

Catalogue of records relating to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London



A LITTLE MAID AT ST. AGNES' HOME, CROYDON.

Church of England Waifs and Strays Society, London.

Catalogue of records relating to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London

St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London, was transferred to The Children's Society in 1897. It closed in 1935 and some residents were relocated to St Agnes' Home, Pevensey Bay, Sussex.

More information about the home can be found on the Hidden Lives Revealed website: <http://www.hiddenlives.org.uk/homes/CROYD02.html>

This catalogue lists records held at The Children's Society Records and Archives Centre that relate to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London.

There are two parts to the catalogue:

- **TCS/F/07** (pages 3-4) – Records relating to the home that were created and used by the Homes Department as part of its “Green files” series.
 - **TCS/F/08/122** (page 5) – Records relating to the home that were created and used by The Children's Society's head office.
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The following records held by The Children's Society Records and Archives Centre also relate to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London, but are not listed in this catalogue:

- Case papers for children who stayed at the home can be found in the children's case files (TCS/CF).
 - Records relating to St Agnes' Home, Pevensey Bay, Sussex, can be found in TCS/F/02/081 and TCS/F/07/72.
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A note on the name of The Children's Society:

The Children's Society has undergone a number of name changes during its lifetime. From its founding in 1881 until 1883, it was known as *The Church of England Central Home for Waifs and Strays*; from 1883 until 1893, it was known as *The Church of England Central Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays*; and from 1893 until 1946, it was known as *The Church of England Incorporated Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays*. Throughout this time, from 1881 until 1946, The Children's Society was commonly called *The Waifs and Strays Society*.

In 1946, it gained the name which is still its legal title, *The Church of England Children's Society*, even though it was renamed *The Children's Society* in 1982.

In order to avoid confusion in this catalogue when referring to The Children's Society and its previous incarnations, *The Children's Society* has been used for all records that date after 1946, and *The Society* has been used for all records that date before 1946.

How to access the records listed in this catalogue

Open records

It is possible to view, in person, any of the records in this catalogue that have their access status listed as open.

These records will be made available, by appointment only, at our Records and Archives Centre in London.

Please note: Because we have a limited number of staff, it will not be possible to view records without an appointment. It is preferred that requests reflect bona fide interests or projects.

Appointments can be made by contacting the Records and Archives Centre and outlining the research you wish to undertake. You can contact us using any of the methods below:

- **Email:** archives@childrenssociety.org.uk
 - **Telephone:** +44 (0)20 7232 2966
 - **Post:** Records and Archives Centre, The Children's Society, Edward Rudolf House, Margery Street, London, WC1X 0JL.
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Closed records

Some of the records in this catalogue may have their access status listed as closed. These records have been closed because they contain personal information relating to living individuals. All closed records have been given a closure date to show when they will be transferred to open access.

In certain circumstances, it may be possible to view closed records before the closure date has passed. Decisions to grant access to closed records will depend on the records themselves and the nature of the research to be undertaken, and so will be made by the archivist on a case-by-case basis. The Children's Society reserves the right not to make certain records available.

Please contact the archivist at the Records and Archives Centre for further information:

- **Email:** archives@childrenssociety.org.uk
- **Telephone:** +44 (0)20 7232 2966
- **Post:** Records and Archives Centre, The Children's Society, Edward Rudolf House, Margery Street, London, WC1X 0JL.

TCS/F/07:
Head office home management files: "Green files"

The "Green files" are a series of files compiled by the Homes Department relating to individual children's homes. Listed below are the files from this series that relate to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London.

TCS/F/07/41:
Files of correspondence and documents relating to the running of St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London

1898-1936

File 1 contains the following:

- Correspondence between the home, Berney and Son at Croydon, Marshall and Liddle at Croydon, solicitors, and Edward Herbert at Croydon, regarding the purchase of a former church institute on Wellesley Road, Croydon, as a new site for the home, 1899.
- Inspectors' reports on the home, with related correspondence between the home, The Society, Croydon Children's Union and contractors about repairs required in the home, 1911-1912, 1914-1917, 1919, 1921-1922.
- Correspondence, dated 1911-1914, between the home, The Society and the Local Government Board, regarding the certification of the home under the Poor Law (Certified Schools) Act 1862.
- Correspondence between The Society and Croydon Children's Union regarding the dedication of the chapel and hostel at the home, 1912-1913, with an order of service for the ceremony, 1913.
- Letters from the home to The Society, enclosing a list of the names and addresses of members of the home committee, 1912-1916, 1918-1919, 1921, 1926.
- Letter from HH Croydon at Collingham Place, London, to Prebendary Rudolf regarding the use of a small crucifix in the chapel at the home, 1 January 1913.
- List of resolutions passed at a meeting of the Industries Committee on 7 January 1913 regarding needlework carried out at the home.
- Correspondence between The Society and Buckingham Palace regarding a visit to the home by the Queen Consort, 1913-1914.
- Correspondence between The Society and Revd Vernon Jones at St Bede's Mission for the Deaf and Dumb, granting Revd Vernon Jones permission to use the chapel in the home to provide church services for deaf people in Croydon, 1914.
- Letter from Buckingham Palace regarding the sending of Princess Mary's birthday cake to the home, 29 April 1914.
- Correspondence between the home and The Society regarding the placing of a member of the home committee on The Society's Cripples' Homes Committee, 1915.
- Correspondence between the home and The Society regarding the hostel and the care of people over the age of 18 years, 1915.
- Correspondence between the home and The Society regarding bonuses given to the children in the home as a reward for their work, 1915-1926
- Correspondence between the home and The Society regarding the home's expenditure, 1916.
- Correspondence between The Society and the Public Health Department of the County Borough of Croydon regarding the conveyance of children at the home to the local school, 1922.
- Correspondence between the home, The Society, Lady Beatrix Wilkinson and EG Speyer, regarding the teaching of embroidery at the home, 1922-1923.

The Children's Society Records and Archives Centre
TCS/F/07 – Head office home management files (Green files) relating to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London

- Certificate from the Abney Park Cemetery Company Ltd giving The Society the use of plot 33398 in Mill Hill Cemetery, London, with a covering letter from The Society to the home, 1929.

- Press cutting from 'Church Times' 24 Jan 1936, containing an obituary for Revd Herbert Deedes Barrett, founder of St Christopher's Home For Boys, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

File 2 contains the following:

- Correspondence, dated 1898-1899, between The Society, the home, Willelm Ebor at Bishopthorpe, York, Lake and Lake at Lincoln's Inn, London, Harry W Lee at Westminster, London, GS Herbert and Sons at Finch Lane, London, stock and share brokers, C Stanley Peach at Victoria Street, London, and Mashall and Liddle at Croydon, solicitors, regarding the purchase and renovation of a former church institute on Wellesley Road, Croydon, as a new site for the home, using a grant bequeathed to The Society by Alfred Marriott of Mirfield, Yorkshire. Includes a press cutting from the 'Standard' 23 April 1898, stating the bequests given in the will of Alfred Marriott.

- Correspondence, dated 1901-1902, between The Society, the home, GS Herbert and Sons at Finch Lane, London, stock and share brokers, and Lee and Pembertons at Lincoln's Inn Fields, regarding the appointment of a new trustee to hold the mortgage on the home.

- Correspondence between the home and The Society regarding the discontinuation of the hosiery industry at the home, 1911.

- Letter from Edward J May at Bloomsbury Square, architect, to The Society, regarding work required on the home, 13 Dec 1911.

- Correspondence, dated 1911-1912, between The Society, the home, the trustees, the Lord Bishop of Croydon, Mashall and Liddle at Croydon, solicitors, and Lee and Pembertons at Lincoln's Inn Fields, relating to the transfer of the mortgage on the home from external trustees to members of The Society.

Extent: 2 files

Access status: Open

The Children's Society Records and Archives Centre
TCS/F/08/122 – Head office administration records relating to St Agnes' Hostel For Girls,
Croydon, London

TCS/F/08/122:
**Head office administration records for St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon,
London**

These are records relating to the administration of St Agnes' Hostel For Girls,
Croydon, London. The records were created and used by The Children's Society's
head office, rather than by the children's home itself.

TCS/F/08/122/01:
**Inspectors' reports on St Agnes' Hostel For Girls, Croydon, London, with
related correspondence**

1929-1934

Inspectors' reports on the home, with related correspondence between the home,
The Society, the inspectors, and contractors, about repairs required in the home.

Extent: 1 file

Access status: Open