

Fairfield County Agricultural Society Records

COLLECTION, MS B90

DATE

1840 – 1851

CONTRIBUTOR

Fairfield Museum

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY ELEMENT

The Fairfield County Agricultural Society was founded in August 1840 at a meeting in the County Court House in Fairfield. It was part of a state-wide effort to increase and improve agriculture under the auspices of the General Assembly. An annual fair, held in various towns, gave county farmers a chance to exhibit their produce and livestock, win premiums, and learn the latest techniques. Membership was open to any resident of Fairfield County, and only members could enter the annual competition. In 1867 the Society purchased land in Norwalk for a permanent fairground. In 1875 the Society was reorganized under a charter from the Legislature as a joint stock company. The final disposition of the organization is unknown.

SCOPE & CONTENT

The collection is organized into two series representing administration of the society and annual fairs/exhibitions, respectively. Administrative records consist of several copies of the Society's constitution, with signatures of the members and their dues payment, 1840-1841; member and subscription lists, 1843; minutes of meetings and a series of resolutions, 1843-1844; correspondence between various members and officers, including Phineas T. Barnum, 1840-1850; treasurers' records, 1843-1849; and bills and receipts, 1843-1849, including bills for labor during annual fairs and for printing premiums, etc.

Annual fair records consist of premium lists, n.d.; committee reports and premium lists, 1843-1846, 1850; pay vouchers for premiums due, 1843; statements and certificates attesting to competition entries, 1841, 1849, 1851; and bills, receipts and other records from the 1844 cattle show.

Collection Contents

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Annual Fair Records, 1841-1851

Folder 10: Statements and certificates of authenticity, 1851

Folder 9: Certificates of authenticity, 1841, 1849

Folder 8: Payment vouchers, 1843

Folder 7: Committee reports, 1850

Folder 7: Committee reports, 1850

Folder 6: Committee reports, 1846

Folder 5: Committee reports, 1845

Folder 4: Premium lists, 1844

Folder 3: Committee reports, 1844

Folder 2: Committee reports and premium lists, 1843

Folder 1: Premium lists, 1846-1848

Administrative Records, 1840-1850

Folder 10: Bills and receipts, 1843-1846

Folder 9: Treasurers' records, 1843-1846



Folder 8: Correspondence, 1844-1850

Folder 7: Correspondence, 1843

Folder 6: Correspondence, 1842

Folder 5: Correspondence, 1841

Folder 4: Correspondence, 1840

Folder 3: Minutes, 1843-1844

Folder 2: Membership and subscription lists, 1843

Folder 1: Constitution, 1840

Folder 11: Bills and receipts, 1847-1849