

**SECRETARY OF STATE  
QUALIFIED CHILD-CARING INSTITUTIONS  
1917-1950**

**RECORD GROUP 285**

*Processed by:*

Ted Guillaum  
Archives Technical Services

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**MICROFILMED**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Record Group #285, Secretary of State, Child-Caring Institutions, 1917-1950, contains three bound volumes of records measuring one cubic foot. These records were created by the office of the Secretary of State to record licenses issued to child-care givers. Additional information on children's services can be found in Record Group 183, Tennessee Children's Services Commission and possibly Record Group 185, Department of Human Services. The volumes were found to be in good condition and original order. There are no restrictions on the use of these records. This record group has been filmed.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Secretary of State's records for Child-Caring Institutions, Record Group 285, consists of three leather bound volumes containing licensing records from 1917 through 1950. The Public Acts of 1917, Section 3, sub-sections 2, 4, and 5 required a license from the Secretary of State before a person or institution could operate a child-caring agency. The prerequisite for the license was a certificate from the Board of State Charities acknowledging that the agency had been inspected and fulfilled the requirements for a suitable and properly managed institution. In 1925 funds were appropriated for a Division of Welfare in the Department of Institutions. At that time the Department of Institutions began issuing the necessary certificate to the Secretary of State. In 1937 the Department of Institutions and Public Welfare was established, but in 1939 these two departments were made into separate agencies. The Department of Welfare's name was changed in 1975 to Department of Human Services.

The information found in this group of records is limited to the name of the individual or institution requesting the license, the location of the facility, and the one year period that the license was effective. No other data or statistical information is found in these records. There is an unexplained gap from January 1940 to November 1943 between Volume 2 and Volume 3.

**MICROFILM INDEX  
CONTAINER LIST  
RG 285**

**MF. ROLL #1**

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**BOX 1**

1. Volume 1. July 2, 1917-August1, 1937.

**BOX 2**

2. Volume 2. December 23, 1937-January 4, 1940.

**BOX 3**

3. Volume 3. November 2, 1943-March 1, 1950.