

**AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS**

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Newburgh Free Library, Records, 1838-1912

LOCATION(S):

Folio vols. "N"
Octavo vols. "N"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

six folio volumes; one octavo volume

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

Ruttenber, E.M., *History of the Town of Newburgh* (Newburgh, 1859), 251-253.

Ruttenber, E.M. and L.H. Clark, *History of Orange County, New York* (Philadelphia, 1881), 324-326.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

The "Constitution of the Newburgh Library Association," etc.; the "Catalogue of the Library belonging to the Board of Education Newburgh"; the Newburgh Board of Education account book; the undated library catalog; and the octavo volume were purchased from Daniel DeSimone, 1999. The two folio volumes containing the correspondence and financial accounts of the Mechanics Library Association of Newburgh were purchased from Carmen D. Valentino, 2004.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

The Newburgh (N.Y.) Library Association was established in 1836 as a subscription library. Two years later, in 1838, the Newburgh Mechanics' Library Association was founded. In addition to maintaining a library, the Mechanics' Library Association began, in 1846, to offer public lectures. In 1847, the Newburgh Library Association transferred its collections to the Mechanics' Library Association. Newburgh also had several school district libraries in this period. In 1852, the libraries of the Glebe School and High School were united, and in 1861, the books belonging to the Mechanics' Library Association were added to this collection. In 1865, the organization was reconstituted as the Newburgh Free Library.

This collection includes records of the Newburgh Library Association, the Newburgh Mechanics' Library Association, the Newburgh Department of Education, and the Newburgh Free Library, in the period from 1838 to 1912.

See Contents List.

American Antiquarian Society
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY, RECORDS, 1838-1912
CONTENTS LIST

FOLIO

VOLUME

Newburgh Library Association

- 1 Record Book, 1838-1845
--contains the constitution and by-laws (including amendments made in 1844), as well as minutes of meetings for the period 1838-1845; many of the blank pages contain a child's drawings

Newburgh Mechanics' Library Association

- 2 Account Book, 1838-1841
--contains accounts of over 200 member and/or supporters; Association's accounts (room rent, treasurer's book, chairs, a few named periodical subscriptions, bookbinding, etc.); "Donations of Books" (31 donations from 1 to 40 volumes; all donors named, but only 5 titles reported); and "Donations of Money" (49 donors, with sums)
- 3 Letter Book, 1839-1844
--contains 9 letters (some with notes) and 3 entries re: the business of the Association, including a letter (8 October 1839) containing its brief history

Newburgh (N.Y.). Dept. of Education

- 4 Library Catalog, n.d. (after 1852)
--contains approximately 3,100 entries, with addenda numbered up to about 6,600
--also contains a "Catalogue of the Books received from the **Mechanics Library Association**," which includes roughly 2,500 entries, and was probably made in about 1861
- 5 Account Book, 1852-1862
--contains accounts of the Newburgh Board of Education with teachers in the town between 1852 and 1862
--also contains a "Catalogue of the **Newburgh Free Library** made September 1867," which includes 8,667 entries and includes titles at least as late as 1875

Newburgh Free Library

- 6 Library Catalog, 1870s-1897
--contains about 12,800 entries

OCTAVO

VOLUME

- Scrapbook, ca. 1889-1912
--contains newspaper clippings listing additions to the Library; entries are numbered ca. #16,700-ca. 22,500