

Worcester Tennis Club

**75th Anniversary
1907-1982**

By Anne Morse Lyell





Worcester Tennis Club, late 1920s

CREDITS

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PHOTOGRAPHS:

Worcester Telegram & Gazette, Nos. 1, 5, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46

Worcester Historical Museum, Nos. 4, 7, 8, 12, 13

Frances Jennings, Nos. 3, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18

Anne Morse Lyell, Nos. 2, 9, 27, 40

Eleanor Buck Davis, No. 39

Don Budge, No. 34

Staten Island Historical Society, No. 6

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Agricultural grounds, late 1800s, part of which (right foreground) was later purchased for Worcester Tennis Club; looking west—Newton Hill, left; Bancroft Tower, right.

WTC PRESIDENTS

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| DR. WALTER L. JENNINGS | 1907-1916 |
| DR. WALTER C. SEELYE | 1917-1918 |
| ROCKWOOD H. BULLOCK | 1919-1921 |
| EDWARD E. SAUNIER | 1922-1926 |
| EVELETH V. HILL | 1927-1928 |
| LOUE E. STOCKWELL | 1929 |
| ALBERT PALMER | 1930-1936 |
| GUY F. WOODWARD | 1937-1938 |
| ROBERT S. BOWDITCH | 1939-1941 |
| EDWIN HIGGINBOTTOM | 1942 |
| LELAND REMINGTON | 1943 |
| EDWIN HIGGINBOTTOM | 1944 |
| EVERETT M. HICKS | 1945 |
| ERIC H. SMITH | 1946 |
| G. EWALD MENZEL, JR. | 1947 |
| RUSSELL V. CORSINI | 1948 |
| DON R. PERCIVAL | 1949 |
| DR. ELWOOD O. HORNE | 1950 |
| WILLIAM B. WADSWORTH | 1951-1952 |
| HARRY PERSON | 1953 |
| FRANK W. KAROL | 1954-1955 |
| JAMES FARON | 1956 |
| WILLIAM P. POWER | 1957-1958 |
| DR. WILLARD G. RICE | 1959 |
| HARRY POWELL | 1960-1961 |
| WILLIAM J. LUBY | 1962-1963 |
| HENRY B. DEWEY | 1964-1965 |
| JAMES S. GRATTON | 1966-1967 |
| DR. ADRIAN F. BOM | 1968-1969 |
| GEORGE B. TAYLOR, JR. | 1970-1971 |
| WILLIAM F. SULLIVAN | 1972-1973 |
| O. BRADLEY WOOD | 1974-1975 |
| SUMNER SILVER | 1976-1977 |
| KENNETH A. MACNUTT | 1978-1979 |
| CHESTER F. CASWELL JR. | 1980-1981 |



5

Dorothy N. Power

**OFFICERS OF THE WORCESTER TENNIS CLUB
1982**

President

Dorothy N. Power

Vice President

Warren C. Lane, Jr.

Secretary

Patricia Chandley

Treasurer

William A. Henning, Jr.

Executive Committee

John J. Dowd

Robert P. Holmes

Arthur R. Longwell

Anne M. Lyell

Margaret Nugent

Nancy C. Sanders

1907 By-Laws — Article X:

“Women shall have the right to vote but not hold office.”

The Club — A History

The Worcester Tennis Club at 69 Sever Street was organized and incorporated April 9, 1907. It was started by a nucleus of members from the old Salisbury Tennis Club, located from 1901-1906, on Institute Road. When the Salisbury Club's land was sold, a part of the old Agricultural Grounds on nearby Sever Street was acquired for the new club.

Theodore Roosevelt was president at the time, Oklahoma had just become the 46th state, and in Worcester, the townspeople flocked to Mechanics Hall to hear the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and danced to the tunes of "Waltz Me Around Again Willie" and "When a Fellow's on the Level With a Girl That's on the Square." Agricultural fairs had been held on Sever Street until 1899 when the 20-acre site was sold for building purposes. But with the arrival of electric cars, it was no longer essential to build a house within horse-drawn carriage distance of the downtown area and a good part of the land remained vacant for a number of years.

Although 1982 marks the 75th anniversary of the club at its present location, the first Worcester Tennis Club actually opened 102 years ago in 1880, when tennis got its start in Worcester on what was believed to have been the first regulation tennis courts in the city. They were established by Lincoln N. Kinnicutt and George H. Hull at the southwest corner of William and Fruit Streets. The first city tournament was won that same year by Charles Worcester Smith, Jr.

It was just 15 years after the Civil War ended and six years after tennis was introduced in this

country at the Staten Island Cricket and Baseball Club. An ordinary outfit, including four racquets, a net, poles and balls could be purchased for \$15. The racquets were like exaggerated flyswatters, with small heads and long thin handles.

As the game spread, the lack of conformity of equipment and rules of the game led to the formation, in 1881, of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association and its first championship at the Newport Casino in Rhode Island.

In Worcester, the William Street site was soon outgrown and in 1883, the club secured a new location at the southwest corner of West and Highland Streets. In a letter to Clarence Brigham, George Crompton, Jr. stated, "... this land was leased from Mr. (William T.) Merrifield who ... made a very fair bargain by charging just the amount of money that he lost by being deprived of the hay that he grew on that land. There was nothing except the rest of his hayfield between the old Worcester Tennis Club courts (on William St.) and Highland St."

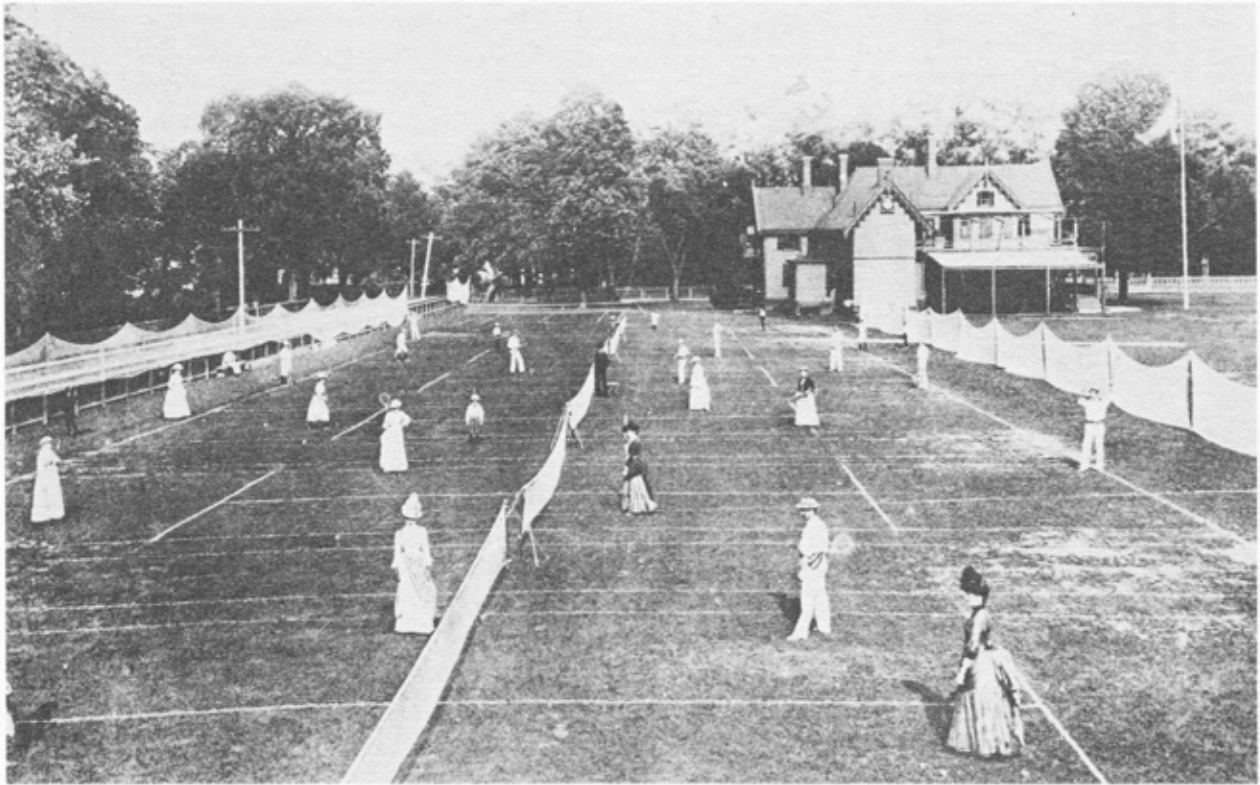
According to the *Worcester Daily Spy* of May 5, 1883, "The lot is about 150 feet wide. The turf will be rolled and then put in first class condition. Water will be introduced to keep the turf in good condition. There have been so many requests for membership that the original limit of 50 will probably be increased."

And on May 28, "The new grounds of the (Worcester) Lawn Tennis Club were dedicated in an informal manner Saturday afternoon. There is room for six courts, facing North and South, but only three were set for Saturday. The clubhouse, a simple structure, gives good and ample accommodation for the clothes of the members, and has two washrooms. A wide portico gives shade for members who desire to sit and watch the games in progress."

The Worcester Daily Spy

A Morning Journal, at \$8.00 a year (if paid in advance,
otherwise 75 cents a month.)

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1883



6

Staten Island Cricket and Tennis Club, c. 1885, site of first tennis court in the U.S. in 1874



7

West Street, looking north to Highland St., c. 1880; at left, site of second Worcester Tennis Club

In those early years, neither women's tennis prowess nor their sport clothes advanced very rapidly. The first national championship, held in 1887 at the Philadelphia Cricket Club, was won by Miss Ellen Hansell. "The quality of tennis displayed by Miss Hansell and her compatriots in that national tournament would almost certainly have not got them beyond the first round in a modern one," Parke Cummings wrote in "American Tennis" (1971).

Their costumes did not add to their agility, with trailing skirts and long sleeves, corsets (made, probably, by the Royal Worcester Corset Co.), starched petticoats, high collars and wide hats. In an 1887 book on tennis, Dr. James Dwight, describing Ladies and Gentlemen's Doubles, remarked, "It may be taken for granted that the lady is not as strong a player as her partner, and the game therefore consists in protecting your partner and attacking your adversary's."

By 1892, Merrifield decided it would be more profitable to sell the land for house lots and tennis life in Worcester was temporarily disrupted. No

effort was made to secure new courts until the turn of the century when Stephen Salisbury, III built a playground with croquet grounds, swings and a tennis court on part of his property on the southern side of Institute Road, between Dean and Wachusett Streets.

As interest in croquet declined, interest in tennis expanded. In 1901, the one-court neighborhood club became the Salisbury Tennis Club, predecessor of the present-day Worcester Tennis Club. The following year, two additional courts were completed and dues in the all-male club were set at five dollars. By 1903, women were admitted, with dues of three dollars.

"Worcester is having a revival of tennis that bids fair to put the game far ahead of any of the out-of-doors athletic pastimes indulged in by the lovers of exercise," reported the *Telegram* of Aug. 2, 1903. "Ten years ago tennis was a premier game in Worcester, and in fact, throughout the east, and it was nearly as common as baseball play. Since the craze of golf struck, the game has fallen off.

WRIGHT & DITSON, The Largest Makers of Lawn Tennis Supplies in the World.

OUR SPECIALTIES:

RACKETS.

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|--------|
| "SEARS'S SPECIAL," | - | - | - | \$7.00 |
| "CHASE" (new), | - | - | - | 6.00 |
| "PETTITT," | - | - | - | 5.50 |
| "THE CLUB" (new), | - | - | - | 4.75 |
| "LONGWOOD" | - | - | - | 4.00 |
| "THE PARK," | - | - | - | 3.00 |
| "HUB" (new), | - | - | - | 2.50 |
| "SURPRISE" | - | - | - | 2.00 |



THE
Wright & Ditson
CHAMPIONSHIP BALL,

Adopted by the U. S. National Intercollegiate and
Southern Lawn Tennis Associations for 1890.

A Fine Line of Lawn Tennis Clothing and every requisite for the Game.

WRIGHT & DITSON'S OFFICIAL LAWN TENNIS GUIDE FOR 1890, containing:
Official Rules of the Game, Constitution and By-Laws of the U. S. N. Lawn Tennis Association,
List of Clubs belonging to the Association, Something about Amateur Players, History of the
U. S. N. Lawn Tennis Association, Definition of Tennis, Winter Practice for Tennis, How to Make
a Tennis Court, How to Mark out a Tennis Court, Lawn Tennis Courts, Management of Lawn Tennis Prize
Meetings, Review of Season in England, Rules of Umpires, Championship of 1889, Classification of Play-
ers, Championship from 1881 to 1889, Tournaments of 1889, Bagnall-Wild System of Drawing, Fixtures for
1890, Photographs of our Champions and Recommendations and Hints on the Game. Price by mail, 15cts.

*Send for Complete
Catalogue.*

580 Washington Street, Boston, Mass., Cor. Hayward Place.

"But Worcester people are backing away from golf after learning that it is not the proper exercise for strenuous Americans. Golf links are situated on the outskirts of cities. It takes time to get to the courses. The sticks and balls are expensive. When the Worcester Tennis Club, Winslow Tennis Club and Woodland Tennis Club were allowed to disband and grounds go to ruin from lack of interest, a few private courts were kept in condition and were used almost daily. The courts at Worcester Academy, Highland Military Academy and Worcester Tech were kept in condition and these and the recently constructed courts of the Salisbury Tennis Club, are the leading places for Worcester tennis. The Salisbury Tennis Club is the strongest club in Worcester."

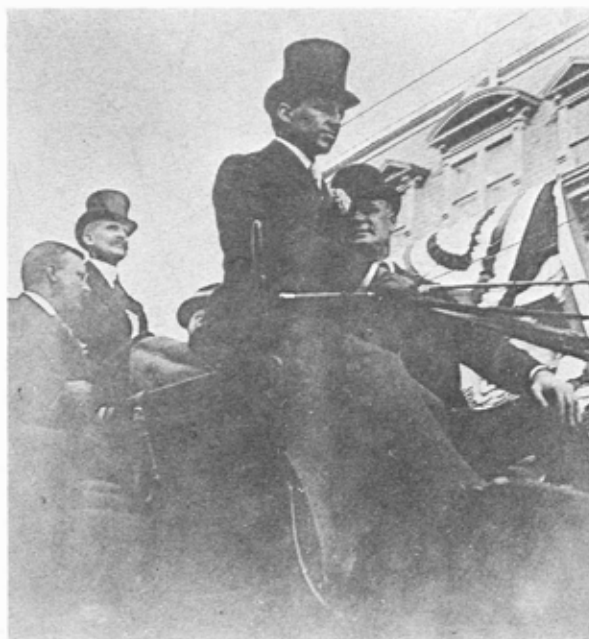
Serious tennis in Worcester began in 1904 when the club joined the USNLTA and was granted the first nationally sanctioned tournament in the area, the Worcester County Open Men's and Women's Championships, which was won that first year by John M. Morse and H. Katherine Barton.

A fourth court was added in 1905, and in 1906, enthusiasm for the sport was reflected in the *Telegram's* almost daily reports of the County tournaments. On Sept. 7, "The crowd sat and stood around the court and watched from the vehicles that were drawn up alongside the wire netting on the East side where (Chester) Porter and (Fritz) Small were contesting their match."

On Sept. 8: "(Clinton) Collester is a Gardner man, and a teacher of English in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He dons a sweater adorned with an 'A' after his matches. This was won where he was, a few years ago, prominent in tennis at Amherst."

Sept. 9: "Collester was slightly off in his placing in this set and this was more than made up for (by) the brilliant cut serves he at times managed to whiz across within bounds. A few times these were planted with such speed that the point was captured right there, but as a rule, they couldn't come so speedy that Porter could not make at least one return."

Sept. 12: "As has been the case throughout the tournament and indeed as is the rule at tournaments in the court game, the best of feeling has always prevailed. There has never been the least evidence of anyone being a hard loser. The hands that have been grasped across the net have always been given in the spirit of true sportsmanship."



8

Worcester champion (1883) Harry Worcester Smith, driving President Theodore Roosevelt (left) around Worcester, 1901; Smith and his brothers, Charles Worcester, Jr., William Lord and Frank Bulkeley, won the first four Worcester Singles titles (1880-1883)



9

John M. Morse, winner of the first nationally-sanctioned Worcester County Open Men's Singles, 1904

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do, by this agreement, associate ourselves with the intention to constitute a corporation according to the provisions of the one hundred and twenty-fifth chapter of the Revised Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto.

The name by which the Corporation shall be known is

The Worcester Tennis Club.

The Corporation is constituted for the purpose of

encouraging athletic exercise.

The place within which the Corporation is established or located is the *City*
of *Worcester,* within said Commonwealth.

~~The amount of its capital stock is~~

~~dollars~~

~~The par value of its share is~~

~~dollars~~

~~The number of its shares is~~

(If seven days' notice is waived, use the following form.)

We hereby waive all requirements of the statutes of Massachusetts for notice of the

first meeting for organization, and appoint the *twelfth* day of *April*, 190*7*,

at *4.30 o'clock P. M.* at *the office of Y. Leverett Nelson, 311 Main Street,*
~~Worcester, Massachusetts,~~
as the time and place of holding said first meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this

day of *April,* in the year nineteen hundred ~~and~~ *and seven.*

Walter L. Cummings
Arthur L. Weatherly
John D. Baldwin
Charles J. Porter
Charles S. Allen
Edward F. Mann

Y. Leverett Nelson

The Club Opening — 1907

But 1907 was a critical year. Salisbury had died, the sale of land had destroyed two courts, and there was only \$350 in the treasury. However, the decision was made to purchase, for \$9,126, a piece of land on Sever Street, consisting of 36,506 square feet (Lots numbered 76, 75, 74 and a part of 73).

The Sever Street site was picked because geographically the land was located within convenient reach of the members and was accessible from several lines of electric cars.

On April 10, 1907, the first meeting of the Incorporators of the Worcester Tennis Club was held at the office of T. Leverett Nelson, 311 Main St. Present were Walter L. Jennings, Arthur L. Weatherly, John D. Baldwin, Chester T. Porter, Chester S. Allen, Edward F. Mann and Nelson."

The above seven were elected to the executive committee, after which Dr. Jennings was chosen club president, an office he was to hold for 10 years; Weatherly, vice-president; Baldwin, treasurer; and Nelson, secretary. By-laws with 17 articles were adopted and it was—

VOTED: to limit the membership to 75 men, 75 women, and junior boys under 18

VOTED: women shall have the right to vote but not hold office

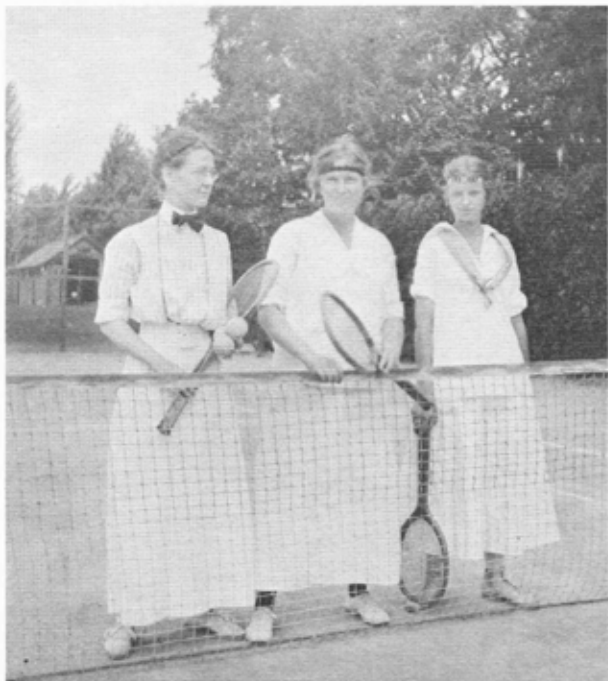
VOTED: all members of the Salisbury Tennis Club may become members without paying an initiation fee

VOTED: the annual assessment shall be men and women, \$10; juniors, \$5

Eighty of the 109 members of the Salisbury Tennis Club transferred their memberships to the Worcester Tennis Club. Of the 147 new charter members, three are still living in Worcester: Katharine Forbes Erskine (Mrs. Linwood M.) and Marjorie Stewart Clary (Mrs. Ernest), who together won the Women's Doubles title in 1911, and Harriet Nichols Lincoln (Mrs. Daniel W.).

On Apr. 23, the Executive Committee met and—

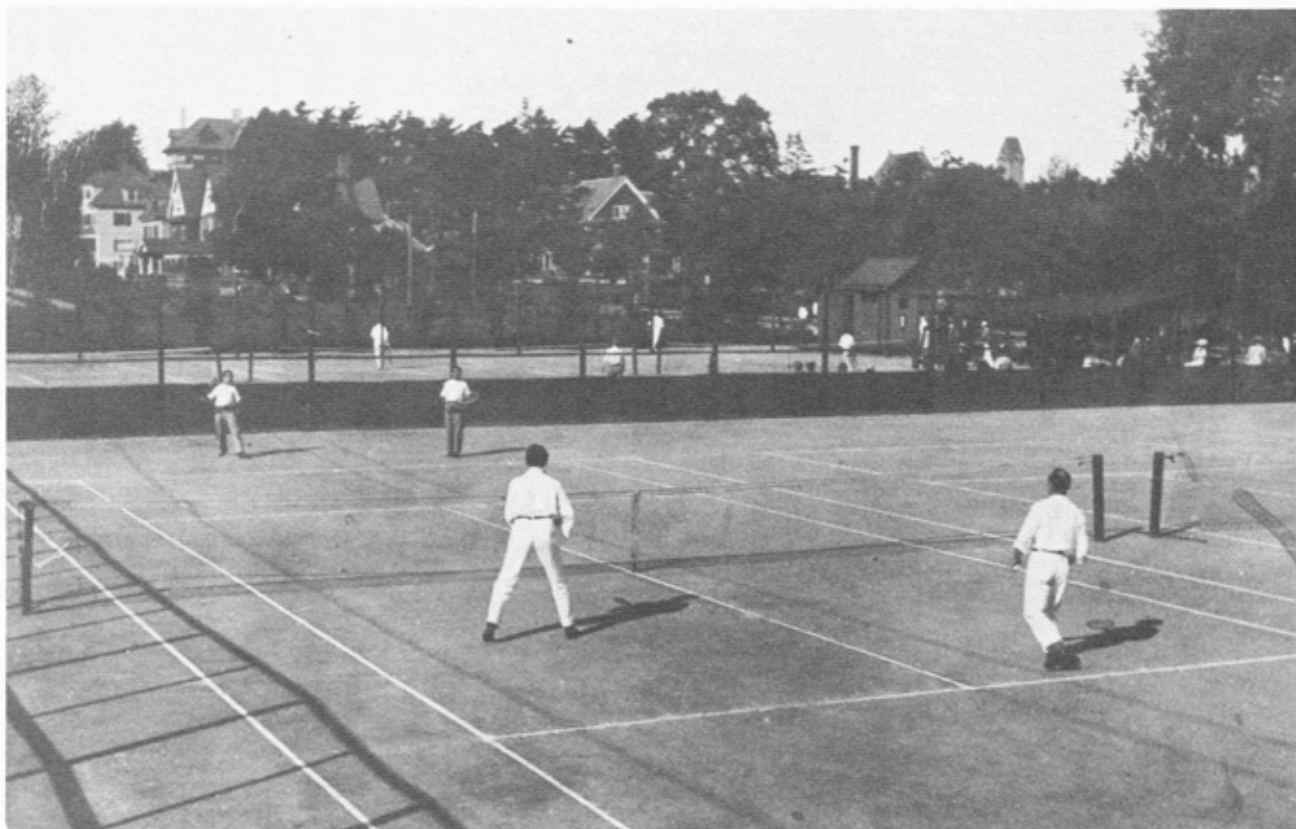
VOTED: to purchase a portable house, to equip same with facilities for bathing and lockers, etc., to put the grounds on Sever Street in condition to play, to build a fence enclosing the same . . ."



Molly Thayer, Katharine Forbes (Erskine),
Ruth Jennings, 1916



Walter L. Jennings, c. 1910, President, 1907-1916



Worcester Tennis Club, looking north, c. 1910; first clubhouse at right



Worcester Tennis Club, looking south, c. 1910; grandstand at left

On May 3, papers were passed transferring a tract of land on Sever Street from the West Side Land Co. to the Worcester Tennis Club.

Under the direction of groundskeeper William Williams, six dirt courts, three doubles and three singles, were opened for play in early June. The courts, all running in a north-south direction, were located where courts one, two, three and four are today, plus a small portion of five, six and seven. Additional land was acquired 15 years later.

As the new Worcester Tennis Club opened its courts, that June of 1907, the Ringling Brothers Circus arrived in town. Clowns, elephants and ornately carved wagons paraded down Park Avenue, Elm and Sever Streets (three blocks from the club) to Piedmont, Main and Salisbury Streets on their way to the Grove Street grounds; a deadly diphtheria epidemic in the city continued its ravages; the gypsy moth had arrived; and Carrie A. Nation had just paid a week-long visit to Worcester saying that "while she has seen places much worse than Worcester, she thinks there is much need of reform here and that saloons should be eliminated."

That same spring, advertisements in the *Telegram* were for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound — for any form of female illness; choice first cuts of beef, 10¢ a pound at the North Main Market; ice, 25¢ for 100 pounds, delivered; a full set, no-pain dentures, guaranteed to fit, \$5; a Reo Runabout car for \$675; and overnight sleepers to California for \$49.

The first club tournaments started June 1st for the men and June 10th for the women. Matches were played at both the old Salisbury Tennis Club (which was kept open until July of that year) and the new Worcester Tennis Club.

In the women's tournament, "64 women took part," the *Telegram* reported, "and the quality of play was far above anything that the women have been accustomed to putting up. The players have begun to realize that to be in the swim they must put some life and vivacity into their game and this was shown to a marked degree. Miss Gertrude Strauss sustained her right to the club's first women's championship."

Asked why women prefer tennis to golf, one member said, "It takes so much time and patience to accomplish anything in golf and even spending months at the game most women can't play. With

tennis, it's different. At the end of a week's time, a good energetic girl, who has studied the rules carefully, and been properly instructed in the game, ought to be able to play the game fairly well . . ."

In the *Telegram*, June 25th: "The Worcester Tennis Club's tournament for women was a great success. Miss Marguerite Thayer, as chairman, kept track of all the players, and everybody knew just what was going on during the tournament. The committee in charge of the tournament might give the committee in charge of the men's tournament a few pointers on how to run tournaments, since the latter have only partly played their tournament and nobody seems to know what is going on."

The men's tournament was completed July 14th, with Dr. Jennings, a two-time winner of the county title, emerging the winner. "Dr. Jennings' victory was due chiefly to his steadiness and in this particular he far excelled his opponent at critical moments."

This effective strategy was passed on to his daughter, Frances, who later was to win many of



First clubhouse,
showing grandstand at right, 1921



15

Frances Jennings, 1918



16

Frances Jennings, 1981

the club's tournaments. Mrs. Erskine recalls, "My memory was when Fran was a teen-ager and she was taking lessons from her father on the court next to ours. He wouldn't allow her to send a swift ball until she had control. We never had any lessons and we were hitting as hard as we could, but three quarters of ours were going into the net."

Miss Jennings, now 81 and still active in the sport, joined the club in 1911. Over the years, she has won more Worcester titles (14) than any other female member. The number would have been higher if a women's tournament had been held every year. Frequently they were not. For many years, after the women's event was discontinued, she entered the Baldwin Cup tournament, the men's club championship, and in 1931, she reached the semifinals.

For 70 years now, Fran has been a vital part of the tennis scene, teaching countless individuals and participating in many programs throughout Worcester and the county. She has received numerous awards, including the USTA's Annual Community Service Award and the NELTA William Freedman Award for the greatest contribution to junior tennis development.

Miss Jennings remembers, "The first clubhouse consisted of a unit or two of Hodgson portable houses. There was a modest grandstand of sorts attached to the end of one house. From the beginning, the men had a locker room but the ladies had to manage with a hook or two at one end of the clubhouse."

In the fall of the first year, an exhibition match was held at the club between Beals C. Wright, former National Singles Champion and ranked second at the time, and J. D. E. Jones of Providence, a nationally ranked player who had won numerous state titles. Jones was no stranger to Worcester. His father and grandfather lived across the street from the Crompton estate, "Mariemont," on Providence Street, which had one of the first private courts in the city. Jones learned to play tennis on that court. The Worcester Academy graduate later won the Worcester County Championship three times, the National Father-Son (with son, Arnold) seven times, and the National Senior Doubles.

The sanctioned county tournaments, which started in 1904, continued to be held at the club through 1932. In the early days, they attracted

many of the top ranking players. Winners, in addition to Jones, included: in 1913, Wylie C. Grant of Winchendon, five times National Indoor Singles winner; in 1922-23, Alfred H. Chapin, Jr., two-time winner with his father of the National Father-Son; and in 1919, Willard Crocker, who later played on Canada's Davis Cup team.

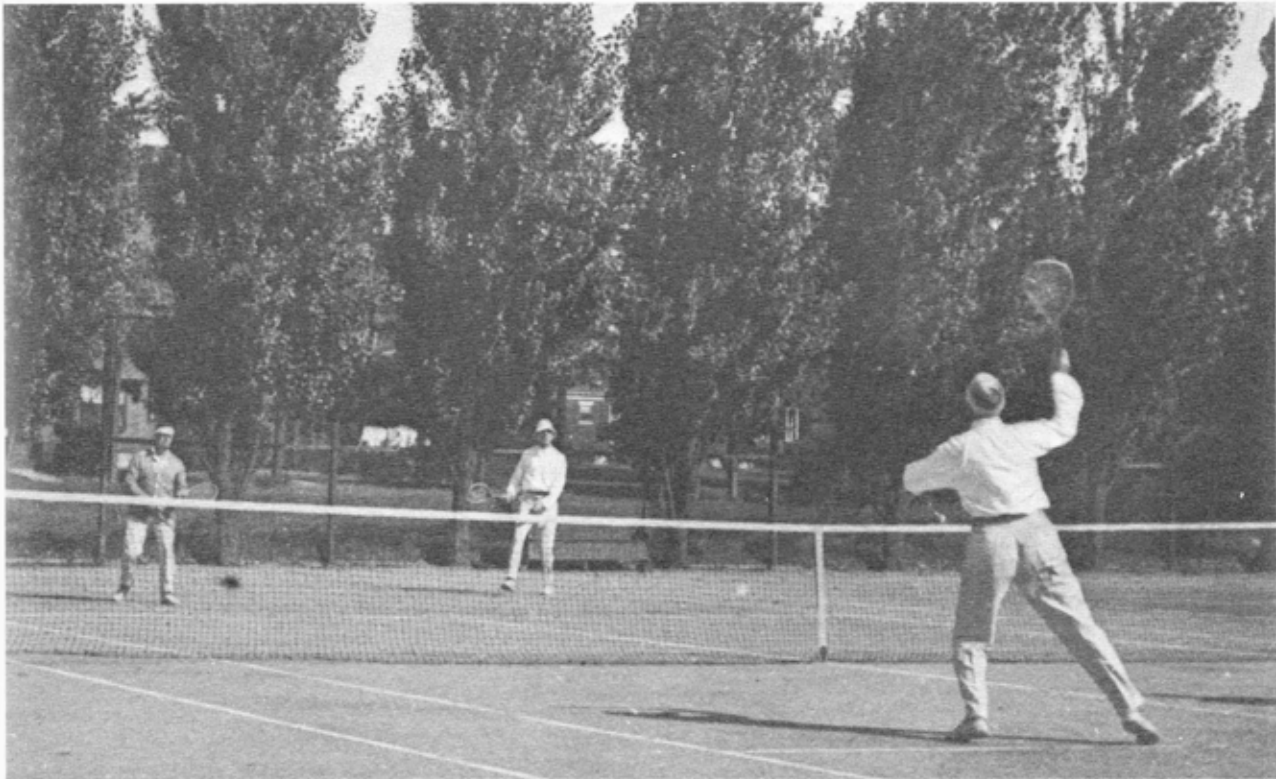
In 1910, women's skirts had begun to get shorter and at the time Mary K. Browne was winning the National Singles (1912-1914), they were almost mid-calf. By the end of World War I, petticoats and corsets and large, brimmed hats were no longer a part of the costume, although long stockings were still required.

In 1914, the Men's National Championships were moved from Newport to Forest Hills, where the "California Comet," Maurice McLoughlin, dominated play with his overhead smash and cannonball serve. The essentials in court dress for men, through the 1920s, were long, white flannel trousers and a long-sleeved, white shirt. Not until the early 30s, did shorts make their appearance at Wimbledon and Forest Hills.



17

**National champion Mary K. Browne;
note tennis costume, c. 1914**



18

Worcester champions Howard Stewart, Chester Porter (white hat), Walter Jennings, 1914

The New Clubhouse — 1923

At the club's annual meeting, March 6th, 1922, it was voted that the president appoint a committee to consider purchasing more land and erecting a clubhouse. The committee met at the home of the president, Rockwood H. Bullock, and on March 29th, it was voted to recommend the purchase of either the land of Albert W. Rice, adjoining the club to the west, or the land of Lewis Chase, that being 60 feet wide and the length of the northern boundary of the land of the club. It was reported that the Chase land could be bought for \$40 a square foot.

At special meetings, from April to November, it was—

VOTED: unanimously to purchase the land of Lewis Chase (for \$3,700)

VOTED: that the president and secretary be authorized to sign the corporate name to a demand note or notes for \$12,000 or less, bearing interest at 6% per annum, payable to the Mechanics Savings Bank

VOTED: that plans be prepared (of one story construction preferably) on a less expensive scale

VOTED: that the club build a clubhouse which shall cost, including all contingent charges, not over \$9,000

VOTED: that the active men membership be limited to 100

VOTED: that dues for men be \$20; women, \$15; and juniors, \$12

In 1923, the new clubhouse, designed by architect Sam Pitcher, was built and the grounds were expanded to the present seven-court layout. The shingled clubhouse, stained brown and gray to give a weathered effect, had a central covered entrance, patterned after the Newport Casino. From the arcade, staircases on either side led to the veranda which surrounded on three sides the assembly room and the room for the ladies. On the first floor, to the right, was the men's locker room, and to the left, a kitchen, storeroom and caretaker's room.

The formal opening of the club was held June

29th with a large number of members present. The exercises were simple, consisting of dancing, whist, a musical program by club talent and talks by officers and members.

The Roaring Twenties — with prohibition and speakeasies, the Charleston, flag-pole sitting and Lindbergh's solo flight — was also the Golden Age of Sport. Sharing the spotlight with Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Bobby Jones and Gene Sarazen were the tennis stars, Bill Tilden, Helen Wills, France's Four Musketeers (Rene Lacoste, Henri Cochet, Jean Borotra, Toto Brugnon) and Suzanne Lenglen.

Tilden and Wills, with 25 Wimbledon and U.S. crowns between them, kept interest in tennis at a fever pitch. The enthusiasm of the times was reflected in the activities at the club. "With one of the most prosperous years of its existence behind it, the Worcester Tennis Club had its annual meeting in the clubhouse last night," the *Telegram* of March 18, 1927 reported. "Officers were elected and reports made of last year's activities. The latter showed the club in its most prosperous condition numerically and financially."

Although prohibition had been in effect for seven years, it was—

VOTED: after considerable discussion that the (executive) committee go on record as being opposed to the excessive use of liquor on the club premises."

Then came the stock market crash, the depression, and the subsequent drop in membership. In 1933, a "loss of membership" was reported; in

IN THE ARMED SERVICES 1942-1945

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Charles F. Barton | Dr. B. John Kiniry |
| Robert S. Bowditch | Lincoln Kinnicutt |
| Clark Bryan | Elliott B. Knowlton |
| Joseph Byram | Rosslyn A. Lyell |
| F. Burnett Clarkson | George S. McElroy |
| Robert Clifton | Alan C. Nielson |
| Dr. George R. Dunlop | William P. Power |
| Willis Field | Richard Prouty |
| R. John Griefen | Charles H. Sawyer |
| Dr. Elwood Horne | Denis Schweppe |
| Chester Inman, Jr. | Paul Spaulding, Jr. |
| Richard J. Kennedy | Charles G. Washburn, II |

1934, "membership has fallen off more than expected"; and by 1937, "... resignations had been numerous and presented a serious problem." But the club weathered the times and by 1939, "the number of applications for membership was unusually large with very few resignations." That same year, the board considered opening the courts Sunday mornings but no action was taken for another 10 years.

In 1941, a committee was appointed to investigate laying out a badminton court on court four. In the secretary's minutes, "Mr. (Leland) Remington reported that he had bought two sets of playing equipment and laid out a court. Since there was no interest in the game, he sold the equipment at a loss of four or five dollars."

In 1942, after the start of World War II, when help was hard to get, committee members were asked to report to the club one Sunday morning at 9 a.m. to help paint the clubhouse. That same year, air raid warden Harry Reid informed the club he would like to locate a 24-hour warning center on the club property. Former club president Robert S. Bowditch recommended that no action be taken as the club would have to be heated in winter, a phone installed and the center manned 24 hours a day.

Membership, by 1945, was again at a low ebb with a net loss of \$382 for the 1944 season, due almost entirely to loss of revenue from members in the armed services. According to the club minutes, a letter was sent to all members, "advising them of the critical situation and urging them to retain their memberships so that the club can continue intact until the present emergency is past." Twenty-four club members reported for duty between 1942 and 1945.

When the war ended, the crisis passed. Since that time there have been few membership problems and at the present time, there is a total of 336 members, with a long waiting list. Dues have climbed steadily from \$10, per senior member, in 1907 to \$125 in 1982.

During the 1950s, world headlines focused on McCarthyism, the Korean War and Queen Elizabeth's coronation. On the sports pages, Maureen "Little Mo" Connolly dominated women's play, winning the first women's Grand Slam (Australian, French, Wimbledon and U.S. titles) in 1953. The men's headlines were captured by the Aussies — Sedgman, Anderson, Rosewall, Cooper,



Molly Yeaton, Alma Karol, 1949 finalists, Women's Singles; won by Karol

19

*You are cordially invited
to be the guest
of the
Worcester Tennis Club
on the Occasion of its
Fiftieth Anniversary
Sunday, June ninth,
Nineteen Hundred Fifty-Seven
69 Lever Street
Worcester, Massachusetts*

PLEASE REPLY BEFORE JUNE 1
(ADULTS ONLY, PLEASE)

BUFFET 5:00 TO 7:00



20

Runner-up, Women's Singles. 1980



21

**Chick Sharry, Janet Emery, Nan Lyell, Bob Bowditch,
1962 Worcester County Mixed Doubles finalists;
Winners, 1962: Sharry-Emery;
Winners, 1942: Bowditch-Lyell**



22

**Worcester Tennis Club Women's Team — 1960
Back: Betty Corsini, Nancy Sanders, Janet Carrick
Front: Clara Faron, Ginny Hastings
(Missing: Dorothy Power, Nan Lyell)**



23

**Jim Faron, (1954); winner of
All-Worcester Men's Doubles, 1963**

Fraser, and in the early sixties, Emerson and Laver.

At the club, Everett Hicks and son David, won the National Clay Court Father-Son Championship in 1951, the only club members to win a national championship. Over the years, Hicks set a record by entering a national Father-Son tournament with five different sons.

In this same decade, one of the finest players in the club's history, Robert (Butch) Bowditch, Jr., began his ascent, when he was ranked No. 1 in New England Boys 15 and 18 Singles. Two years after winning the Worcester County Juniors (1955-56), he ended Nicholas (Chick) Sharry's nine-year hold on the county men's singles championship, winning the title three years running before entering the army. By 1960, he had been top-ranked in New England Men's Singles, Doubles, and Father-Son (with Robert, Sr.); ranked No. 3 nationally in Father-Son; and captained the U.S. Junior Davis Cup squad.

Bowditch played his last national tournament in 1964, at age 25. "I played the grass circuit, including Forest Hills, for six years," he said, "during college and for three years in the service. In those days, it was amateur tennis. I had to make a decision when I got out of the army — either I would have to devote two or three years to it, to really get anywhere, or, to get on to other things. I decided to get on to other things" (which included law school and semi-pro basketball).

During the mid-1960s, as Billie Jean King and two-time Grand Slam winner Rod Laver dominated international play, tennis began a tremendous growth period. It was reflected in Worcester, when the club considered various options to expand, including (1) selling the Sever Street property and merging with the Greendale YMCA when they were planning their inside-outside tennis expansion, (2) moving to a different site and expanding; or (3) buying adjacent property and expanding on Sever Street. It was voted to do none of the above. One of the tremendous advantages of the club is its unique location in the center of the city, convenient for quick mid-day and after work games.

The dozen years from 1968 to 1980 saw a number of major changes in tennis. Amateur and professional tennis merged; the nine-point tie-breaker was introduced and then replaced by the 12-point tie-breaker; the USLTA became the USTA when

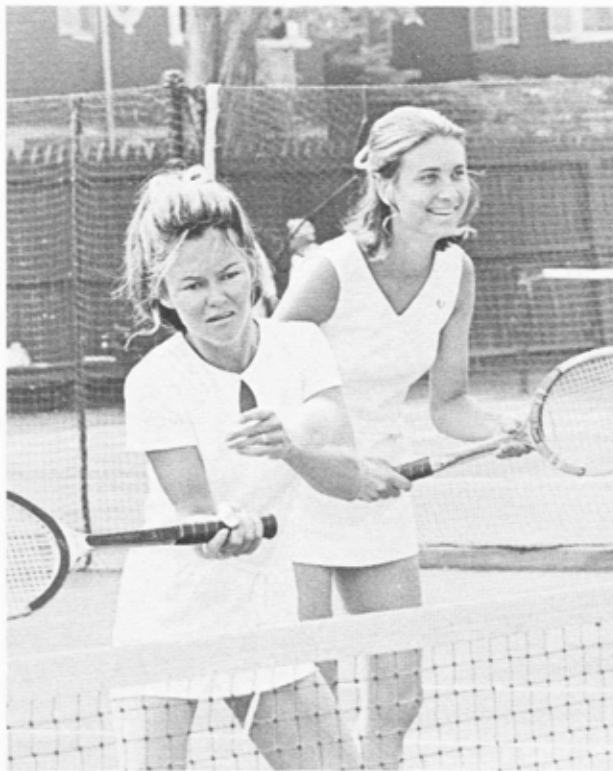
grass courts all but disappeared; and the Flushing Meadow Stadium replaced the traditional private club setting of Forest Hills. But at Worcester, for seven consecutive years, the vote for white tennis clothes defeated a vote for colored tennis clothes at the club's annual meeting. Pastels finally arrived in 1976.

In 1970 and 1971, the club sponsored a "Tennis Everyone" program in Worcester's public parks. The purpose was two-fold — to offer free instruction to children and to focus attention on the appalling state of the municipal courts. The committee solicited contributions from over 100 tennis players and retained Holy Cross tennis coach Chick Sharry and Brown University tennis captain Peter Guterman to teach five days a week in three different park locations. Over 50 club members volunteered to assist on the committee and at the clinics.

In addition, the committee brought pros Pierre Barthes, former No. 1 player in France, and Ron Holmberg, ranked nine times in the U.S. top 10 between 1954 and 1968, to Worcester for an exhibition at the Institute Park courts.

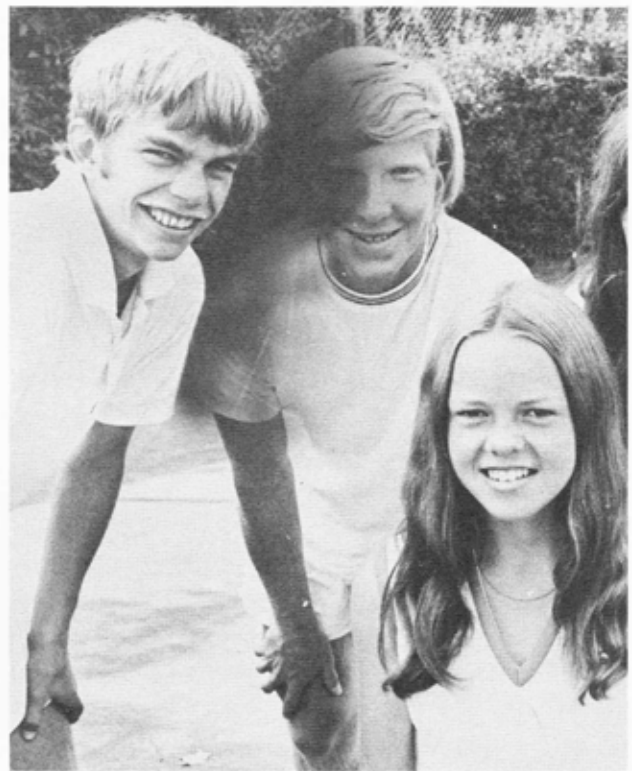


Bob and Butch Bowditch, New England Father-Son Champions, 1970



25

Nancy P. Anderson, Kiku Andersen, 1970, six-time Worcester County Women's Doubles champions



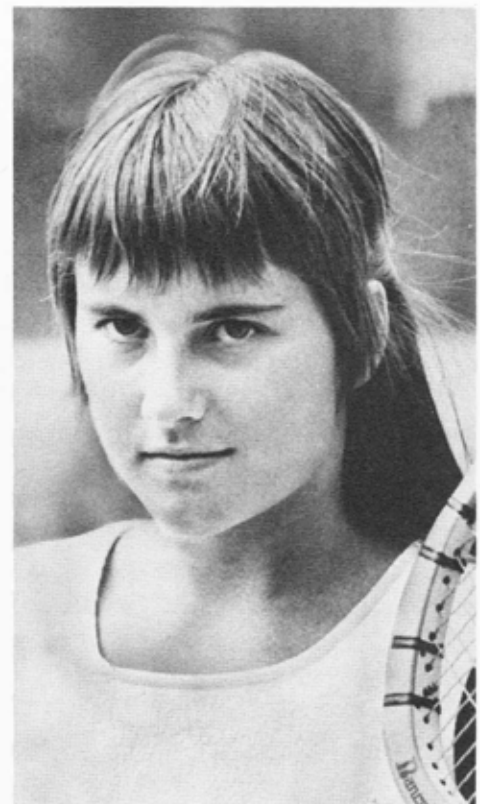
26

Dick Herbst, Frank D'Angelo, Susie Power, 1972



27

Trish Lyell, Sheila Killeen, Worcester County Women's Doubles champions, 1980



28

Lisa Doherty, Worcester County Women's Singles Champion, 1974

Since it was built in 1923, the clubhouse has remained relatively unchanged on the outside. On the inside, extensive renovations have been made. The right staircase was removed when the men's locker room was enlarged in the 1930s, and the main entranceway was closed off in 1956 when the central area was converted to storage. A new entrance was made through a gate in the fence to the left of the clubhouse, by court one.

A series of small and impractically laid out rooms, which led to the caretaker's bailiwick, were completely eliminated in 1978 and a modern, enlarged pro shop emerged with wall to wall carpeting, a sliding glass door and refreshment area. It was the headquarters for George Nicklin, groundskeeper and general manager, racket stringer and band-aid dispenser for 30 years, from 1950 to 1980.

John J. Fogarty and Dick Martini were the club pros in the 1930s, followed, after World War II, by Bill Power, who stayed from 1946-1954. Other pros were John Payne (1957-58), Jack Foley, Al Varosky (1966-68), Norwood Cripps (1974-75), Chuck Bournival (1976) and currently Dennis Prinos (1981).

Power was the club's finest overall player. He swept the Worcester County Juniors four times. He first captured the club's men's singles, in 1936, when he was 16, and the All-Worcester Men's Singles when he was 17. In 1937, the *Telegram* reported, "Bill Power, the tennis playing North High student, who has lost less sets this season than Sally Rand wears clothes, in her much censored fan dance, is headed for new worlds to conquer. The tall, lean, brown haired youngster hasn't lost a singles match all season and dropped only two sets in upwards of 50 contests."

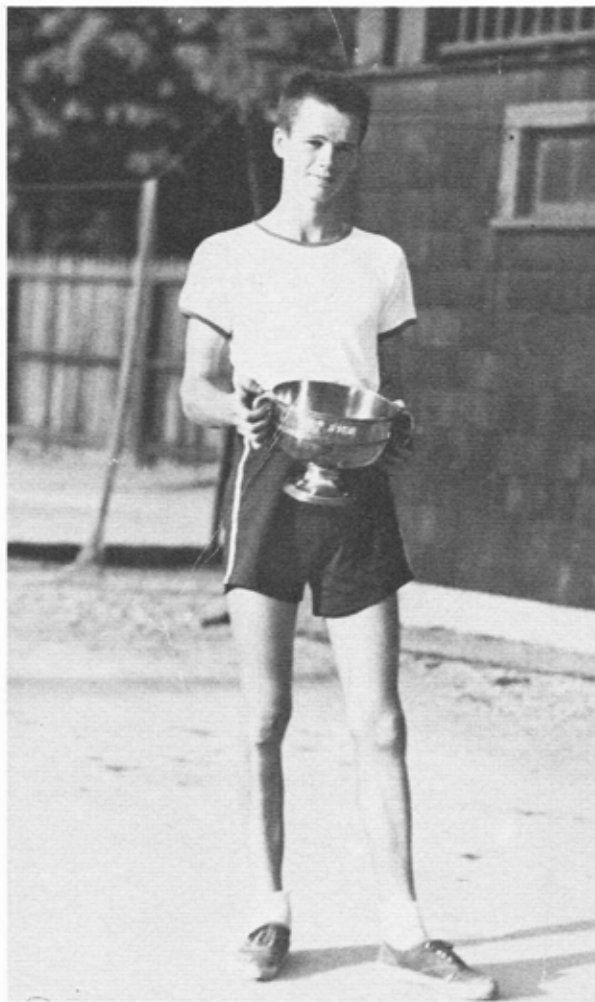
From 1933 until the present, Bill has won 32 Worcester titles and over 600 sanctioned tournaments. His wins have come in every division of the New England Lawn Tennis Association (Juniors, Men's, Seniors, Father-Son, Father-Daughter and Mixed Doubles). Probably no other New England player has won more — in number as well as variety — or played more international stars, including Vic Seixas, Rod Laver, Bobby Riggs, Pancho Segura, Bitsy Grant, Bill Talbert, Gardner Mulloy, and even Wendy Overton, in a Mixed Singles benefit exhibition.

In addition to several national rankings, Bill has been top ranked in 14 different NELTA divi-

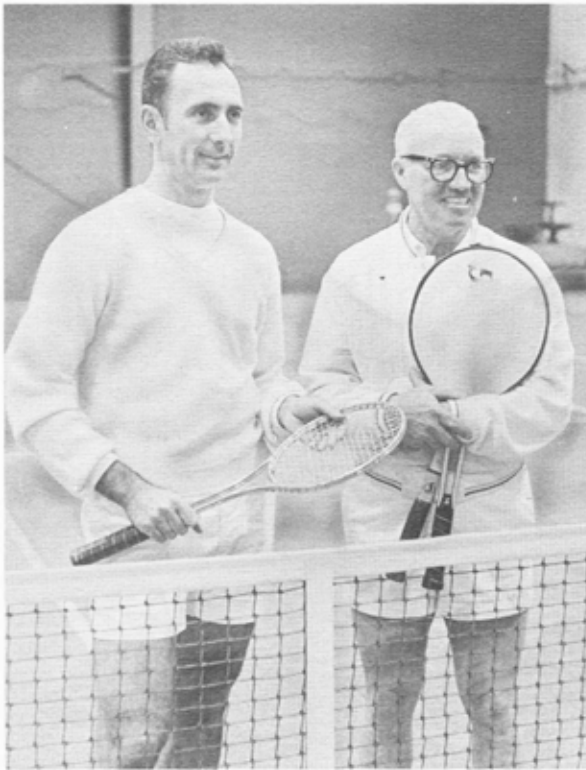
sions. One of his few regrets was that he was unable to continue playing tournaments as he was approaching his peak. World War II interfered. And then he turned pro for an eight-year period.

From 1907 on, the club has been involved in team matches of various kinds — inter-club, inter-city and inter-sectional, including the Thurston Cup and Wright Cup matches, and the Women's Suburban Spring League. In 1976, club members Tom Mott and Dick Herbst Jr. joined Chris Mayotte and Alan Chandronnait to win the USTA Junior Davis Cup (21 and under) sectional team championship for NELTA. It was the first win for New England in the history of the event.

During its 75-year history, the club has hosted numerous state and New England championships; many of its members have been ranked, nationally

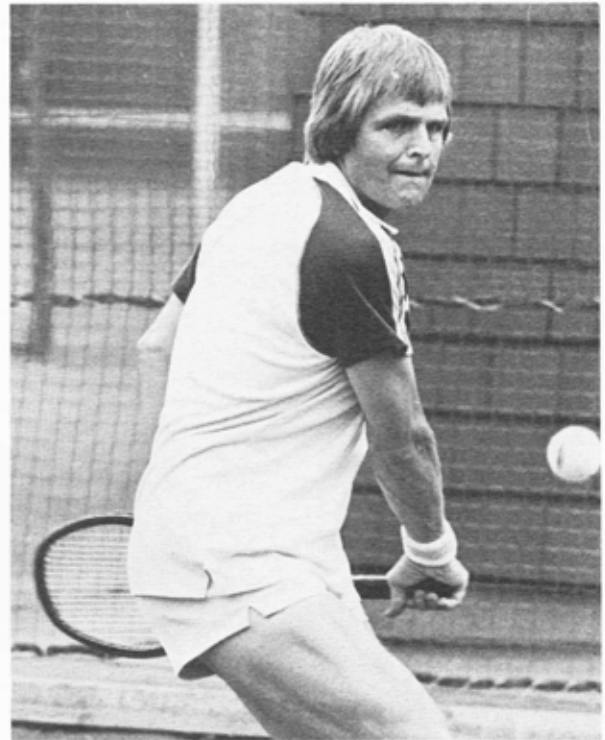


Bill Power, winner of All-Worcester Men's Singles (Jennings Bowl), 1937



30

Bob Cousy, Paul Power, 1970



31

**Gerald Johnson, 1981; eight-time
Worcester County Men's Singles champion**



32

Women's "A" team — Spring Suburban League, 1970
Back: Nancy Anderson, Janet Boutilier, Dottie Power, Audrey Paulson
Front: Nan Lyell, Kiku Andersen, Ginny Rice, Nancy Sanders
(Missing: Janet McCutcheon, Ingrid Warren)

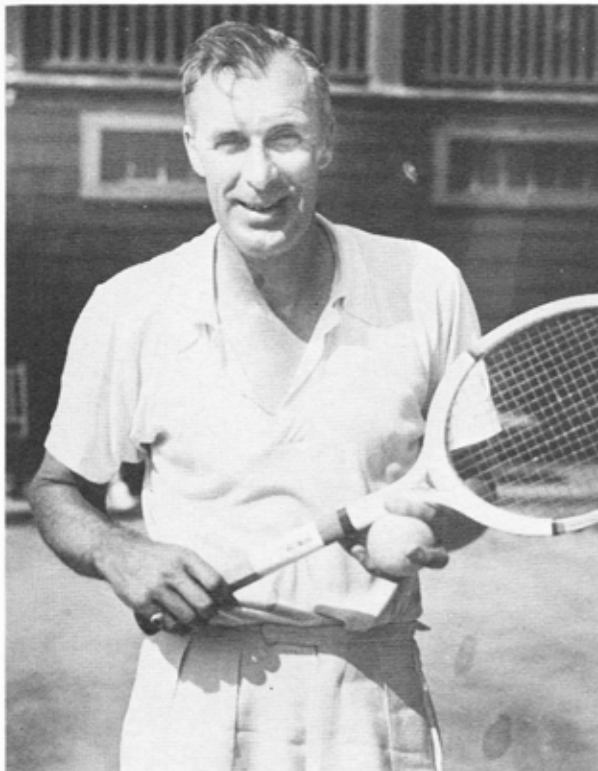
as well as in New England; and eleven national champions have played on its courts — Bill Tilden, Don Budge, Fred Perry, Vinnie Richards, Karel Kozeluh, as well as Wright, Grant, Jones, Chapin, Sweden's Torsten Johansson (who won the New England Seniors in 1970), and Bill Talbert, who played informally with club members when he was here, visiting a friend, in 1967.

One of Tilden's visits was in August of 1941, as Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Winston Churchill were having their historic, secret meeting at sea, just prior to the United States entry into World War II. The seven-times National Singles champion was on a nationwide tour for the benefit of the British War Relief Fund. It was one of many visits he made to the city — as actor, at the old Worcester Theatre, as well as tennis player — and was his fourth appearance at the club (others being in 1919, 1928, and 1931). He arrived with Perry, world pro titleholder, Richards, five times National Doubles champion, and Kozeluh, the Czechoslovakian who held the world professional title for five years. For a dollar and ten cents, the

500 spectators were treated to three spectacular matches — Tilden vs. Perry, Kozeluh vs. Richards, and Tilden-Richards vs. Perry-Kozeluh. It was the greatest array of tennis talent ever assembled in Worcester on the same day.

In 1940, the club put up temporary bleachers on courts one and three and almost 1,000 spectators watched Budge play John Nogrady, fourth ranked world pro, during a \$10,000 coast to coast tour. In 1958, he returned to give a clinic, followed by an exhibition match with club members: Budge-Jim Faron vs. Bob Bowditch-Harry Wolf. The former No. 1 world player told his Worcester audience he had wanted to be a major league baseball player when he was younger — about the same time, he said, as Joe DiMaggio was thinking of swapping his baseball bat for a tennis racquet.

One of the great players of all time, and the first Grand Slam winner, Budge, fortunately, stuck with tennis. This year, 1982, on his third visit to Worcester, he is the guest speaker at the Worcester Tennis Club's Diamond Anniversary celebration at Mechanics Hall. □



William "Big Bill" Tilden, at the WTC, 1941



**Don Budge, winner of
Grand Slam of Tennis, 1938**

34

35



36



Chick Sharry, 1969
Bill Power, 1979
 Long time doubles partners, each of whom has won 32 Worcester titles)



37

Officers of the Worcester Tennis Club, 1975
Sumner Silver (pres. 1976-77), Kenneth MacNutt (pres. 1978-79),
Nancy P. Anderson (treas. 1972-75), O. Bradley Wood (pres. 1974-75)

WORCESTER TENNIS CLUB TROPHIES

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1908-1911 | BAZELEY CUP | — Women's Singles; given by Mrs. William A. L. Bazeley |
| 1912-1922 | STRAUSS CUP | — Women's Singles; given by Gertrude Strauss |
| 1915-1940 | BALDWIN CUP | — WTC Men's Singles; given by Mrs. John D. Baldwin, in memory or her husband |
| 1921-1956 | JENNINGS BOWL | — All-Worcester Men's Singles; given by Dr. Walter L. Jennings |
| 1924-1951 | BUCK TROPHY | — Junior Boys' Singles; given by the Worcester Tennis Club, in memory of Sherwood E. Buck |
| 1952- | PERSONS CUP | — Junior Boys' Singles; given by Geraldine, Katherine (Sessions) and Robert Persons, in memory of their brother, Alexander |
| 1965-1978 | HARRY POWELL MEMORIAL CUP | — Mixed Doubles Round Robin; given by the Worcester Tennis Club |
| 1971- | FRAN JENNINGS JUNIOR AWARD | — Given by the Worcester Tennis Club |
| 1978- | NAN LYELL CUP | — Junior Girls' Singles; given by the Worcester Tennis Club |

These trophies, which over the years had been scattered throughout the area, have all been located. They were stored in bank vaults, the clubhouse on Sever Street, in people's homes, and one (the first Women's Singles Cup) was picked up by chance at a yard sale in New Hampshire.

CHAMPIONS 1907-1981 WORCESTER COUNTY OPEN Sanctioned by USNLTA (1904-1932)

MEN'S SINGLES

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 1907-08 | Clinton H. Collester |
| 1909-11 | J. D. E. Jones |
| 1912 | George W. Pike |
| 1913 | Wylie C. Grant |
| 1914 | Clinton H. Collester |
| 1915 | Rockwood H. Bullock |
| 1916 | Horace Taylor |
| 1917 | (not held) |
| 1918 | Horace Taylor |
| 1919 | Willard Crocker |
| 1920 | Robert C. Bray |
| 1921 | Armand L. Bruneau |
| 1922-23 | Alfred H. Chapin, Jr. |
| 1924 | Samuel H. Snider |
| 1925 | Henry L. Johnson, Jr. |
| 1926 | Thomas H. Wilbar |
| 1927 | John R. Gow |
| 1928 | Samuel H. Snider |
| 1929 | Lee H. Wiley |
| 1930 | J. Francis Smith |
| 1931 | Arthur S. Wright |
| 1932 | Samuel H. Snider |

MEN'S DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1907-08 | Clinton Collester-Chester Porter |
| 1909 | J. D. E. Jones-Arthur Ingraham |
| 1910 | H. R. Scott-S. L. Beals |
| 1911 | Clinton Collester-Chester Porter |
| 1912 | Robert C. Bray-George F. Wales |
| 1913 | Wylie C. Grant-H. A. MacKinney |
| 1914-16 | Robert C. Bray-George F. Wales |
| 1917-18 | (not held) |
| 1919 | George W. Pike-H. L. Davenport |
| 1920 | Robert C. Bray-George F. Wales |
| 1921 | W. F. Kimball-J. P. Pollard |
| 1922 | Robert C. Bray-George F. Wales |
| 1923 | C. K. Shaw-C. J. Curley |
| 1924 | Samuel Snider-J. Francis Smith |
| 1925 | D. M. Hill-M. T. Hill |
| 1926 | C. Bennett-T. H. Wilbar |
| 1927 | Samuel Snider-S. Rockwell |
| 1928 | Arthur S. Wright-J. Gow |
| 1929 | Lee H. Wiley-J. Francis Smith |
| 1930 | J. Francis Smith-H. Smith |
| 1931 | J. Francis Smith-Arthur S. Wright |

| | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1968 | Nicholas B. Sharry |
| 1969-70 | Gerald R. Johnson |
| 1971 | William P. Power |
| 1972-75 | Gerald R. Johnson |
| 1976 | Charles Bournival |
| 1977-78 | Gerald R. Johnson |
| 1979 | Peter Prinos |
| 1980 | Thomas Mott |
| 1981 | Peter Prinos |

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1968 | Nicholas B. Sharry-John Hughes |
| 1969-70 | Nicholas B. Sharry-William P. Power |
| 1971 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Carl R. Johnson |
| 1972 | Nicholas B. Sharry-William P. Power |
| 1973 | Conrad W. Fisher-Michael Jasper |
| 1974 | Nicholas B. Sharry-William P. Power |
| 1975 | Rodger Twitchell-Gerald R. Johnson |
| 1976 | Carl R. Johnson-William Sprout |
| 1977 | Peter Allen-Roger Challen |
| 1978 | Gerald R. Johnson-David Sobel |
| 1979 | Richard Herbst-Don Carbone |
| 1980 | Gerald R. Johnson-Peter Prinos |
| 1981 | Peter Allen-Roger Challen |

WORCESTER COUNTY OPEN

WOMEN'S SINGLES

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 1907-08 | Mrs. William A. L. Bazeley |
| 1909-12 | Mrs. Clifford S. Anderson |
| 1913 | Alice F. Day |
| 1914-15 | Martha Thorndyke |
| 1916-18 | (not held) |
| 1919-20 | Frances Jennings |
| 1921 | Cornelia Burgess |
| 1922 | Frances Jennings |
| 1923 | Cornelia Burgess |
| 1924-25 | Frances Jennings |
| 1932 | Corinne Hayden |
| 1934 | Corinne Hayden |
| 1936 | Jean Cameron |
| 1948 | Elizabeth Corsini |
| 1949 | Alma Karol |
| 1957 | Diane Wolf |
| 1960 | Anne Burr |
| 1969 | Linda Wild |
| 1970 | Janet Boutillier |
| 1971 | Kiku Andersen |
| 1972 | Janet Boutillier |
| 1973 | Nancy P. Anderson |
| 1974 | Lisa Doherty |
| 1975 | Kiku Andersen |
| 1976 | Linda Scholl |
| 1977 | Kiku Andersen |
| 1978 | Amy Harper |
| 1979 | (not held) |
| 1980 | Kiku Andersen |
| 1981 | Amy Harper |

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|---|
| 1907 | Gertrude Strauss-Gertrude Clapp |
| 1908 | Mrs. William Bazeley-Mrs. Joseph Warren |
| 1909 | Gertrude Strauss-Mary S. Green |
| 1910 | Gertrude Clapp-Louise B. Nelson |
| 1911 | Katharine Forbes-Marjorie Stewart |
| 1912 | Mary P. Thayer-Marguerite Thayer |
| 1913 | Gertrude Clapp-Helen Stimson |
| 1914 | Mrs. E. V. R. Thayer-Mrs. H. H. Fuller |
| 1915 | Mrs. Clifford Anderson-Mary P. Thayer |
| 1916-32 | (not held) |
| 1936 | Frances Jennings-Alice Smith |
| 1942 | Molly Yeaton-Enid Anderson |
| 1960 | Virginia Hastings-Nan Lyell |
| 1969-73 | Kiku Andersen-Nancy P. Anderson |
| 1974 | Laura Crocker-Lois Adams |
| 1975 | Kiku Andersen-Nancy P. Anderson |
| 1976 | Anne Dudley-Karen Dudley |
| 1977 | Laura Crocker-Lois Adams |
| 1978 | Anne Dudley-Karen Dudley |
| 1979 | (not held) |
| 1980 | Trish Lyell-Sheila Killeen |
| 1981 | Audrey Paulson-Marietta Gardulla |

WORCESTER COUNTY OPEN

MIXED DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|---|
| 1913 | Daniel W. Lincoln-Isabella Pendleton |
| 1923 | Carl A. Gray-Dorothea Nourse |
| 1924 | Bradford Ellsworth-Frances Jennings |
| 1925-27 | Walter L. Jennings-Frances Jennings |
| 1928 | Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Gray |
| 1929 | Walter L. Jennings-Frances Jennings |
| 1930 | Edwin Higginbottom-Frances Jennings |
| 1931 | Ralph Marble-Dorothea Nourse |
| 1932 | Eric Smith-Alice Jennings |
| 1935 | Robert S. Bowditch-Helen A. Bowditch |
| 1936 | Edwin Higginbottom-Elizabeth Krim |
| 1937 | Russell Corsini-Elizabeth Krim Corsini |
| 1938 | Everett Hicks-Jean Cameron |
| 1939-40 | Robert S. Bowditch-Helen A. Bowditch |
| 1941 | Edwin Higginbottom-Elizabeth K. Corsini |
| 1942 | Robert S. Bowditch-Nan Morse |
| 1950 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Margaret Seidl |
| 1962 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Janet Emery |
| 1964 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Janey Emery McCutcheon |
| 1967 | William P. Power-Nancy Power Anderson |
| 1969 | Alexander Hetzeck-Linda Wild |
| 1970 | Harlan Cuklanz-Linda Darling |
| 1971 | William P. Power-Nancy P. Anderson |
| 1972 | William P. Power-Susan Power |
| 1973 | (not held) |
| 1974 | Tom Johnson-Kiku Andersen |
| 1975 | William P. Power-Susan Power |
| 1976-77 | Joseph Gill-Nancy P. Anderson |
| 1978 | Jud Goodnow-Laura Crocker |
| 1979 | Richard Harris-Anne Dudley |
| 1980 | Steve Ethier-Karen Dudley |
| 1981 | Gerald Johnson-Susan Power |



Steve Ethier, Persons Cup Winner, 1977-78

WORCESTER COUNTY OPEN JUNIORS

BOYS' SINGLES

| | |
|---------|-------------------|
| 1912 | Maurice Drake |
| 1915 | Hamlin Sylvester |
| 1916 | R. W. Brigham |
| 1917-18 | (not held) |
| 1919-21 | Alexander Persons |
| 1922 | George N. Foster |
| 1923 | Edward Lavallee |

Sherwood E. Buck Trophy

| | |
|---------|----------------------|
| 1924 | E. C. Conlin, Jr. |
| 1925 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1926-28 | Albert H. Horton, II |
| 1929 | Joseph Deady |
| 1930 | John Keenan |
| 1931 | Stanley Chasse |
| 1932 | David Porter |
| 1933 | Jordan Cotton |
| 1934 | Nicholas B. Sharpy |
| 1935-38 | William P. Power |
| 1939-47 | (not held) |
| 1948 | Thomas Harrington |
| 1949 | David Hicks |
| 1950 | Conrad Fisher |
| 1951 | David Hicks |

Alexander Persons Cup

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 1952-53 | William Novak |
| 1954 | Neil Walsh |
| 1955-56 | Robert S. Bowditch, Jr. |
| 1957-58 | Michael Jasper |
| 1959-60 | Paul Snider |
| 1961 | (not held) |
| 1962 | Michael Miller |
| 1963 | Neil O'Leary |
| 1964 | William P. Power, Jr. |
| 1965 | Thomas Johnson |
| 1966 | Robert L. Smith |
| 1967 | Peter Guterman |
| 1968 | Garry Levitsky |
| 1969 | David Miller |
| 1970 | Robert Webman |
| 1971 | Thomas Mott |
| 1972 | Richard Herbst |
| 1973 | Todd Jarvis |
| 1974 | Timothy Dewey |
| 1975 | Edward Eames |
| 1976 | Scott Hayman |
| 1977-78 | Steve Ethier |
| 1979 | Neil Schneider |
| 1980 | John Connors |
| 1981 | John Luyrink |



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Alexander Persons, c. 1912; 3-time junior champion and 3-time men's singles champion

GIRLS' SINGLES

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1912 | Mary L. Dewey |
| 1915-17 | Dorothea Nourse |
| 1918-19 | (not held) |
| 1921-22 | Corinne Hayden |
| 1924 | Corinne Hayden |
| 1972 | Sheila Laperle |
| 1973-75 | (not held) |
| 1976 | Anne Dudley |
| 1977 | Karen Dudley |

Nan Lyell Cup

| | |
|---------|----------------|
| 1978 | Karen Dudley |
| 1979-80 | Amy Harper |
| 1981 | Margaret Foley |

WTC — CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SINGLES

| | |
|---------|-------------------|
| 1908 | Fritz H. Small |
| 1909-13 | Chester T. Porter |
| 1914 | (not held) |

John D. Baldwin Cup (1915-1940)

| | |
|---------|---------------------|
| 1915-16 | Rockwood H. Bullock |
| 1917 | Walter L. Jennings |
| 1918 | (not held) |
| 1919 | Howard R. Stewart |
| 1920 | Robert G. Kendall |
| 1921 | Genichi Uchiyama |
| 1922 | Howard R. Stewart |
| 1923 | Edward Earl Saunier |
| 1924 | Alexander Persons |
| 1925 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1926 | Adam Sah |
| 1927-28 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1929 | Alexander Persons |
| 1930 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1931 | Philip Jameson |
| 1932 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1933 | Philip Jameson |
| 1934-35 | Edwin Higginbottom |
| 1936 | William P. Power |
| 1937 | Robert S. Bowditch |
| 1938 | Edwin Higginbottom |
| 1939 | (not held) |
| 1940 | Robert S. Bowditch |

WOMEN'S SINGLES

| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| 1908 | Gertrude Strauss |
| 1909 | (not held) |
| 1910 | Mary P. Thayer |
| 1911 | Mrs. Clifford Anderson |
| 1912-13 | Alice F. Day |
| 1914-15 | (not held) |
| 1916 | Martha Thorndyke |
| 1917-19 | (not held) |
| 1920 | Eleanor F. Buck |
| 1921 | Dorothea Nourse |
| 1932 | Corinne Hayden |
| 1934 | Frances Jennings |

MEN'S DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 1908 | Walter L. Jennings-Daniel W. Lincoln |
| 1909 | Rockwood H. Bullock-Daniel W. Lincoln |
| 1910-14 | (not held) |

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1924 | Edward Lavallee-Alexander Persons |
| 1925 | Edward Saunier-Howard Stewart |
| 1926 | Adam Sah-Peter Sah |
| 1927-28 | Edward Lavallee-Philip Jameson |
| 1929 | Loue Stockwell-John Fogarty |
| 1930-31 | Edward Lavallee-Philip Jameson |
| 1932-40 | (not held) |

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 1910-11 | Mrs. Clifford Anderson-Mary P. Thayer |
| 1912 | Alice Day-Mildred Day |
| 1913 | Gertrude T. Clapp-Mary P. Thayer |

(discontinued)

ALL-WORCESTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SINGLES

Jennings Bowl (1921-56)

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1921 | Genichi Uchiyama |
| 1922-23 | Walter L. Jennings |
| 1924 | Alexander Persons |
| 1925-29 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1930-31 | Alexander Persons |
| 1932 | Edward Lavallee |
| 1933 | Philip Jameson |
| 1934-36 | Robert S. Bowditch |
| 1937 | William P. Power |
| 1938 | Robert S. Bowditch |
| 1939-42 | William P. Power |
| 1943-44 | (not held) |
| 1945 | Bruce Daniels |
| 1946 | William P. Power |
| 1947 | Francis Sharry |
| 1948 | Joseph Sharry |
| 1949-56 | Nicholas B. Sharry |
| (end of Jennings Bowl) | |
| 1957 | Nicholas B. Sharry |
| 1958-60 | Robert S. Bowditch, Jr. |
| 1961 | |
| 1962-63 | Nicholas B. Sharry |
| 1964-66 | William P. Power |

WOMEN'S SINGLES

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 1921 | Cornelia Burgess |
| 1922 | Frances Jennings |

MEN'S DOUBLES

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 1921-23 | Edward E. Saunier-Howard R. Stewart |
| 1924 | Edward Lavallee-Alexander Persons |
| 1925-26 | Walter L. Jennings-Ralph Marble |
| 1927-31 | Edward Lavallee-Philip Jameson |
| 1932 | Edward Lavallee-Philip Jameson |
| 1933 | John Keenan-Russell Corsini |
| 1934 | Robert S. Bowditch-Austin Wood |
| 1935-36 | Edwin Higginbottom-Philip Jameson |
| 1937-39 | Edwin Higginbottom-Robert S. Bowditch |
| 1940 | Everett Hicks-Russ Ferguson |
| 1941 | Edwin Higginbottom-Robert S. Bowditch |
| 1942 | William P. Power-Rosslyn A. Lyell |
| 1943-44 | (not held) |
| 1945 | Bruce Daniels-Richard Daniels |
| 1946-47 | Robert S. Bowditch-Harry Wolf |
| 1948 | |
| 1949 | Francis Sharry-William Sharry |
| 1950 | David Hicks-Conrad Fisher |
| 1951 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Joseph Sharry |
| 1952 | James Hicks-David Hicks |
| 1953 | William Novak-George Amsden |
| 1954-61 | Nicholas B. Sharry-William P. Power |
| 1962 | Nicholas B. Sharry-Frank W. Karol |
| 1963 | Harry Wolf-James Faron |



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 Barton, Charles F. 17
 Barton, H. Katherine 9
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PERSONS CUP—WORCESTER COUNTY JUNIORS CHAMPIONS—NAN LYELL CUP



Sheila Laperle — 1972

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Ned Eames — 1975

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Tim Dewey — 1974

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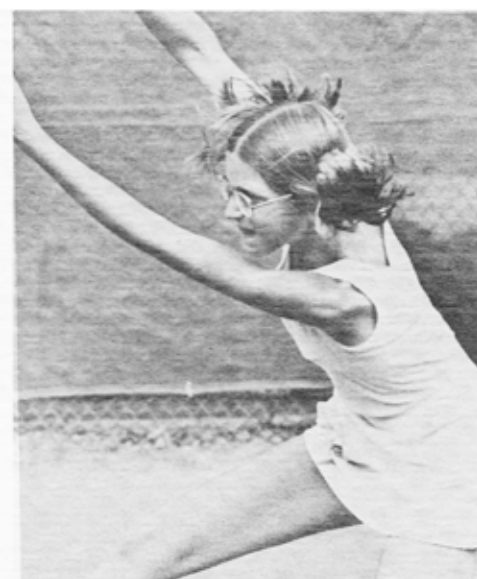
Anne Dudley — 1976

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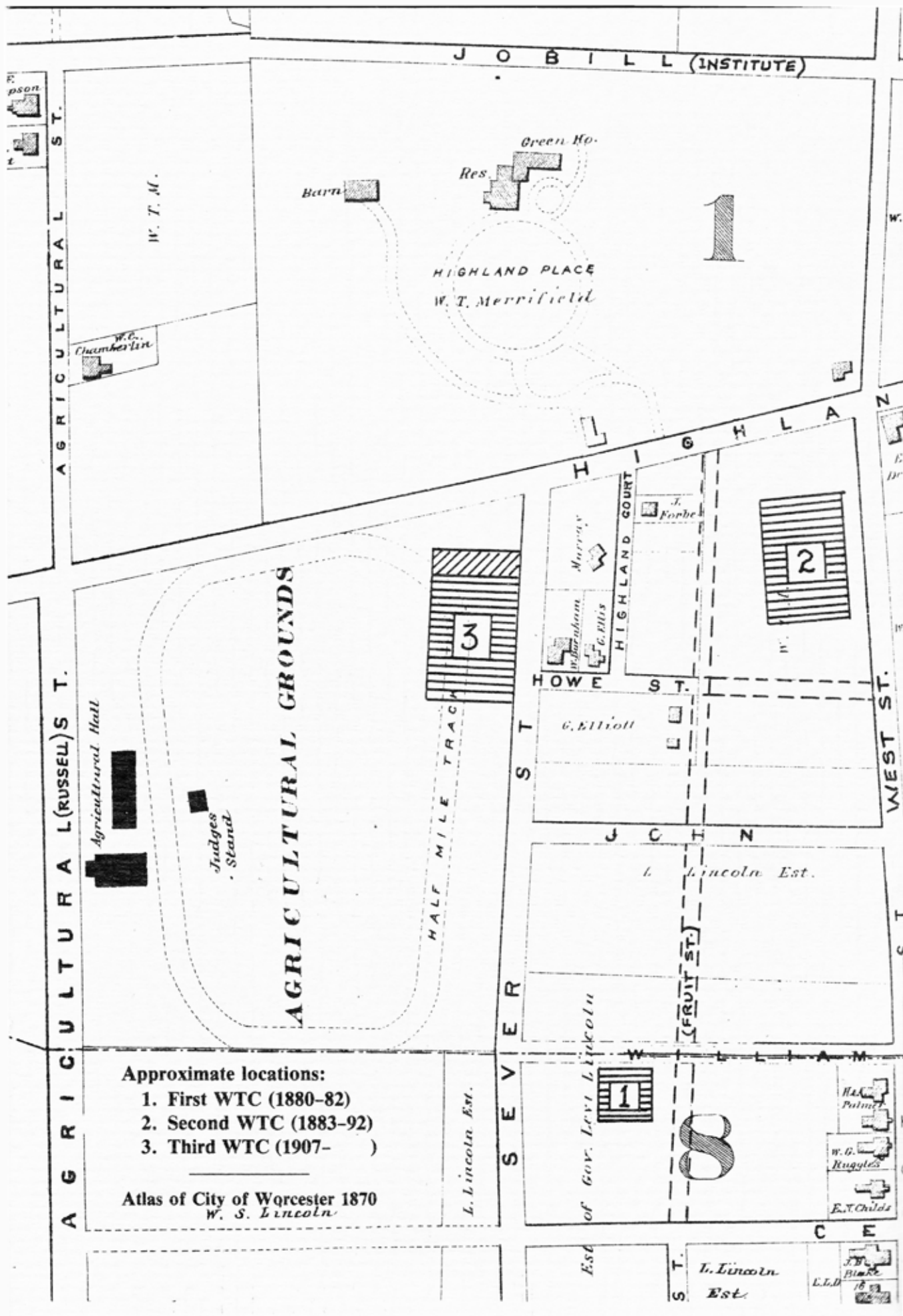
Scott Hayman — 1976

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Karen Dudley — 1977-78

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WORCESTER TENNIS CLUB

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

June 11, 1982

Invocation Rev. Thomas F. O'Brien
Pastor, St. Columba's Church

Dinner

Greetings Dorothy N. Power
President, Worcester Tennis Club

Remarks Chester F. Caswell, Jr.
Past President, Worcester Tennis Club

Speaker Don Budge

Closing Remarks Chester F. Caswell, Jr.

WORCESTER TENNIS CLUB

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Co-chairpersons

Chester F. Caswell, Jr. Nancy C. Sanders

Speaker Lillian A. Rice

Invitations Frances Jennings, Edward and Dorothy Hall,
 Patricia Chandley, Dorothy N. Power, Kenneth A.
 McNutt, Sam Snow

Music Willian A. Henning, Jr.

Flowers Virginia T. Rice

Saturday Round Robin Peter Guterman, Dennis Prinos

Reservations Steven and Jennifer Johnson

Club History Nan Lyell

Menu and Hall Arrangements Nancy C. Sanders

Publicity Nan Lyell, Arthur Longwell

Mailing Pat Chandley, Betty Wheeler, Clara Fortin, Betty
 Judd, Barbara Henderson, Charlotte Shumway

Posters John (Pete) Dowd, Pat Chandley

Checkers Jean Potter, Jennifer Johnson, Steven Johnson,
 John (Pete) Dowd, Margaret Nugent, Ed Carien

Phone Warren Lane

Ex-Officio 1981 and 1982 Executive Committees and officers, and many Worcester Tennis Club members too numerous to list but without whose special assistance this evening would not have been possible.