Title: Edgewood/ San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum Records, 1851-1958

Corporate names:
San Francisco Orphan Asylum, San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum, San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children, San Francisco Foundling Home, San Francisco Female Hospital, Edgewood Learning Center, Edgewood Center for Children & Families; Edgewood, the San Francisco Protestant Orphanage.

Provenance & origination:
Edgewood Center for Children & Families, 1801 Vicente Street, San Francisco, California 94116.

Extent:
Number of containers: 25 document boxes, 6 cartons, 6 plastic boxes, approximately 30 linear feet.

Scope and content:
The Edgewood/San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum records contain listings of children admitted to and discharged from the first children's service agency in San Francisco, the minutes and annual reports created by the Board of Managers, photographs of children, staff, buildings, and events; and records of the administration of the institution. These records date from 1851 to approximately 1958. Included are documents regarding all facets of management of an institution: personnel, taxes, construction and repair bills, agreements for supply of foodstuffs and other goods, transportation of children and staff, entertainment, school, contact with parents and guardians, financial obligations, endowments, investments and legacies.

In 2001, Edgewood celebrated its sesquicentennial, and the institution maintains the records created since 1958. For privacy reasons, Edgewood has closed all files of children admitted to the institution and maintains them securely onsite. An index to a major portion of Edgewood's files is available for genealogical purposes, but interested parties would have to contact Edgewood for further information. Edgewood also has a small historical exhibit.

Also included are records of the San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children, San Francisco Female Hospital and San Francisco Foundling Home. Exact provenance of these items is unknown, but it is assumed that these homes sent their residents and records to SFPOA/Edgewood when they closed.

Collection processed by Pennington Ahlstrand, with help from Barb Hoddy, Stacia Fink and Mary Gentry. Completed May 2001.
History of institution:

San Francisco Orphan Asylum, San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum; Edgewood, the Protestant Orphan Asylum; Edgewood Learning Center; Lucinda Weeks Center; Edgewood Center for Children & Families:

Edgewood, also known as the San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum, was founded to help a group of siblings orphaned by cholera en route to San Francisco, probably from Australia. The Reverend Albert Williams and his wife hosted meetings in late January and early February of 1851 at the 1st Presbyterian Church. The ladies who attended the meetings agreed to found the San Francisco Orphan Asylum Society. Although the originating meetings were held at the Presbyterian Church, the orphanage was never affiliated with any specific denomination. In 1854 the motto “Feed My Lambs” was adopted and incorporated into the official seal of the Society, which was used until 1920.

The Board of Managers of SFOA were all women until 1958, and the first elected Managers were Mrs. A. Williams, Mrs. S.H. Will(e)y, Mrs. Emily A. Warren, Mrs. Harriet Boring, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Waller, Mrs. C.V. Gillespie, Mrs. Dub(b)ys, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Joyce and Mrs. O.C. Wheeler. Many other women attended meetings and served on committees for the Society. For legal reasons, the Managers appointed three gentlemen to hold property in trust for the SFOA, and the first Trustees were Charles Gilman, Stephen Franklin and Daniel L. Ross. The first matron was Mrs. Wilson, and Dr. Coit was the on-call physician.

On March 19, 1851, nine children moved into the orphanage’s first home, a prefabricated cottage in Happy Valley. The cottage had been imported from Boston by Mr. W.D.M. Howard and the “family” lived there rent-free for three months. The children ranged in age from 3 to 12 years. Elizabeth Dodds, Agnes Dodds, Charles Dodds and Henry Bacon were siblings, as were Robert & Eliza Plumbridge and Margaret, Patrick & Agnes Ward. (Spelling of names varied from document to document.) More children were admitted to the orphanage within days as the Managers visited assigned areas of the City, inquiring about children in need of aid. Most of the children were not actually orphans. Many were half-orphans (one parent was deceased), and in later years, they were children of “broken homes” or other problem family situations. By 1852 there were 26 children in the orphanage and the family clearly needed a new, larger home, so they moved a short distance to a house owned by Gen. Halleck in Pleasant Valley. Gen. Halleck refused to accept rent for the use of the home.

The Board of Managers heard about land in San Francisco available through public auction. For $100, they purchased property considered to be far beyond the City limits and basically in the middle of nowhere. Within a few years, the City grew up around the orphanage, which was located on a two block lot bounded by Haight, Buchanan, Hermann and Laguna Streets. [In 2001, this site was occupied by the University of California Extension building and campus.] Legend has it that Haight and Waller Streets are named for Mrs. Haight and Mrs. Waller, both prominent San Franciscans who served on the SFOA Board of Managers for a time. The orphanage would be located on Haight Street from 1854 to 1919.

The Managers funded the purchase of this property and the initial construction of the building by canvassing door-to-door throughout San Francisco, sometimes collecting up to $1000 per day. The Managers had to borrow $5000 at 10% interest to complete construction of the building. On March 22, 1854, the children moved from Pleasant Valley to the new building, “located near Mission Dolores.” It was a two-story dormitory-style building built of stone quarried from the site of the old Mint and carted free of charge by the Spring Valley Water Co. In addition to the children, the residents included a matron (and sometimes her husband and children), a nurse and a teacher. As the number of residents grew, so too would the number of staff. The children were schooled at the orphanage from 1854 to 1897. Before and after this period, they attended local public schools.

When the Society was first founded, the Managers raised awareness by placing an article in the Alta California and raised money for operating expenses by requesting donations from local Protestant churches, encouraging regular “subscription” donations and requesting board for half-orphans when the parent or friends of a child could afford it. An August, 1852 meeting of the Managers reports a charity concert by Signora Biscaccianti, probably at the Jenny Lind Theatre. The Managers were very concerned with propriety
and would refuse money raised in inappropriate ways, such as through the purchase of raffle tickets. As the reputation of the orphanage grew, community leaders and clergy from other areas (Nevada, Sacramento), would ask the Managers to admit children from their region. The Managers refused “without some appropriation being made for their support.” Managers discontinued requesting money from San Francisco citizens, relying instead on government funding, in-kind donations and bequests.

Finally, in 1855, SFOA received a grant of $5000 from the State of California to help with the expenses of the children, who were often wards of the State. In 1860, SFOA received another $6000 from the State, and this money was used to enlarge the building. In 1862, the SFOA re-incorporated and changed its name to San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum (SFPOA) to distinguish it from other children’s agencies that were in existence. In 1861, SFPOA had received the title to a building and the lot on Montgomery between Jackson and Pacific Streets. The building had served as the Sansome Hook & Ladder Company and the lot was owned by James Lick. The building and lot were sold to raise money, and the resulting funds were used to construct what became known as the “Sansome” wing of the orphanage in 1863.

In 1865, the Managers noted that very few of the children living at SFPOA were actually from San Francisco. Because of this, the Managers continued their policy of not soliciting donations from the local populace and continued requesting funds from the State. While the Managers refused to actively request money from the people of San Francisco after the home on Haight Street was built, they did continue to accept “subscriptions” — a regular annual donation— and donations in many forms. Many of the names of people who contributed to SFPOA over the years are familiar still—Levi Strauss, Eadward Muybridge, H.H. Bancroft, Mrs. Stanford, Mrs. Crocker, Adolf Sutro, John McLaren, Bruce Porter, Spreckels, Milton Bradley, Mrs. Dean Witter, James Phelan, Gabriel Moulin, James Flood and Lillie H. Coit. The children who lived at SFPOA were fondly remembered by philanthropists and merchants alike. The children were given trips to the movies, circuses, the Mid-Winter Fair of 1893, the Pan-Pacific International Exposition of 1915, Mt. Tamalpais, Sutro Baths, the Chutes, a wide variety of concerts and other events. For decades, the children were allowed to ride the Muni streetcars and the merry-go-round at Golden Gate Park free of charge. By 1913, Mr. Scott Southwork came by once a week to give children rides in his motorcar.

The Managers were heavily involved in the lives of the children. A Visiting Committee regularly inspected the orphanage building and occupants, observing the children’s health, manners, clothing, cleanliness, lessons and the methods used by Matrons and teachers in handling the children. When necessary, the Managers themselves helped the Matron for example, by mending the children’s clothes during their board meetings. And when Elizabeth Dodds (the first orphan admitted to the orphanage) left to learn the dressmaking trade, the Managers presented her with $50 to help her on her way.

The Managers also decided which children to accept for admission to the orphanage. They investigated the habits and health of parents, whether living or dead. They thoroughly researched couples requesting to adopt children or take them for indenture, often checking references and asking neighbors about the applicant’s character. Even after a child was sent for adoption or indenture, the Managers checked on the child once a year, ensuring that the child was receiving education, food, clothing and a generally appropriate upbringing. By 1867, new guardians had to sign a contract, specifying the terms of the indenture or adoption. Even when a parent returned to remove their own child from the orphanage, the Managers checked on the parent’s financial situation and living accommodations to be sure that a child would be well-cared for. It was not unusual for children to be repeatedly admitted to the orphanage over the course of a few years.

The number of children living at the orphanage on Haight Street grew from a couple dozen to 300 in later years. The children were divided by age and gender and lived dormitory-style in large rooms. Reports indicate that the Hayes Valley neighbors enjoyed having the children in the area, and the orphans socialized with the local children. After the children began attending the public schools in the late 1890’s, it was not unusual for the neighborhood children to play in the orphanage garden with their friends. At home, the children were allowed to have small garden plots, to keep a dog or cat, or sometimes tend chickens and other animals at the orphanage. The older boys learned the Sloyd method of woodworking skills and the girls learned cooking and sewing. Children were expected to do their homework, do chores as assigned and some
children took drawing, dancing or music lessons. During the Spanish-American War, the boys became fascinated with military practices and formed their own marching regiment with uniforms. The girls did calisthenics and made articles of clothing for needy people. One year the girls made and dressed several dozen “Chinese” dolls and donated them to the Red Cross.

A diphtheria outbreak in 1902 necessitated a quarantine of the children for several months. Morale declined severely when the orphans were not allowed to see their school chums nor play with neighbor children. The Managers were very concerned about this and arranged a camping trip at Armstrong's Grove near Guerneville. They memorialized this summer outing as “Camp Alvord” when Mrs. Mary E. Alvord, then President of the Board of Managers, suddenly passed away. This was not the first time the children had been away from the City during the summer but this “camp” was so successful that it was decided that the orphanage should make this an annual event. A bequest enabled the Managers to purchase land in Rancho El Rio, near Alamo and Danville in Contra Costa County. The orphans attended “Camp Swain” (named for Ann T. Swain) from 1911 to 1946, when the property was sold. [Some of the original SFPOA camp structures are still standing on the land, which is now a park.]

In the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906, devastation was everywhere. Orphanages were no exception. Everyone escaped the building unharmed. [Some records and ledgers that were kept at Managers’ homes were lost in the Fire, but the orphanage itself, being west of Van Ness, was not destroyed and that is why this collection exists.] The building was damaged but repaired by November. In the meantime, the children lived for a few weeks in the State Normal School, located on the southern half of the orphanage property, which had just been leased to the State of California. Later, the children were sent to Petaluma, where they reportedly lived in the stables near Kenilworth Pavilion at the county fairgrounds.

In 1910, Mr. Ginn arranged a legacy to pay for boys to attend the Lick/Wilmerding vocational schools. Some fifty-five boys from SFPOA served in the military during World War I. The Managers tried to stay in touch with children who left the orphanage to make their way in the world. In poor economic times, they encouraged the former residents to return to the orphanage rather than suffer the embarrassment of bread lines, etc. Many alumni returned for Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday parties. Sometimes they had younger siblings who still lived at the orphanage and other times they were interested in mentoring or helping orphans themselves. By 1926, at least two former residents graduated from the local high school and went on to college—a boy to California College of Arts & Crafts and a girl to nursing school.

By 1919, the orphanage building on Haight Street was no longer habitable. The repairs done after the Earthquake and the age of the building were conspiring to make the children homeless until the Managers negotiated a deal to rent the Maria Kip Orphanage until SFPOA could build a new facility. The Kip home was located at 7th Ave and Lake Street, near the Presidio. The Kip children went to an affiliated home while SFPOA occupied their building. After much deliberation, the Managers decided to sell the Haight Street property and build a new orphanage elsewhere in San Francisco. The Haight property was sold to the State of California, which had been leasing it since 1905. None of the Managers could bring themselves to attend the razing of the old orphanage building.

SFPOA ended up being in the Kip Orphanage for five years. It was a difficult time for the staff and administrators. The Kip home was much smaller and arranged differently, with a yard that did not allow for the gardens and play areas the children had at the old home. Sloyd and sewing classes were halted for lack of space. The older children were allowed to go to the YMCA and the YWCA for recreation. At this time they also started a Boy Scout Troop and a Girls' Friendly Society. There was a great deal of personnel turnover during these years, and the Managers were trying new procedures in managing the home, including having a Superintendent instead of a Matron. Many of the new procedures were due to the fact that the State of California, and the City and County of San Francisco began regulating social services agencies more heavily. Enormous amounts of documentation were required when applying for financial aid for any child, and SFPOA had 80-120 children in residence. Admissions often came from the San Francisco Juvenile Court. Reports and forms had to be completed and sent in regularly. Officials came to visit and inspect the orphanage and could withhold funds from agencies that were not adhering to new standards. The Managers also re-incorporated as the San Francisco Protestant Orphanage Society in 1920.
As the Managers explored available real estate, they also researched the styles and methods of other orphanages. They visited the Pacific Hebrew Orphanage in San Francisco and a dozen other institutions in California. In 1923, the Managers negotiated the purchase of a 10 acre property on Vicente Street in the Parkside District of San Francisco (the property abuts what is now Stern Grove). They also decided that instead of building another dormitory-style institution, they would adopt the cottage system for SFPOA, similar to that of the Pacific Hebrew Orphanage. The cottage system was intended to better simulate family life for children who were separated by choice or chance from their parents and other family members.

On the new campus there were six cottages, an administration building and a laundry building. In 1951 a Recreation building would be added. Each cottage housed up to 20 children and a cottage mother. The rooms were big and airy. Each child had her or his own closet. There was a living room, kitchen and dining room in each cottage. The buildings were designed by Bliss & Faville, and constructed by Lindgren & Swinerton. John McLaren offered to move vegetation from the old orphanage site to the new campus. By the time the children moved into the new orphanage, the neighborhood was being settled. Streets had been graded, street lights installed, streetcar routes added to service that part of town, and some sidewalks had been installed. An oral history interview with a former resident revealed that the children actually walked to their new school on a boardwalk for a time.

Great care was taken in deciding how to divide the children into the cottages. Most of the time siblings were housed together, but it was to the orphanage’s benefit to segregate the older boys into a cottage of their own. The children were allowed to visit any cottage and play with any other children, and there was some friendly competition between cottages. The children continued to spend their summers at Camp Swain.

The staff and Managers of SFPOA noticed that some of the children were embarrassed about being called “orphans,” either because of social stigma or because they did have parents—only about 6% of the children were actually orphans. For psychological benefit, the children of each cottage were invited to designate a name to replace the cottage’s original number. Even seven decades later, the cottages are called Lane Hall, Dimond Cottage, Stow Hall, Halleck Hall, Pine Lodge, and Williams Cottage. As early as 1930, the children began calling their home “Edgewood” and in 1944 the name was officially changed. Sometimes the children referred to themselves as “P.O. kids.”

At Edgewood, life for the children was very similar to regular family life. Each child was expected to perform chores according to his or her abilities, they could do extra work to earn pocket money, they had bicycles and pets, they played basketball and baseball in the park with the neighborhood children. Edgewood children went to school, did homework, participated in scouting activities, went to dances, hosted parties in the gymnasium, exchanged gifts and took photographs of each other. Camp Swain was “self-governing” in that the children elected a “mayor” to be in charge of planned activities throughout the summer.

During the Depression, children stayed an average of 35 months at Edgewood. When other orphanages closed, some of those children were sent to Edgewood. Some children were admitted to Edgewood for the summer months only, so they never lived at the Vicente campus as the children were at Camp Swain for vacation.

In 1948, a group of women got together and founded the Edgewood Auxiliary. Volunteer fundraising and assistance groups had been started at least twice before, circa 1883 and 1923, but these women were determined to make a profound difference in the lives of Edgewood children. In the first ten years, the Auxiliary took the children to the Ice Follies, threw bridal showers for young Edgewood brides, bought a school bus to facilitate transportation to and from special events, hired a tutor for children who needed help with schoolwork, decorated the recreation room, funded birthday parties for the children, paid for hot lunches, gave gifts to those children graduating from high school, and purchased flashlights for the children to have at Camp Swain, a television set, an encyclopedia and sports equipment. The Auxiliary made sure that Edgewood celebrated its centennial in 1951 with a great deal of media attention. The Auxiliary hosted annual fundraising events such as the Garden Fair and the Crystal Ball.

1950’s-2000: In 1951, Edgewood officially changed from a child-caring agency to a residential treatment program for emotionally-disturbed children, mostly teenagers. In 1964, the residential/day treatment program was initiated with a focus on younger children and their families. Edgewood programs
continued to change and grow over the years. Other programs Edgewood sponsored during this time were:
the Edgewood Learning Center—an intensive assessment and treatment of learning disabled children and
adults, day-treatment program, a fully-independent non-public school, Primary Intervention Program in San
Francisco public schools, a sub-acute unit that is a fully-accredited alternative to psychiatric hospitalization,
diagnostic shelter care program, Parents Helping Parents, Grandparents Who Care, Therapeutic Foster Care.
For a time, Edgewood was open only to boys of a certain age (the age group changed several times), but was
again co-educational by 1979. In 1980, the Lucinda Weeks Center merged with Edgewood. In 1998,
Edgewood won the Mutual of America Community Partnership Award for its Kinship Support Network,
which started in 1995. In 2001, Edgewood has three campuses: the original Vicente campus, the Kinship
Support Network on Rhode Island near Pacific Bell Park and the East Palo Alto campus.

San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children, San Francisco Female Hospital, San Francisco
Foundling Home:
The San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children (SFNHC) was founded in 1892 as “a non-sectarian home
for children whose parents, either by neglect, ill-fortune, or unfitness, could not give them proper care and
protection” and the institution continued until at least 1932. Both boys and girls were admitted. SFNHC was
originally incorporated as the San Francisco Female Hospital in 1878 and also incorporated a Foundling
Home that was founded in 1887. SFNHC’s stated purpose in 1900 was to be a home for children under the
age of 12. In 1932 the ages of children allowed was “4 years 3 months to 16 years.” The first location of
SFNHC was at First St. and Bryant. They moved to Second St. and Harrison for a time, and then to 14th St.
and Mission. In 1904, SFNHC moved from its home on Mission St. to a new building near 14th Ave and Lake
St. This new building was practically destroyed in the 1906 earthquake, and the children lived in tents for two
weeks before being sent to an affiliated home in Sacramento. SFNHC rebuilt the building at 14th Ave and
Lake St. By 1911, SFNHC had begun a successful series of annual pencil sales as a fundraiser. Records in this
collection include a letter from Al Jolson. The children were treated to movies, gardening, open air shop
classes, piano lessons, sewing lessons, folk dancing lessons, movies, various circuses, the beach, the Chutes
and the Pan-Pacific International Exposition. In 1915, the SFNHC children attended a Christmas play put on
by Bruce Porter and the SFPOA children at the Haight St. orphanage. The SFNHC children attended public
school (primarily Sutro Elementary). In 1921, the SFNHC children began going to the “country” for the
summer. By 1932 SFNHC had purchased the Love Creek summer camp in Ben Lomond, California. When
possible, parents were expected to pay something toward room and board, but State and County Aid was
sometimes available as well. SFNHC was a member of the San Francisco Community Chest.

Records descriptions:

Record books
• Eighty-nine bound volumes containing handwritten information regarding admission and discharge of
children, financial transactions, donations, and baptisms from 1851 through 1957. Also includes
admission and discharge record books from the San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children: 1887-
1896, 1914-1929. Arranged by size and chronologically. One volume, which contains admissions and
discharges from 1897 through 1957 has been indexed and the index, in Microsoft Excel, is included on a
CD-ROM.

Records of Children
• Documents relating to the guardianship of children living at SFPOA, including correspondence with
biological relatives and adoptive parents, 1887-1921; correspondence with former residents requesting
documentation for proof of age and citizenship; indenture and adoption papers, 1867-1916. Also includes
court documents regarding placement of children and payment for care from State of California and/or
City and County of San Francisco, 1916-1943. Arranged chronologically, except for some correspondence
and all indenture and adoption papers, which are arranged alphabetically by child’s birth name.
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- [Oral history interview with former resident (1924-1932) Mr. Cecil S. Malmin. Compact disc and digital audio tape formats only. No transcription at this time.]

Administration, including Board of Managers, Financial, Legal and Property documentation

- Board of Managers documentation includes thirteen handwritten minutes books, 1851-1918; Annual Reports 1851-1941 (1851 to 1910 are bound in three volumes). Also includes Annual Reports for the San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children, 1900-1932 (incomplete). Arranged chronologically.
- Financial and legal records pertain to payments for goods and services needed to run the Home efficiently and maintain the legal corporation allowing the Home to operate in the State. Arranged chronologically.
- Physical plant records document the building of the property on Haight Street (1853-1919), temporary quarters when SFPOA leased the Maria Kip Orphanage building on Lake Street (1919-1924) and purchase and construction of the campus on Vicente Street (1924-present). Also includes documentation regarding Camp Swain, a property near Alamo (Contra Costa County) used in the summers. Arranged chronologically.

Photographs

- Images of children, staff, buildings, activities and events, late 1800's to 1950's. Includes two scrapbooks (Volumes 88 & 89). Copyright of some (separated) photographs is held by Gabriel Moulin. Arranged chronologically.

Additional information (related primary source collections & locations):
California Historical Society has photographs of some of the early Managers
Society of California Pioneers has photographs of early orphanages
San Francisco Public Library has annual reports of orphanages

Container list and volume guide:

Document box 1:
Administration. Annual reports.
Annual Reports 1851-1870, bound in 1 volume.
Annual Reports 1871-1891, bound in 1 volume.
Annual Reports, 1892-1910, bound in 1 volume.
9th Annual Report, 1854.
9th Annual Report, 1860.
10th Annual Report, 1861.
14th Annual Report, 1865.

Document box 2:
Administration. Annual reports.
60th Annual Report, 1911.
61st Annual Report, 1912.
62nd Annual Report, 1913.
63rd Annual Report, 1914.
64th Annual Report, 1915.
67th Annual Report, 1918.
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70th Annual Report, 1921.
71st Annual Report, 1922.
72nd Annual Report, 1923.
73rd Annual Report, 1924.
74th Annual Report, 1925.
75th Annual Report, 1926.
76th Annual Report, 1927.
77th Annual Report, 1928.
78th Annual Report, 1929.
79th Annual Report, 1930.
80th Annual Report, 1931.
Annual report drafts, 1930-1931.
81st Annual Report, 1932.
82nd Annual Report, 1933.
83rd & 84th Annual Reports, 1934-1935.
87th & 88th Annual Reports, 1937-1938.
89th & 90th Annual Reports, 1939-1940.
Miss Stow's handwritten draft of the 90th Annual Report, 1941.
Miss Stow's typescript draft of the 90th Annual Report, 1941.

Administration. Publications.
Rules and Regulations, 1875.
Rules and Regulations, 1880.
Rules and Regulations, 1905.
Some Reminiscences of the San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum, 1900.
The Story of the San Francisco Protestant Orphanage, 1924.
The Tower of Strength in the City's Building, 1941.
Etchings from The Tower of Strength in the City's Building, 1941.

Document box 3:
11th Annual Report, 1900.
13th Annual Report, 1902.
14th Annual Report, 1903.
15th Annual Report, 1904.
16th Annual Report, 1905.
18th Annual Report, 1907.
19th Annual Report, 1908.
22nd Annual Report, 1911.
23rd Annual Report, 1912.
24th Annual Report, 1913.
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Adoption papers, 1895-1901.
Published admission notice, 1910.
Promotional brochure, 1932.

Legal box 1, folder 1:
Publicity for Pencil Sale, 1919-1922.

Document box 4:
Board of Managers. Minutes.
Constitution, By-Laws & Minutes of the Proceedings of the San Francisco Orphan Asylum Society, 1851-1861 (Liber A)
Revised constitution, revised by-laws & minutes, 1861-1867 (Liber B)
Revised constitution, revised by-laws & minutes, 1867-1875 (Liber C)
Revised constitution, revised by-laws & minutes, 1875-1882 (Liber D)
Revised constitution & minutes, 1882-1889 (Liber E)

Document box 5:
Board of Managers. Minutes.
Minutes, 1889-1894 (Liber F)
Minutes, 1894-1898 (Liber G)
Minutes, 1898-1902 (Liber H)
Minutes, 1902-1905 (Liber I)

Document box 6:
Board of Managers. Minutes.
Minutes, 1905-1907 (Liber J)
Minutes, 1907-1910 (Liber K)
Minutes, 1910-1915 (Liber L)
Minutes, 1915-1918 (Liber M)

Document box 7:
Board of Managers. Minutes.
Minutes, 1919-1930 (typewritten, from a post-bound notebook), 7 folders.

Board of Managers. Business.
List of fees, G.W. Haight, 1897-1898, 2 folders.
Opinion on status of Board of Trustees, 1898.
Board of Managers correspondence, 1919.
Articles of Incorporation, 1920.
Letter from Elizabeth Watt Campbell, 1921.
Resignation letter from Louise de Voe Brickell, 1925.
Resignation letter from Nellie Stow, 1934.
Promotional booklet, 1946.
Promotional brochure, 1948.
Promotional brochure, ca.1957.
Misc. notes by Miss Stow, n.d.
Howard's Boston Houses, from *The Argonaut*, 1937.
*Eugenics Made Plain*, by Havelock Ellis, ca. 1910.
Quote from *California, an Intimate History*, by Gertrude Atherton, 1914.
Total population figures, 1851-1965.

**Legal box 2, folders 12-13:**
**Board of Managers. Business.**
Articles of incorporation, by-laws, amendments, 1919-1942.

**Document box 8:**
**Administration. Business.**
Admissions & discharge reports & receipts, 1887.
Children discharged, 1890-1904, 4 folders.

**Document box 9:**
**Administration. Business.**
Applications for children, 1918-1921, 4 folders.
Letters of inquiry for adoption and indenture, 1927-1945, 5 folders.

**Legal box 1:**
**Administration. Business.**
Matron's & Supervisor's reports, 1918-1922, 3 folders.
Report of the Coordination Committee to the Council of Social and Health Agencies and to the Community Chest, 1925.
Proof of publication: Notice of children admitted to SFPOA, 1919-1934.
Board of Charities and Corrections: Standards for children's institutions and per capita costs by institution, 1919.
Reports and claims for State aid, 1917-1929, 5 folders.
SFPO reports on payments from City & County of San Francisco, 1921-1934.
Court documents, 1919-1934, 5 folders.
County maintenance documentation, 1934-1943.

**Doc boxes 10&11:**
**Records of Children. Correspondence filed alphabetically by child's birth name, 1881-1915:**
Adams, Arthur & Rowland
Anderson, Maude
Armstrong, Nellie May
Ault, George
Bartells, Daisy
Beggo, Edward, James A. & Samuel C.
Berg, Hugo & Vivian Grace
Berkuer, Annie
Biddle, Harry
Bosworth, Harold
Bradley, Deldair
Bradley, Lawrence
Breeze, Elton
Brewer, Bertrand
Brown, Alfred
Caldwell, David
Campbell, William
Casenore, Theresa
Casenore, Victor
Cheffers, Alfred
Christianson, Christine
Church, Nelson
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Clemens, Teresa
Clark, Claude
Cottrell, David & Delina
Crandall, Eugene Gilbert & Warren W.
Detels, Albert H. & Edward H.
Doleson, Gordon N.
Donovan, Edna, Gladys & Myrtle
Draast, Fred H. & John M.
Feltes, Donald
Fiest, Albert, Leroy & Louis H.
Findley, Bertha, Emma, Harry & Minnie
Fisher, Edwin
Fitzgerald, Gerald & Marion
Flodberg, Samuel
Forbes, Florence [Susie?]
Forbes, Sadie & Susie
Frederick, Conrad, Emma & Robert
Fullenback, Eva
Garratt, Arthur, Elsie, Grace & Walter
Gibson, John & Ripley
Goeble, Frederick
Goetz, Walter
Grange, Elizabeth & Walter
Green, Margaret
Haines, Albert B.
Hansen, Herbert
Helberg, Elizabeth
Hopwood, Nettie—see Wood, Nettie
Houge, Elizabeth, Minna, Robert & William
Iverson, Bertha
Iverson, Frank & Minnie
Johnson, Frederick & Sarah
Johnson, Henry & Viola
Johnson, Nellie
Keebler, Johnnie & Oliver
Kelly, Mary Ellen—see Sanders, Elene
Kempf, George & Margareta
Kern, Edward
Kern, Abbie, Geroge & Stella
Larsen, Daisy A.
Larson, Mamie A. [Minnie?] & Susie A.
Lieberberg, Harry & Mary [Mamie]
Loeffler, Carrie
Loeffler, Emma, George, Harry & Lulu—see also Loeffler, Carrie
Loosli, Lizzie
Loring, Ruby
Lucco, Arthur
Lundberg, Violet
Mangels, Fritz & Wilhelm
Marr, Willie L.
Martenson, Sophia
Martin, Dorothy
Martinson, Arne
McDonald, Ernest
McDonald, John A. & Robert Lyle
Moore, Leslie
Mungari, Frank
Musgrove, Alma & Mabel
Nahhas, Philip
Nelson, Alice
Niendick, Lillie
Paul, Maud
Peterson, Annie & Mabel
Peterson, Charles A.
Peterson, Charles
Polio, Kenneth George
Popp, Claus, Frederick, Henry & Lizzie
Potts, Jessie, Louisa & Minnie
Pregg, Harry & Minnie—see Findley
Presley, Bruce, Lee & Nellie
Purcher, Nora
Ruthven, Louise
Sanders, Elene
Scarborough, Clarance, Edith & Robert
Schmidt, Adela, Gideon & Lionel
Shackleton, George, John, Jonathan & William
Smith, Joseph, Percy & Walter
Stanton, James
Stamer, Harry
Steck, August
Stephens, Annie
Stevens, Lloyd, Rosie & Sadie
Stillman, Margaret & Raymond
Wightman, Alice Eliza
Willett, Angelina & Della
Williston, Cecil & Florence
Wilmot, Charles & Rose
Wood, Nettie
Zwaal, Charles J.
Legal box 3:

**Records of Children. Indenture & Adoption files: alphabetically by child’s birth name, 1867-1916.**

**Indenture:**
- Batzer, William. 1885.
- Batzer, Louisa A. 1886.
- Berg, Vivian Grace. 1907.
- Biddle, Harry. 1899.
- Blanchard, Annie. 1912.
- Bosch, Florence. 1912.
- Botting, Evan. 1884.
- Botting, Gomer. 1885.
- Brockman, Lillie. 1905.
- Brown, Frank. 1872.
- Bruns, Matilda. 1888.
- Cadogan, Harry E. 1901.
- Casenore, Leonard. 1899.
- Derrick, Anna. 1871.
- Droast, John M. 1892.
- Ewing, Harry. 1871.
- Fisher, Edwin. 1906.
- Fitzgerald, Marion. 1900.
- Flodberg, Samuel. 1903.
- Fredericks, Emma. 1892.
- Goeble, Frederick. 1893.
- Gray, Nathan Willis. 1884.
- Gross, William C. 1907.
- Gross, Fred W. 1908.
- Haines, Albert. 1893.
- Haley, Elizabeth. 1870.
- Harold, George. 1900.
- Hill, Annie Marie. 1916.
- Iverson, Dora. 1899.
- Iverson, Bertha. 1905.
- Iverson, Minnie. 1904.
- Johnson, Henry. 1901.
- Johnson, Viola. 1899.
- Joslin, Edna. 1909.
- Keebler, Carrie. 1891.
- Kelly, Mary Ellen—see Saunders, Elene.
- Kelly, Agnes. 1906.
- Koenicke, Henry. 1905, 1908.
- Langdon, Josephine. 1868.
- Larsen, Daisy A. 1891.
- Loeffler, Lulu. 1896.
- Loring, Robert. 1904.
- Lowe, Thomas. 1868.
- Martinson, Arnie. 1899.
- Martinson, Sophia. 1893.
- McLaughlin, James. 1885.
- Miller, Anna. 1870.
- Mitchel, Elisabeth. 1878.
- Moeller, Claudine. 1908.
- Mueller, Camilla. 1887.
- Nelson, Alice. 1902.
- Niendick, Clemens. 1913.
- Niendick, Harry. 1912.
- Niendick, Lillian. 1907.
- Nolan, Dora. 1878.
- Ottl, Frank. 1887.
- Ott, Frank. 1870.
- Paul, Maud. 1896.
- Peterson, Mary Winifred. 1903.
- Peterson, Margaret. 1905.
- Peterson, Charles. 1909.
- Peterson, John. 1909.
- Potts, Louisa. 1905.
- Purcher, Nora. 1904.
- Rankin, William L. 1900.
- Rick, Robert. 1884.
- Roy, Augustine. 1872.
- Rumsay, Edith. 1884.
- Ruthven, Louisa. 1907.
- Saunders, Elene. 1896.
- Schenk, Lillian. 1903.
- Schenk, Clara. 1905.
- Schmidt, Maria. 1871, 1872.
- Schwilks, William. 1872, 1872.
- Semler, Thomas. 1902.
- Shoebridge, Emma. 1900.
- Shular, Mary. 1888.
- Shurr, Elizabeth. 1867.
- Smith, Edward. 1888.
- Smith, William. 1872.
- Stuck, August. 1892.
- Ubhaus, Joseph. 1899.
- Wilson, Ida. 1909.
- Winters, Mary. 1902.
- Woods, Nettie. 1897.
- Zwaal, Annie E. 1907.

**Adoption:**
- Adriance, Frank. 1871.
- Adriance, Willie. 1872.
- Aukele, Caroline. 1884.
- Austin, Minnie Constine. 1877.
- Crittenden, Maud. 1887.
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Crocker, Thomas. 1895.
Derrick, Maggie. 1870.
Findlay, Bertha. 1894.
Feeley, Mary. 1871.
Hunter, Laura A. 1872.
Liebenberg, Henry. 1894.
Liebenberg, Mary. 1894.
Manly, Laura. 1868.

Metke, Dora. 1884.
Morhan, Mary. 1871.
Schure, John. 1872.
Stahl, Christian. 1871.
Stevenson, Emma. 1885.
Stevenson, Frank O. 1885.
Swan, Henry G. 1871.
Zimmerman, Matilda. 1906.

Document box 12:
Administration. Business.
General correspondence, 1851-1879.
General correspondence, 1880-1899.
General correspondence, 1900-1909.
General correspondence, 1910-1916.
General correspondence, 1917.
General correspondence, 1918 (alphabetical by correspondent), 7 folders.

Document box 13:
Administration. Business.
General correspondence, 1919, 9 folders.
General correspondence, 1920, 4 folders.

Document box 14:
Administration. Business.
General correspondence, 1921, 4 folders.
General correspondence, 1922-1931, 10 folders.

Document box 15:
Administration. Business.
General correspondence, 1932-1935, 4 folders.
Letter from Eva Daniels, 1938.
Letters from former residents, 1950-1951.
Administration. Business.
Form for report for Children's Institutions, 1916-1927.
Menu planning information from the State Board of Charities and Corrections, 1917.
Eligibility for lamp purchase agreement from State Purchasing Dept., 1918.
Statement on corporal punishment from State Board of Charities and Corrections, 1918.
"Milk for Children" from State Board of Health, 1918.
Some suggestions re: obtaining County aid, 1919.
Instructions and table showing rates for months and days (re: State aid), 1919.
Monthly Census Bulletin from the State Board of Charities and Corrections, 1919.
Rules relating to State aid from State Board of Examiners, ca. 1919.
Visit reports from State Board of Control, 1920-1922.
New rulings from the State Dept. of Finance, Bureau of Children's Aid, 1922.
Children's Council, 1930-1934.
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Document box 16:

**Administration. Finances.**

- Contributions from Bowen Bros. Grocers, ca. 1860.
- Legacies, gifts & investments, 1879-1915, 4 folders.
- Investments, 1931-1944, 3 folders.
- Committee on the Modification of the Federal Legacy Tax, ca. 1900.
- Metropolis Trust & Savings Bank, 1908.
- List of legacies left to SFPOA, 1852-1903.
- Notes on investments and legacies, 1870-1898.
- Cancelled cheques drawn on investments, 1877-1896.
- Relating to Christmas donations, 1881.
- In regard to the purchase of bonds, 1900-1903.
- Summary of Building Fund account, 1918.
- Estates of Glazier, Leiding, Riordan, Scott, Stanford, Van Reed, Willey.
- Cash donations for new orphanage, gifts for new orphanage, 1924.
- Legacies received, 1937-1959.
- Donations as given to the Board of Managers, 1939-1943.
- Newspaper clippings regarding legacies.

**Legal box 2, folders 1-11:**

**Administration. Finances.**

- Probate business, 1859-1878.
- Search of records of City & County of San Francisco showing bequests, 1885-1894.
- Investments for the Building Fund, 1898-1917.
- Lease Agreement with State Normal School, 1906.
- Notes re: Swain estate, 1908.
- Copy of Court Proceedings in the Matter of the Sale to the State of California of two 50 vara lots in Waller and Hermann Streets, 1911.
- List of securities of the SFPOA Society [Building Fund], 1918.
- Building Fund deposit and credit slips, 1924-1929.
- Breon Estate, 1930.
- Investment securities of the Oroville-Wyandotte Irrigation District, 1932.

**Legal Box 4:**

**Administration. Finances.**

- Monthly population reports, 1919-1933, 3 folders.
- Population & payroll, 1934-1944, 2 folders.
- Treasurer’s reports, 1918-1949, 24 folders.
- Auditor’s reports, 1917-1948, 4 folders.

**Document box 17:**

**Administration. Finances.**

- Requisitions, 1918-1926, 2 folders.
- Cancelled cheques for taxes, 1877-1896.
- Tax bills, 1898-1946, 5 folders.
- Insurance, 1922-1930, 3 folders.
Document box 18:
**Administration. Finances.**
Insurance, 1931-1939, 4 folders.
Balance sheets, 1947-1952, 6 folders.

Doc Box 19:
**Administration. Finances.**
Balance sheets, 1953-1958, 5 folders.
Bank statements, 1949-1958, 5 folders.

Legal box 2, folder 32:
**Administration. Finances.**
Insurance, 1949-1951.

Document box 20:
**Administration. Property & maintenance. Haight Street building.**
Bills for digging well, 1859-1860.
Facilities improvements, 1880-1896.
Cancelled cheques for repairs, 1882-1896.
Grading & paving Laguna Street (corr. w/ attorney Haight), 1904.
Sewer contract, 1904.
Lease agreement with State Normal School, 1905.
Resolution re: lease to State Normal School, 1906.
Corr. re: sale of Jones Street lot, 1907-1908.
Notes re: Boys' Savings Account, 1911-1914.
Architectural report on orphanage building, 1913.
"Mayor" and "Councilmen" position descriptions, ca. 1918.

Legal box 2, folders 13-15:
**Administration. Property & maintenance. Haight Street building.**
Specifications for buttresses, ca. 1860.
Bills & vouchers for alterations and additions to SFPOA building (Cleveland & Swain), 1882-1883.
Contract and plans for boiler, 1913.

Document box 20, continued:
**Administration. Property & maintenance. Vicente campus.**
Trocadero Valley property offer, 1922.
Crocker Amazon property offer, 1922.
Assessed and estimated values of lots considered for purchase, ca. 1922.
Sunset district (San Francisco) maps and notes, ca. 1922.
Corr. re: property near Laguna Honda tunnel station, 1922.
Detailed cost of the SFPOA, 1922-1926.
Building Zone Ordinance (San Francisco), ca. 1922.
Parkside Realty Co., 1922-1923.
Bliss & Faville, 1923-1930.
Spring Valley Water Co., 1923-1924.
Pacific Gas & Electric, 1924.
West Coast Fire Extinguisher Co., 1924.
DN&E Walter & Co., 1924.
General Sales Corp., 1924-1926.
C.A. Ericsson estimate for tree planting, ca. 1924.
Criticisms and responses re: building plans, ca. 1924.
William McCann notes re: furnishings, 1924-1925.
A. Quandt & Sons, 1924-1930.
American Laundry Machinery Co., 1924-1925.

Document box 21:
Administration. Property & maintenance. Vicente campus.
Standard Fence Co., 1924-1925.
Construction estimates, bills and corr., 1924-1928.
List of the contents of the box placed in the tablet stone... [time capsule], 1924.
Fay Improvement Co., 1925.
Building Fund statements of account, 1925.
Receipts for goods & services, 1923-1938, 6 folders.
Cyril Williams, Jr., 1924.
City & County of San Francisco, 1924.
Thomas Day Co., 1924.
Cement work and invoices, 1925.
Gladding, McBean & Co., 1924.
Job descriptions: Matron, Superintendent, Clerk, 1928.
American Trust Roos Fund (used for campus improvement), 1929-1937.
Significance of cottage names, 1930.

Legal box 2, folders 17-31:
Administration. Property & maintenance. Vicente campus.
Agreement to purchase Parkside property, 1922.
Bitumen contract, 1922.
General specifications of work to be done in the erection and completion of eight buildings (Bliss & Faville, architects), 1923.
Nathan-Dohrmann Co., 1924.
Thomas Day Co., 1924.
Specifications for painting work, 1924.
Specifications for well, 1924.
Lindgren & Swinerton contracts, 1924.
Payroll for construction labor, 1924.
Lindgren & Swinerton receipts & invoices, 1924, 5 folders.
MacRorie-McLaren Co., 1924-1925.

Document box 22:
Notes re: purchase of property at Rancho El Rio [Camp Swain], 1914-1921.
Directions for reaching Camp Swain, n.d..
Swimming pool, 1936-1939.
The story of the swimming pool, 1936.
Improvements, 1937-1942.
Records re: Camp Swain, including hiring staff, travel, food, roads, health; 1929-1941, 6 folders.
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Legal box 2, folder 16:
Contract for construction of Camp Swain (Bliss & Faville), 1913.

Document box 23:
Records re: Camp Swain, including hiring staff, travel, food, roads, health; 1942-1946, 5 folders.
Administration. Centennial (1951).
City-County Record (reprint), 1951.
For Herb Caen, 1950.
A compilation of earlier reports of history... 1950.
Press release and invitation to Edgewood Christmas play, 1950.
Notes and timeline from historical records, 1851-1951.
Centennial press correspondence and Home Tour information, 1950-1951.
Edgewood Centennial Program scripts (KCBS), 1951.
Centennial guests and gifts, 1951.
Press invitation, 1951.
Centennial program draft and mock-up, 1951.
Master copies [mimeograph] of background information, 1951.
Salute to Edgewood script (KNBC), 1951.
Press release: Mrs. Bartlett's remarks to Council of Executives of Child Care Institutions, ca. 1951.
Press release: Auxiliary increase, 1951.
Centennial invitation, 1951.
Fortnight, January 22, 1951.

Document box 24:
Photographs.
Pre-1900 adults (parents?): 7 cartes de visite, incl. J. H. Sperling, Caroline Frey, Reinhold Frey, Eddie Bruce's mother.
Undated early 1900's bound volume: undated portraits of young ladies, signed Marjorie, Elizabeth Dacher, Harriet Walsh, Betty Barioll, Mad Benedict, Kathryn, Barbara, Mary, Adeline E. Howard, Eleanor P. Sell, Miriam Beaver, Amy Long, Amy Requa.
Pre-1924 children: Includes cabinet cards (group of six unidentified children, baby portrait) and photographs (group of children and car in front of Haight St building, classroom of young children, boys in military uniforms ca. Spanish American War, boys in Sloyd class, girls in sewing class, girls and boys exercising). Includes some copy prints.
1906 panorama of children in Petaluma after the Great San Francisco Earthquake.
1927 Camp Swain: pages and photographs separated, but identified persons incl. Mr. C.W. Mark.
1930-1939 children: incl. 1937 portrait of Cottage 3 (all children and adults identified).
1943 Camp Swain: Photo of dedication stone, buildings and identified persons: Mrs. Howard Naffziger, Mr. Kuser, Mrs. Leroy Briggs, Mrs. Clarence Oddie, Mrs. Rulofson.
1940-1949 children: identified persons include: Mrs. Roth, Mr. Runyan, Mrs. Towne, Bill Kuser, Alex Sherriff, Melvin Philbrick. Scenes are of Camp Swain, Searsville Lake and SFPOA/Edgewood. VERY POOR CONDITION.


Moulin: images of Edgewood campus taken by Gabriel Moulin, 1930's.

Haight Street building(s): ca. 1854-1900. Images of old orphanage building in Haight between Laguna and Buchanan. Etching of building as it was in 1854, photos & drawing of building after addition of Sansome wing in 1863.


Document box 25:

Photographs.
San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children: two images. Newspaper clipping mounted on cardboard—photo of group of children. Photograph mounted—image of building at 14th Ave and Lake St., ca. 1910?

Desk shots: staged images of the SFPOA registers, fountain pen and roll-top desk.

Staff, Board members and volunteers (identified): Mrs. Cunningham (?), Mrs. Dean Witter, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Atholl McBean, Melvin Philbrick, Miss Nellie Stow, Mrs. Waldo Coleman, Mrs. Henry Haight.

Staff, Board members and volunteers (unidentified): cabinet cards and photographs of adults.

Auxiliary 1948- : includes photos of Mrs. Alan McLcncgan, Mrs. John Bosche, Mrs. Edmund MacDonald, Mrs. Lawrence Bowes, Mrs. Philip Boone, Mrs. Granger F. Kenly, Mrs. Thayer Hopkins.

[Note: Someone created an historical display photographs of Edgewood events. Images were mounted on several posters, and images were identified with a number written on a bright orange sticker. The key to these images is not available. The posters have been disassembled, but the photos remain grouped and identified as much as possible. Some of these photos may not be Edgewood-related.]

Ca. 1947-1949 poster: includes images of a cowgirl actress visiting with groups of Edgewood girls, a cowboy actor visiting with Edgewood children, Camp Meeker and a roller skating party panorama.

Christmas 1 poster, no date: images of Marine Corps Christmas parties, Optimist basketball team, talent shows.


Christmas 3 poster, ca 1946-1948: Marine Corps parties.

Ca. 1953 poster (originally poster #6): includes images of Halloween, drawing, science classes, birthday party, boys visit to HMNZS Royalist, opening the Blum's store at the Fairmont Hotel with Mrs. Fred Levy, and in kitchen with cook.

See also: Volumes 88 & 89:

Photographs.
Ca. 1951: two albums. Volume 88 shows boys' outing(s) to the beach. Volume 89 shows recreation at Edgewood and around SF. VERY POOR CONDITION—photos not correctly developed.

Volumes box A:
Volumes 1, 3-9, 12.

Volumes box B:
Volumes 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 25.

Volumes box C:
Volumes 29, 30, 32, 36, 39, 40, 42.

Volumes box D:
Volumes 43, 45, 47-49, 54.
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Volumes box E:
Volumes 56, 58, 60-63.

Volumes box F:
Volumes 64, 66, 67, 71, 78, 79, 87.

Volumes box G:

Volumes box H:
Volumes 55, 68-70, 72, 74, 75, 85.

Volumes box I:
Volumes 10, 18, 31, 34.

Volumes box J:
Volumes 37, 38, 41, 44, 50.

Volumes box K:
Volumes 57, 59, 65, 73, 76.

Volumes box L:
Volumes 77, 80, 81.

Volumes box M:
Volumes 82-84, 86.

Volumes box N:
Volumes 24, 28, 88, 89, oversize flat items.

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