

**Barnstable Historical Society Archives**  
**Dr. Charles E. Harris Research and Photograph Collection**  
**Manuscript Collection No. 1**



*Captain Charles Harris, M.D.*

**Extent:** 7 boxes

**Biographical Note:** Dr. Charles E. Harris was born November 12, 1868, in Waterford, Vermont and passed away at Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis, Massachusetts on May 26, 1947. Dr. Harris was educated at St. Johnsbury Academy and Springfield, Massachusetts College. He received his medical degree from Baltimore Medical School and came to Hyannis to start his medical practice in 1898. Dr. Harris played an active role in establishing the Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis. Several years before the new hospital was built he would host circus fundraisers in his back yard where local residents would dress up as animals and clowns to entertain the guests. Once the new hospital was established he then worked on starting an X-ray department and served as its first chief. During World War I he served in the Army medical corps and was stationed in Springfield, Ma. Never one to rest on his laurels, he involved himself with the Federated Church in Hyannis, was a trustee of the Hyannis Public Library, belonged to the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club, and was a founding member of the Hyannis USO during WWII.

In addition to the above accomplishments he also published two book titles: *Hyannis Sea Captains*, *A Vermont Village*, and a pamphlet on Ora Adams Hinckley, the Director of the Hyannis Public Library. Dr Harris was also a covered bridge enthusiast and he traveled New England to photograph them.

**Scope and Content Note:** This collection consists of two series: Personal and Research. The research series contains notes about his publications as well as a photograph collection that documents Hyannis sea captain homes. Dr. Harris's Albums have been placed with the Photo and Image Collection Box 2 MC.18

**Creator:** Charles E. Harris, M.D.

**Date:** 1914 - 1948

**Access:** Unrestricted; some material may be under copyright restrictions. Please credit the Barnstable Historical Society for publication purposes

**Language:** Material entirely in English

**Repository:** Barnstable Historical Society 3074 Main St. (POB 829), 6A, Barnstable, Ma 02630 508-362-2982

**Processed by:** Stephen Robert Lovell Farrar

**Series #1 : Personal**

**Box# Folder#**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | Correspondence, 1941 - 1948                                 |
|   | 2 | Military service paperwork, 1918 – 1938                     |
|   | 3 | Biographical Material                                       |
|   | 4 | American Legion Certificate of Service in World War I       |
|   | 5 | Bureau of Pensions appointment certificate                  |
| 1 | 6 | Stock Certificates  |
|   | 7 | World War II fuel ration coupons and fuel purchase receipts |
|   | 8 | Pageant of Cape Cod, 1914, list of participants             |
|   | 9 | St Johnsbury Academy, 100 <sup>th</sup> Commencement        |

**Series II : Research**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 10 | <i>Three Tales of the Sea</i> , by Captain John Orlando (booklet)   |
|   | 11 | Sea Captains research material, typescript pages on Hyannis Sea Captains  |
|   | 12 | Hyannis Sea Captain Residences  |
|   | 13 | 1639 Kitchen, Tercentenary exhibition created by Hyannis Women's Club (1939)                                      |
|   | 14 | Obed Gardner's will, transcript   |
| 1 | 15 | Notes about, <i>A Vermont Kitchen</i> , article clippings and some correspondence pasted into notebook            |
|   | 16 | Newspaper clippings on Dr. Harris including obituary articles   |
| 1 | 17 | <i>Au Large</i> , an unpublished manuscript by Harris about a hunting trip to Canada typewritten with photographs |

**Box# Folder#**

- 2 18 Alexander Baxter: research and photographs
- 19 Captain Sylvester Baxter House
- 20 Clara Jane Hallett: research and photographs (fathers sail loft)
- 21 Clara Jane Hallett publications: memorial pamphlet and *The Story of Lewis Bay* (booklet)
- 2 22 Clara Jane Hallett publications: clippings of Radio Beams, Barnstable Patriot column
- 23 Ora A. Hinckley, *Women Who Went to Sea*, type written pages that were published as chapter 20 in Donald Trayser's, *Three Centuries of a Cape Cod Town*
- 24 Hyannis Sea Captain Maps
- 25 Clipper ship prints
- 26 Tercentenary invitation to Mayor of Barnstable England, 1939
- 27 Plan of Land for Lewis Bay, by Willard Walsh Realty Co., Inc.
- 28 History of West Parish Church, booklet
- 2 29 Confederate money
- 30 Photographs of Vermont sugaring
- 31 Newsletter: Covered Bridge topics, 1940s
- 32 Newsletter: Covered Bridge Topics, 1940s
- 33 Newsletter: Covered Bridge Topics, 1940s
- 34 Covered Bridge newspaper clippings
- 2 35 Vermont covered bridge information, from Vt. State Highway Dept.

**Box# Folder#**

- 2 36 Vermont covered bridge information, map of bridges in Vt.
- 37 Montpelier's first town meeting
- 38 Photographs: Maine Covered Bridges
- 39 Photographs: New Hampshire and Vermont covered bridges
- 40 Photographs: Vermont covered bridges (some not identified)
- 2 41 Photographs: New Brunswick Canada, covered bridges

Albums

Covered bridge albums; Dr Harris collected photographs and other memorabilia and pasted them into three albums. Two albums are for Vermont covered bridges and one album is for New Hampshire covered bridges.

- 4 42 Photographs: Family farm in Waterford, Vt., 1890 kayak trip on Connecticut River
- 43 Photographs: Dr's Harris and Binford; photograph of Harris outhouse.
- 44 Photograph: Dr. Harris portrait
- 45 Cape Cod church photographs, identified
- 46 Photograph of the Baptist Church Hyannis, Ma
- 4 47 Off Cape church photographs
- 4 48 Off Cape church photographs
- 49 Main St. Hyannis photographs, north side of street
- 50 Main St. Hyannis photograph, Eagleston Inn
- 51 Main St. Hyannis photograph, Masonic Hall (19<sup>th</sup> century)
- 4 52 Main St. Hyannis photograph, Howes Garage, (1910)

**Box# Folder#**

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 4 | 53 | South Yarmouth Salt Works photographs (3, ca. 1800's)  |
|   | 54 | Elizabeth Allen Smith, teacher at east Barnstable school, ca. 1890                                       |
|   | 55 | Barnstable High School class of 1908, with description   |
|   | 56 | Provincetown photographs (undated, late 1800s)   |
|   | 57 | Cape Cod lighthouses: Chatham twin lights, Bishop and Clerk light, Hyannis light, Wood End light         |
|   | 58 | Hurricane publications: Pictures of the Worst Storms in New Bedford's History                            |
|   | 59 | Hurricane publications: September 14, 1944 Hurricane, Southeastern Massachusetts                         |
| 4 | 60 | Hurricane publications: The Complete Historical Record of New England's Stricken Area September 21, 1938 |
|   | 61 | Wall Calendars', printed by F B & F P Goss, Hyannis photos in calendar                                   |

Dr. Harris's Albums have been placed with the Photo and Image Collection Box 2 MC.18

Album Collection

This collection consists of 3 albums which are numbered as part of the Barnstable Historical Society Photo Album series:

Album #6

Hyannis Photo album, North side of Main St. starting at Yarmouth line.

Album #7

Partially filled album with family photo's and one photo (dated 1905) with 17 named Dr's

Album #8

Harris Collection Hyannis Houses: photographs and postcards. Many labeled

**Box# Folder#**

- 7      62-70 Hyannis photo album: filled with pictures of houses that have been named by owner: Main St aftermath of Fire, 1892; Murphy's bakery at RR crossing, Main St.; Wagoner house; Hyannis East End, Cash and Bradford; Soule house; ground breaking Normal School; Real Estate Office; Old School House, 82 School St, Hyannis; First Hospital in Hyannis, (Oliver House); Centerville Main St. 1900s; Iyanough House Main St., Hyannis 1889; Mrs. Reed House, Pleasant St.; Training School fire; W. Barnstable 149 and Rte 6A looking south; Cash Block; Hattie B; Boat house in Hyannis (carried away in hurricane);
- 71      Scrapbook of Hyannis Sea Captains homes. All are named and can be used in conjunction with the Map of Sea Captains published in his Book, *Hyannis Sea Captains*