Inventory

### Box 13

<i>Folder Titles</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Burroughs Street Contracts	1936-1937
Plans for Alterations and Additions	1943
Specifications of Alterations	c. 1940s
Facilities Work Orders	1959-1962
Museum Remodeling	1967-1969
Correspondence	1932
Wharf Parking	1975, 1979
Inspector Materials	1995