

City of Boston Archives and Records Management Division

# **Guide to the Boston Housing Authority records**

# **Tenant Services subject files**

Finding aid prepared by Kristen Swett This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

**Repository:** City of Boston Archives and Records Management Division

Title: Tenant Services subject files

**Collection No.:** 9000.014 **Dates:** 1973-1982

**Quantity:** 4.25 Cubic feet (4 record cartons and 1 document case)

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### Historical note

The Boston Housing Authority (BHA) was established by order of the Boston City Council on October 1, 1935, pursuant to St. 1935, c. 449, s. 5 which empowered cities and towns of Massachusetts to establish housing authorities. Such a body is responsible for providing decent, safe and sanitary housing for families unable to afford housing without public subsidies and for clearing substandard, decadent or blighted open areas under the provisions of MGLA c. 121B. To carry out these responsibilities BHA develops and manages housing projects and leases housing when necessary. It also performed the functions of an urban redevelopment authority until such a body was established separately pursuant to St. 1957, c. 150.

The management and governance of the BHA has deviated from that of other housing authorities since 1975, when BHA was sued in Boston City Housing Court by a group of BHA tenants, represented by Greater Boston

Legal Services, over poor conditions in housing projects under the authority's control. As a result of the ruling in favor of the tenants, a court-appointed master prepared a report listing recommendations that provided the basis for a consent decree signed in 1977 by BHA, Greater Boston Legal Services and the Boston Public Housing Tenants Policy Council. The decree detailed a series of improvements that BHA was to make over the course of three years. The master, responsible for monitoring BHA's compliance with the consent decree, gave approval for all major decisions made by the BHA board and administrator. In 1979, the judge ruled that BHA had failed satisfactorily to fulfill the terms of the consent decree and BHA was placed in receivership, with its board of commissioners and administrator replaced by a court-appointed receiver. Since 1990, when the receivership ended, BHA has been directed by an administrator whose activities are reviewed by a nine-member monitoring committee appointed by the mayor of Boston.

Source: Massachusetts State Archives catalog record

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# Scope and Contents note

This series includes the administrative subject files of the Tenant Services Office of the Boston Housing Authority from 1973-1982. Records include correspondence, memorandum, reports, pamphlets etc. relating to tenant services. The files are arranged alphabetically and original folder titles have been retained. The files begin with the letter "C". It is unclear what may have happened to any files for "A-B" subjects. Some files do not contain any records. The empty file folders have been left in place and marked "empty folder".

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## Administrative Information

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

The Boston Housing Authority records were transferred from the Massachusetts State Archives to the City of Boston Archives on January 26, 2010.

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#### Series I: Subject files

Box	Folder	
1	1	Community Service
1	2	Compliance Agreement, 1977
1	3	Conditions of Occupancy (in Spanish)
1	4	Council of Elders
1	5	Congregate Housing Services Application
1	6	Court Master
1	7	Court Reports
1	8	Cultural Affairs
1	9	Data Processing Requests
1	10	Day Care Programs, General
1	11	Day Care Regulations
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1	12	DCA (Department of Community Affairs) Congrel
1	13	DCA (Department of Community Affairs) - General DCA - Programs & Plans
1	13	Dept. of Agriculture - Food Programs
1	15	Department Reports to Administration
1	16	Department Reports: Special
1	17	Dept. of Correction Advocacy Program
1	18	Dept. of Labor - Employment Program [empty folder]
1	19	District Directors Training
1	20	D.P.W. Donated Funds
1	20	East Boston Social Service Center
1	22	E.D.C.O.
1	23	Elderly Alcoholic Program: 1978
1	24	Elderly Development Information
1	25	Elderly in Crisis Survey - 1976
1	26	Elderly Services
1	27	Elderly Services Unit
1	28	Energy Conservation
1	29	Equal Housing Opportunity
1	30	Evaluation
2	1	Eviction
2	2	Eviction Procedures
2	3	Executive Intern Program
2	4	Executive Office of Economic Affairs
2	5	
2	6	Extermination Program, 1980 Fair Housing Task Force
2	7	Family Connection
2	8	Federated Dorchester Houses
2	9	Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health
2	10	
2	10	Funding Sources  Constal Communications to Mat
		General Communications to Mgt.
2	12	General Correspondence [empty folder]
2	13	General Employee Information
2	14	Globe Santa
2	15	Group Membership Card
2	16	Halfway House Parolees
2	17	Handicapped Legislation
2	18	Handicapped Services
2	19	"Handicapped Tenant Survey"
2	20	Handicapped Units
2	21	Handicapped and Elderly Definition:Fed. and State
2	22	Health & Hospitals
2	23	Hearing Panel [empty folder]
2	24	Hearing Panel Advisory Committee
2	25	Home Care Services

2	26	HUD Linda Broderick
2	27	HUD - Directives - Conglomerate Housing & Prov. of Serv.
2	28	HUD Management Review, 1976
2	29	HUD Survey Forms, 1978-1979
2	30	HUD & HEW Service Survey, 1977
3	1	HUD Social Service Survey, 1980
3	2	HUD Security & Social Services Survey, 1975-1976
3	3	Jewish Family & Childr. Serv. Project S.H.A.R.E., 1978-1979
3	4	Jobs for Youth
3	5	LEAA
3	6	Lease & Grievance, 1975-1979
3	7	Leased Housing
3	8	Library [empty folder]
3	9	Lead Paint
3	10	Leases
3	11	Lucille Langdon [empty folder]
3	12	Management - Field
3	13	Managerial Structure Staff
3	14	MAP (Management Assistance Planning)
3	15	Mass. Human Services Coalition
3	16	Mayor's Office - General
3	17	Mayor's Commission on Elderly Affairs
3	18	M.B.T.A.
3	19	Memos to T.S. Staff
3	20	Minority Preference Move-In Assessment
3	21	Modernization
3	22	Modernization & Planning
3	23	NAHRO
3	24	BHA Newsletter
3	25	N.Y.C.
3	26	Director of Occupancy - T. Selection
3	27	Office for Children
3	28	O.K.M. Associates
3	29	Parks & Recreation [empty folder]
3	30	Peoples Theatre
3	31	Planning & Development
3	32	Planning & Development 667
3	33	Policy & Practices
3	34	Privacy Regulations [empty folder]
3	35	Private Management Evaluations and Contracts
3	36	Protective Services
4	1	504 & 503 Regulations
4	2	Relocation Policies & Procedures
4	3	Rent Regulations & Computations

4	4	Resident Services Conference
4	5	Residual Policy
4	6	Security Programs
4	7	Shared Living Project (Elderly)
4	8	Simmons College
4	9	SOMA
4	10	S.S.I. Information & Budgets
4	11	S.S.I. Moving Instructions Spring '77
4	12	"Squatters"
4	13	Staff Meetings
4	14	Tenant Information Program
4	15	T.S. & Occupancy Review, 1981 January
4	16	Tenancy Policy Council
4	17	Tenant Selection Assignment and Transfer Plan
4	18	Tenant Selection, 1980
4	19	Tenant Selection Committee, 1980
4	20	Tenant Service Forms and Staffing
4	21	Title III Proposal
4	22	Title VII - Elderly Nutrition
4	23	Title XX Forms & Reg.
4	24	Title XX - Other
4	25	Training Program - General
4	26	Transfer Procedures
4	27	U.S.E.S.
4	28	Union
4	29	United Cerebral Palsy
4	30	U.S.C. United Community Planning Corp.
4	31	U Mass - Boston College 3
4	32	Visiting Nurse Association of Boston
5	1	Volunteer Coordination
5	2	Volunteer Services
5	3	Welfare - BHA Letters and Agreements
5	4	Welfare Budgets
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5	6	Women's Hospital
5	7	World War III
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