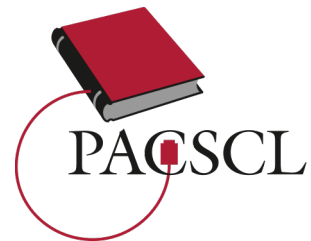


In Her Own Right

Women asserting their civil rights, 1820-1920

Guide to the Collections



Repository: Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Title: Mercy-Douglass Hospital Records

Creator: Mercy-Douglass Hospital

Dates: 1896-1977

Collection number: MC 78

Geographic information: 15th and Lombard St. Philadelphia, PA

Size: 26 lf

Finding aid: http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/ead/detail.html?id=EAD_upenn_bates_PUNMC78

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The collection consists mainly of records of Mercy-Douglass Hospital, a merger of two institutions, Mercy Hospital and Fredrick Douglass Hospital, records of the school of nursing (predominantly its student files), and some 200 photographs related to both hospital and school. The collection provides important documentation of the black experience in nursing.

Additional description: Pre-1920 materials in this collection are scarce, but those that do exist have much to offer. Student records (Fredrick Douglass Hospital) include applications, letters from potential students and references, transcripts, and photographs. Charting age, educational and employment background, location, religion, performance, and employment after graduation, these sources document demographics of nursing students, the subjects required for training, and the qualities associated with a successful nurse.

Research interest: This collection documents the intersections of efficiency and respectability among African Americans in the Progressive-era medical field. (Indeed, a portion of nurses' transcripts was even referred to as the "efficiency record.") Students were to be well-educated and of good moral character (and were required to provide letters of recommendation testifying to this effect), neat, clean, and of pleasing appearance, and both obedient and assertive. Drawing on these values gave young black women a way of exercising agency, even as they were class-specific.

Repository: Bryn Mawr College

Title: M. Carey Thomas Papers

Creator: M. Carey Thomas (1857-1935)

Dates:

Collection number:

Geographic information:

Size: 135 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.brynmawr.edu/library/speccoll/guides/thomas.shtml>

Digitized content and other formats: portion; microfilmed

Abstract: The M. Carey Thomas Collection at Bryn Mawr College is comprised of documents from two principal sources: Carey Thomas's personal papers and the official records surviving from her career at Bryn Mawr College. The third series is the Bryn Mawr School Papers. The fourth series is comprised of six photograph albums compiled by Carrie Chapman Catt depicting the history of the women's suffrage movement. M. Carey Thomas's personal papers consist of incoming and outgoing correspondence, family letters, autobiographical papers, business records, memorabilia and other miscellaneous materials. The college archives also includes Trustees' minutes, annual reports of the presidents to the Board of Trustees, faculty and administrative committee minutes, college bulletins and other publications which are not organized as presidential papers and are not included in the microfilm.

Additional description: This collection is particularly rich in documenting Thomas's commitment first and foremost to women's education as the basis for equality and secondarily her participation in the suffrage movement. Never one to mince words, her personality—judgmental and demanding but also indefatigable, funny, and erudite—comes across clearly even in official documents. Materials related to the college document daily goings-on, Thomas's educational philosophy, including the need for women's education in particular, and, perhaps most interestingly, her close involvement in the lives of her students. Copious documentation of her chapel addresses, which she gave several times a week, are especially fascinating. Here, she shared announcements, college business, and disciplinary actions, and she gave lessons in history, scripture, and reform. Interactions with students and ad-libs are also included. Her letters to Anna Howard Shaw and others, addresses to NAWSA conventions, and other documents identify her specific place in the suffrage movement. Firmly on the side of NAWSA in its conflict with the Congressional Union, she considered the newer group as "hopelessly untruthful as the...anti-suffragists." (Later, however, she supported the ERA.) Thomas's arguments in favor of suffrage often revealed a deep conservatism—she related a story of how her mother became a suffragist after she had to hold the reins for her "ignorant negro coachman" so he could vote and often spoke of the necessity of educated women's votes to cancel out those of "foreign," "ignorant," and "criminal" men—but she also emphasized working women's need for the vote. Carrie Chapman Catt albums, while not related to Thomas per se, provide a visual record of the movement.

Research interest: This collection will be especially interesting to historians of education, especially women and education; although Thomas was involved in many other issues, even this participation was often connected to education in some way. Many of Thomas's letters, articles, and speeches were about the quality of American education more generally, although she also, of course, took a particular interest in arguing for women's education, the values of single-sex vs. coed education, and refuting the arguments of people such as Edward Clarke. From an institutional perspective, relationships between and among students, faculty, and administration—often contentious—also receive a great deal of coverage.

Repository: Bryn Mawr College

Title: Mary Whithall Worthington Diaries

Creator: Mary Whithall Worthington

Dates: 1907-1910

Collection number:

Geographic information:

Size: 4 vols.

Finding aid:

Digitized content and other formats:

http://triptych.brynmawr.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/BMC_MWW

<http://diaries.pacscl.org/2015/10/19/bryn-mawr-college-mary-whitall-worthington-diary-volume-10/>

Abstract: Beginning in the late spring of her freshman year at Bryn Mawr College, Mary Worthington, M. Carey Thomas's "dear, intelligent niece," recorded in a clear strong hand the significant events and emotions of her college years and life as part of the Class of 1910. Bound into nine by twelve green scrapbooks with her name stamped on the front in gold letters, the diary was expanded to include photographs, invitations, play programs, examinations, clippings, and lists of books she had read. Mary Worthington's is not a mere line-a-day jotting of appointments and weather. Page after numbered page of thoughtful, often idealistic, narrative draws the reader into her life. She was young, she was an ardent suffragist, she was a member of the English Quaker Whitall family, she was a college woman shortly after the turn of the century.

Additional description:

Research interest: These diaries are both delightful and revealing, with Worthington moving seamlessly from discussions of extracurricular activities, especially theater, handsome young men, bickering among friends, and rivalries between classes to such issues as suffrage, Free Trade, socialism, and government corruption. In describing both her own and her friends' and classmates' views, Worthington shows how a generation of young women was coming to terms with changing social and political mores, as well as some of the motivations of these second-generation Progressives.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Ann Preston, MD Papers

Creator: Ann Preston (1813-1872)

Dates: 1831-1880

Collection number: WM.SC.537

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: .67 lf

Finding aid: http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/d/pacscl/DUCOM_DUCOMWMSC537

Digitized content and other formats: Less than 1%

Abstract: Ann Preston (1813-1872) was a pioneer in women's medical education. She graduated from the first class of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania (later the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania) in 1851, served on the faculty, founded the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia and a nursing school, and became the first woman dean of the Female Medical College in 1866. This collection documents Dr. Preston's early life and, to a lesser degree, her medical career and the successes as well as the challenges that she and other women physicians faced in the mid nineteenth century.

Additional description: Most of the materials in this collection deal with Preston's childhood or are photocopies from the Chester County Historical Society. Folders 5 and 6 include a number of documents—including published texts, lectures, and commencement addresses—that shed light on how women justified their participation in medicine in the mid-nineteenth century. While Preston acknowledged that the home was woman's sphere, she did not believe they should be confined there. Many women had children to support, and medicine represented a more remunerative and less time-consuming option than sewing or washing. She also argued that women were better at treating other women. In addition to these material and moral concerns, she believed that women should be allowed to study medicine simply because "the exercise of their own judgment and conscience" directed them to do so.

Research interest: These papers will be interesting to scholars studying not only the challenges faced by women physicians, including opposition from male physicians and male-dominated institutions, but also those studying the evolution of feminist thought. Preston drew on arguments that women should study medicine both because they were the same as men and because they were different from men. In doing so, she navigated several different intellectual discourses, including natural rights theory, separate spheres ideology, civilization theory, and national pride. These papers thus show how these ideas presented both problems and opportunities to women arguing for expanded rights. Finally, historians of women's education will note that these sources reflect nineteenth- and twentieth-century college women's broader sense of a shared mission.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine
Title: Anna Fullerton diaries
Creator: Anna Fullerton
Dates: 1915-1933
Collection number: 1992.12
Geographic information: Dehra Dun, Uttrakhand, India, Asia
Size: .5 lf
Finding aid:
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Dr. Fullerton, a surgeon, spent the latter half of her life as a missionary to India after training and lecturing at Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and serving as the head of the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women. These diaries document her time at Dehra Dun from 1915 to 1933. Although Fullerton comments on the war, local customs, and her work in the hospital, she devotes the bulk of her writing to the weather, friends she heard from or saw, home improvements, legal and business transactions, quotes from the Bible, other books, and friends' letters.

Additional description:

Research interest: A number of interesting themes run through these diaries. The first is US participation in the war, a development of which Fullerton did not approve. The second, and most prominent, concerns her paternalistic attitudes toward locals and their customs, however, attention to such issues is sporadic. Attitudes of missionaries toward local customs, particularly "child brides," is dealt with more extensively in WMCP's Alumnae Transactions, as is American medical women's participation in the war. Since Fullerton often transcribes friends' letters in full, it is often difficult to determine where quoted material ends and her own thoughts begin.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Annual Announcements of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Creator: Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Dates: 1850-1970

Collection number: Acc. 76

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States;
3200 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 1.5 lf

Finding aid:

Digitized content and other formats: 40% (1850-1895) digitized:

<https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/object/lca:12184>

Abstract: Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP) published an annual announcement starting in 1850 which described curriculum, faculty, student body, and course requirements and offerings. In 1914 the Annual Announcement was published with the quarterly publication, Bulletin of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. The Annual Announcement continued into the 1980s.

Additional description: WMCP's Annual Announcements shed light on academics, demographics, and values. Increasingly detailed breakdowns of courses, recommended reading, and faculty members reveal a curriculum that grew more rigorous to support a profession that was becoming more specialized. Additionally, course offerings reveal the confluence between medicine and Progressive and feminist reform. A course on hygiene, eventually supported by the US Social Hygiene Board, included visits to factories, water-filtration plants, and other sites. It also addressed aspects of social medicine, including sex hygiene and control of venereal disease. Announcements also offer some insights into the kind of students who attended WMC, their career prospects after graduation, and the kinds of students WMC tried to recruit. In addition to listing places of residence for students and alumnae, as well as those in the latter category who received hospital appointments, announcements describe the kinds of financial aid available to prospective students. Of particular interest is the aid available to students who wish to become missionaries after graduation.

Research interest: These announcements will be of interest to researchers studying the evolution of medical education. Course offerings and descriptions reveal much about the rigor of training and the subjects emphasized by the college, as well as something of the medical knowledge that existed at the time. The broad strokes of these changes will also be interesting to historians of women's participation in Progressivism and public health.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Bulletins of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Creator: Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Dates: 1914-1938

Collection number:

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States;
3200 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: .5 lf

Finding aid:

Digitized content and other formats: <https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/object/lca%3A12118>

Abstract: An annual publication of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP) listing faculty, speeches and addresses, enrolled students, and activity reports, 1915-1920.

Additional description: The bulletins offer a largely synchronic picture of WMCP activities and philosophy. In addition to facts on enrollment, the geographical dispersion of alumnae, and more, bulletins offer descriptive reports and transcripts that are particularly revealing of institutional values. They discuss student missionary work, offer justifications for women as physicians and for single-sex education, describe the growing social services department, and document participation in the war effort both at home and abroad. This last issue is covered in particular detail. Reports of student activities also provide hints of college life outside of the classroom or clinic.

Research interest: The bulletins capture a particularly interesting time period, one that includes the maturation of Progressive reform, the limits of Progressive internationalism, US participation in WWI, and the final push for woman suffrage. WMCP's relationships to all of these issues are reflected in the bulletins, and thus they will be of interest to researchers studying a variety of topics.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Clara Marshall Papers

Creator: Clara Marshall

Dates: 1879-1930

Collection number: Acc. 292

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 1.25 lf

Finding aid: http://archives.drexelmed.edu/collect/inventories/a292_inventory.pdf

Digitized content and other formats:

[https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search/%2A%3A%2A?f\[0\]=name_facet%3A%22Marshall%2C%20Clara%22](https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search/%2A%3A%2A?f[0]=name_facet%3A%22Marshall%2C%20Clara%22)

Abstract: Clara Marshall was Dean of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP), 1888-1917. Marshall graduated from WMCP in 1875 and soon after became a Professor of Materia Medica. The collection documents Marshall's role as a faculty member and Dean including her efforts in expanding the program and facilities, and relationships with local and national schools and organizations, as well as containing student records.

Additional description: During Clara Marshall 's tenure as dean of WMCP (1888-1917) professionalization attempts proliferated. Through extensive correspondence and scattered other sources, this collection highlights how these attempts cut both ways for WMCP. In this and other ways, these papers also contribute to understanding the institutional history of the school, documenting enrollment, alumnae publications, and more through reports and pamphlets. They also highlight the school's continued involvement in missionary work. Finally, this collection demonstrates Marshall's participation in other aspects of the women's rights movement, particularly suffrage, and includes correspondence from such prominent women as Alice Stone Blackwell, Mary Putnam Jacobi, and Lida Stokes Adams.

Research interest: This collection will be of interest to scholars studying the relationship between women's institutions and male-dominated professionalization attempts. While women leaders often welcomed professionalization as a means of attaining legitimacy, a perennial lack of funding often made such recognition impossible. There is also some evidence that shows a connection between WMCP and the woman suffrage movement, including a letter from Lida Stokes Adams to Marshall and a paper Marshall read before National American Woman Suffrage Association. These papers will be useful to researchers interested in the role of professional women in the suffrage movement.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Martha Tracy Papers

Creator: Martha Tracy

Dates: 1850-1948

Collection number: WM.SC.421

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States; 3200 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 2 lf

Finding aid: http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/d/pacscl/DUCOM_WMSC421xml

Digitized content and other formats:

[https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search/%2A%3A%2A?f\[0\]=name_facet%3A%22Marshall%2C%20Clara%22](https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search/%2A%3A%2A?f[0]=name_facet%3A%22Marshall%2C%20Clara%22)

Abstract: Martha Tracy was a student (1904), professor and influential dean (1917-1941) at Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP). This collection includes publications by Tracy and other physicians, mostly concerning cancer [1894-1916]; documentation of activity as WMCP Dean; history of the school and Tracy's original cartoons and verse 'Ye Medical Student's Primer' (1904). Tracy's writings include coverage of cancer, preventive medicine, women in medicine, and ethics.

Additional description: Martha Tracy (1875-1942) was dean of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP) from 1918 to 1940. Some of these materials, including several materials about the history of WMCP, speak to an earlier era, including continued attempts at increased professional standing. Speeches and printed materials, meanwhile, demonstrate how justifications for women's participation in medicine had changed (or not) in the half century since Preston served as dean. Other documents, including correspondence with such women as Anna Howard Shaw and Lucretia Blankenburg, demonstrate the connection between WMC and others aspects of the women's rights movement, as well as its continued participation in missionary work. The collection includes several photographs of Tracy.

Research interest: Historians of professionalization will find materials on the extent to which WMCP had attained professional standing by this point, as well as the continued difficulties the institution faced. Historians of feminism, meanwhile, will be interested to note the continued salience of arguments about both women's similarities to and differences from men as justification for their participation in medicine. Researchers hoping to learn more about Tracy's life will also find much of interest, as posthumous memorials provide significant biographical material.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Rachel L. Bodley Papers

Creator: Rachel L. Bodley (1831-1888)

Dates: 1856-1891

Collection number: Acc. 291

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: .75 lf

Finding aid: http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/d/pacscl/DUCOM_WMSC420xml

Digitized content and other formats: <https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search/Keyword:bodley>

Abstract: This collection documents some of Dr. Bodley's endeavors as Dean of the Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP). The bulk of this collection consists of correspondence between Dr. Bodley and various WMCP faculty, students, and alumnae. The collection also contains academic and administrative documents. Examples of the administrative materials includes WMCP faculty by-laws, Examination Committee reports, and financial records. Academic material such as published speeches and lectures provide a robust insight into the institution's mission, goals and methods during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. This collection also includes material that elucidates Dr. Bodley's interest in medical missionary work.

Additional description:

Research interest: These papers will primarily draw researchers interested in institutional history. However, they also highlight the development of a network of women professionals centered around WMCP. Letters from students, alumnae, faculty, physicians at other institutions, and perhaps most of all prospective students across the nation demonstrate the prestige of WMCP, while Bodley's report on alumnae shows how graduates expanded this network.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Reports and Transactions of the Annual Meetings of the Alumnae Association of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Creator: Alumnae Association of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Dates: 1876-1939

Collection number:

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States; 3200 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 1.5 lf

Finding aid:

Digitized content and other formats:

https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/search?f%5B0%5D=org_facet%3A%22Woman%27s%20Medical%20College%20of%20Pennsylvania.%20Alumnae%20Association%22

Abstract: The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMCP) Alumnae Association published annual transactions on the activity of and scientific papers by women physician graduates of WMCP, 1876-1939.

Additional description: In addition to lists of members, officers, and other organizational data, the WMCP transactions include reports on members who have died, sometimes with lengthy biographies. The richest sections of transactions include papers on, and discussion on, various medical and social topics. There is a special focus on gynecological and other women's topics and missionary work. Additionally, transactions include excerpts from the annual reports of the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women and the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia, including some data on patient and treatment breakdowns.

Research interest: This collection will be of great interest to historians studying the evolution of medical knowledge. Discussions in particular offer a rare glimpse into the contested nature of various medical theories. However, this collection is perhaps most valuable for what it reveals about WMCP graduates' views on race, class, and gender. In particular, they saw it as their duty as enlightened American women to lift up women in other parts of the world—particularly India, where the phenomenon of “child brides” was especially concerning. This topic receives extensive coverage. Less prominently featured, but still included, are arguments that attribute racial and class disparities to biological factors. For historians of race and class in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century woman's movement, this collection is a treasure trove.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: West Philadelphia Hospital for Women records

Creator: West Philadelphia Hospital for Women

Dates: 1889-1932

Collection number: WM.SC.160

Geographic information: 41st and Ogden Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States; 4035 Parrish Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States;

Size: 1.25 lf

Finding aid: http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/d/pacscl/DUCOM_WMSC160

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Founded by Dr. Elizabeth Comly-Howell in 1889, the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women was established in order to provide a place in West Philadelphia where women could be treated by women. In 1929, the hospital merged with the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia. At the time of the merger, it was arranged that all maternity cases would be sent to the West Philadelphia Hospital, and surgical cases would be kept at the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia. The Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia continued in existence until 1964 when it was absorbed by the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The collection contains Board of Manager records, Executive Committee records and historical materials. The West Philadelphia Hospital for Women records are arranged in three series: "Board of Managers records," "Executive Committee records," and "Historical materials." The "Board of Managers records" includes Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from 1889 to 1901 and 1917 to 1932; Annual Meeting Minutes from 1920 to 1929; and Annual Reports from 1890 to 1893, 1904 to 1910, 1913 to 1914, and 1918 to 1927. The "Executive Committee records" include Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from 1908 to 1914. The "Historical materials" series consists of a history of the Hospital, circa 1899; rules for the Superintendent and Directress of Nurses, 1901; the Charter and By-Laws of the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women, 1912; Broomall Club new members letter, 1916; a descriptive brochure, 1917; and the resolution to merge with Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia, circa 1929.

Additional description: Board of Managers minutes are procedural, with more space devoted to committee reports, budgets, and resolutions than to the practice of medicine. However, they do shed light on institutional and treatment practices, noting the number of patients admitted (including free or at reduced rates), prescriptions written, and surgeries performed, as well as listing hospital staff and discussing the kinds of equipment and facilities they need. Executive Committee minutes also include committee reports, budgets, and resolutions, but they are more hands-on in terms of the day-to-day happenings in the hospital and its nurse training program, including students' grades, relationships between students and instructors, and what constituted proper training. Ann

Research interest: In addition to the importance of the annual reports, historians who study women's voluntary organizations will find these papers useful. From the beginning, they show hospital leaders running the institution like a business, very much in keeping with the organizational patterns of women's benevolent work earlier in the nineteenth century. Other women's historians will note with interest the participation of philanthropist Anna T. Jeanes. Researchers of the history of medicine will find these materials very instructive in illustrating how treatment and training programs changed over the course of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia Records

Creator: Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia

Dates: 1861-1964

Collection number: WM.002

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 8.5 lf

Finding aid: http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/pacscl/detail.html?id=PACSCL_DUCOM_DUCOMWM002

Digitized content and other formats: Less than 1%:

<https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/object/lca:12151>

Abstract: Founded in 1861 by Ann Preston, M.D., the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia provided clinical experience for the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania students and practical training for nurses. In 1929, the West Philadelphia Hospital for Women merged with the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia, retaining the latter's name. The Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia continued in existence until 1964 when it was absorbed by the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The collection contains minutes of the Board of Managers and various committees, dating from 1861 to 1964; financial records, including auditor's reports and bequests, and dating from 1894 to 1964; clinical reports, dating from the 1890s; a register of deaths dating from 1872 to 1890; board of manager minutes (1863 to 1881) and pamphlets and bulletins (1923-1924; 1957-1960) from the hospital's Training School for Nurses.

Additional description:

Research interest: Board of Managers meeting minutes are interesting largely to the extent that they show women running a business. In addition to appointing officers, forming committees, electing members, and reading reports, they sought incorporation, looked for a building, dealt with maintenance and facility issues, and administered budgets. Beyond this, many of the richest aspects of the meeting minutes—bylaws about whom to admit and at what rate, statements on the need for a woman's hospital, and breakdowns of patients seen and treatments administered—are included in annual reports. In addition to detailed discussions of these subjects, annual reports will be of great interest to historians of women's education and employment. Researchers will be able to see how training of, and expectations for, women doctors and nurses evolved. Of particular interest are the regularly included rules for nurses, which lay out requirements for age, intelligence, character, behavior, and duties, and applications for the nurse training school, which include personal questions about marital status, children, health issues, height and weight, race, and religious denomination.

Repository: Drexel University College of Medicine

Title: Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania clipping scrapbooks

Creator: Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Dates: 1869-1923

Collection number: Acc. 133

Geographic information: 21st Street and North College Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States;
3200 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Size: 1.5 lf

Finding aid: index available in repository

Digitized content and other formats:

<https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/object/lca:1696#page/1/mode/1up>

<https://idea.library.drexel.edu/islandora/object/lca%3A12122>

Abstract: 27 clippings scrapbooks and loose clippings of general information related to Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and later Medical College of Pennsylvania. All scrapbooks are of a general nature, covering any topic relevant to the school and hospital and were compiled anonymously, most likely by the public relations department in later years. One of the two more specific scrapbooks focuses on the Alice Tallant Affair; the other was compiled by Dr. Rachel L. Bodley, Dean of the College from 1874-1888. Each scrapbook covers a particular period of time with the total time period covered from 1867 to 1972 with single clippings dating to 1854.

Additional description: This collection includes clippings from local, national, and international newspapers, feminist publications, and medical publications. Additionally, clippings include coverage of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMC) commencement exercises, announcements, and other student activities. The first thirty years of clippings are largely dedicated to debates over whether or not women should be doctors. Around the turn of the century, opposition to women doctors abated somewhat, partially replaced by a discourse in which educated women served as a symbol of white, Christian America to the rest of the world, particularly in missionary work. Coverage of women's participation in the war effort begins around 1915, as does more extensive discussion of progressive public health initiatives. There is also some evidence of connections to the suffrage movement.

Research interest: These clippings allow researchers to analyze how discourses about women doctors changed between 1869 and 1923, as well as how these perceptions were related to national and international developments. Clippings are less rich, although still helpful, in documenting how women physicians thought of themselves. Women doctors regularly responded to opposition, and students occasionally took action to take control of their own education. Researchers should keep in mind that these scrapbooks were created by WMCP personnel, which makes tracking change over time difficult (collecting patterns may have changed).

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Biddle Family Papers

Creator: Various

Dates: 1793-1951

Collection number: RG 5/177

Geographic information:

Size: 4 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/friends/ead/5177bifa.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The collection contains correspondence, journal, letterbooks, and account books, together with other manuscript material reflecting the social and cultural life and religious activities of a prominent Quaker family of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Papers of Lucy Biddle Lewis (1861-1941) are important for association with the women's suffrage movement and for early activities of the American Friends Service Committee.

Additional description: In letters to her family and a few friends, suffragist and peace activist Lucy Biddle Lewis described her trips to the Hague in 1915 and Zurich in 1919 for peace conferences. Her papers do not make up a tremendous amount of this collection, but the letters are quite detailed, descriptive, and interesting. They discuss Lewis's friendship with and fondness for Jane Addams, as well as her interactions with other prominent women, including Emily Greene Balch, Jeannette Rankin, and Florence Kelley. She also discusses topics including Wilson and the peace process, the state of postwar Europe, post-war relief efforts, Russian politics, and working with Hoover.

Research interest: These letters serve as a candid supplement to the more official Woman's Peace Party papers, shedding light on some of the activists involved and the real, on-the-ground difficulties they faced in working for peace.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Emily Howland Family Papers

Creator: Howland, Emily, 1827-1929

Dates: 1763-1929

Collection number: RG 5/066

Geographic information:

Size: 7 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/friends/ead/5066howl.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: This collection includes the papers of Emily Howland (1827-1929), a Quaker educator and humanitarian who is particularly remembered for her work with freed slaves in the South. The collection contains correspondence, journals, other manuscripts, memorabilia, and images of Emily Howland and members of the Howland and Tallcot families. Topics covered include education, philanthropy, abolition, and women's rights.

Additional description: Emily Howland's life included some similarities to Martha Schofield's, but their writing differed. Howland's letters and diaries are mostly newsy, focused on daily goings-on and activities. Only rarely does she discuss politics or her work or reflect on her feelings. Her reflective moments tend to be about religion, philosophy, or the natural world. The collection does not include diaries for the years in which she worked in a contraband camp and started her schools. The collection does include some interesting essays, including one on citizenship rights for women and African Americans. Her collection of suffrage badges and memorabilia is also noteworthy.

Research interest: Emily Howland led a very interesting life, but she did not often comment on its most notable parts. Researchers hoping to find detailed information about her work with contraband, in schools for freedpeople, or for suffrage may find the day-to-day nature of this collection somewhat frustrating.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Friends' Indian Aid Association of Philadelphia Records

Creator: Friends' Indian Aid Association

Dates: 1869-1875

Collection number: RG 4/031

Geographic information: Philadelphia (Pa.)

Size: .25 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/Library/friends/ead/4031inai.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The Friends' Indian Aid Association was organized in 1869 by members of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (Hicksite Quaker). The stated objective was to solicit voluntary donations of money and goods to distribute to the Indian tribes assigned to the care of the Yearly Meeting. Collection includes printed and hand-written documents, correspondence, and financial records.

Additional description: This is a small collection with scattered documents. Correspondence is mostly about donations and the distribution of goods, although it does include a few thank-you notes from aid recipients; other documentation is official or procedural in nature. Although women were involved in this organization, including in its leadership, there is not much documentation to connect their work explicitly to women's rights. The collection does document one interesting connection. The association sent Dr. Phebe Oliver, previously of the Woman's Hospital, to work on the Otoe reservation (letter from pres. Mary Jeanes, 1871).

Research interest: The material in this collection corroborates the paternalism of such nineteenth-century benevolent organizations, although the glimpses are brief.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Lewis-Fussell Family Papers

Creator:

Dates: 1698-1978

Collection number: RG 5/087

Geographic information:

Size: 6 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/friends/ead/5087lefu.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: Digitized Content: no

Abstract: The collection contains correspondence, journals, other writings, account books, albums, photographs, and miscellaneous notes of members of the Lewis and Fussell families of Chester and Delaware Counties in Pennsylvania. Includes the papers and drawings of Graceanna Lewis, prominent Quaker natural scientist and social reformer. Educated at the Kimberton Boarding School, she also taught at a number of female seminaries, including a boarding school managed by her uncle, Bartholomew Fussell, and the Foster School for Girls at Clifton Springs, N.Y. Of particular interest is her correspondence with a cousin concerning phrenology and a school for black children in which he was teaching, and her manuscript memoirs of the Underground Railroad.

Additional description: These papers offer windows into abolitionism, Quakers and militarism, and female friendships and professionalism. Graceanna Lewis belonged to a family of reformers and was in a circle that involved many others, including Cyrus and Charles Burleigh and William Still. Her correspondence addresses issues including the Abby Kelley controversy over female participation in antislavery work and the Underground Railroad. The latter is also addressed in an unpublished memoir Lewis wrote in 1912. She discussed her parents' opposition to slavery, the fugitives who hid on their property, and the contributions of other local abolitionists. Additionally, these papers shed light on the difficulties the Civil War posed to Quakers who were both antislavery and antiwar. Lewis's writings also show how her work was sometimes in concert with, and sometimes at odds with, her politics. As a teacher, she did not hesitate to talk to her students about slavery, even if their parents would object. However, she was also a scientist, which led her to embrace phrenology and scientific racism. A final thread that runs through this collection is that of female friendships, expressed in Lewis's lifelong friendship with Hannah Mifflin.

Research interest: The papers reflect many interesting issues, but may be best suited to supplement a study of the abolitionist community than they are as windows into Lewis's own life and activism. Additionally, while Lewis certainly exercised agency through her pursuit of an unconventional career, she did not really focus on the gendered aspects of slavery or on women's rights per se.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Lucretia Mott Manuscripts

Creator: Mott, Lucretia, 1793-1880

Dates: 1831-1959

Collection number: MSS 035

Geographic information:

Size: 2.5 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/friends/ead/Mott.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Lucretia Mott was a prominent Philadelphia Quaker minister and a leader in reform movements, especially antislavery, education, peace, and women's rights. The bulk of the collection consists of material which was assembled at the time of the publication of *Life and Letters* by Anna Davis Hallowell in 1884. It includes original correspondence of Lucretia Mott and her husband, James M. Mott, with family and other reformers of their day. The collection also contains sermons, essays, and antislavery documents, and the diary of Lucretia Mott's trip to England to attend the World's Antislavery Convention of 1840.

Additional description: The vast majority of this collection is made up of letters to and from Lucretia Mott, as well as third-party correspondence. As much newsy as political, Mott's letters to family and friends discuss daily goings-on, health, travel, etc., in addition to her reform work. A significant portion of her letters, especially outgoing, are copies of documents held in other repositories. The portion of the most concentrated interest is her diary from the 1840 World's Antislavery Convention, which speaks in detail about women's treatment both at the convention and in the movement more generally.

Research interest: Lucretia Mott has long been recognized as the center of Philadelphia's abolitionist and reform community, and thus this collection is crucial for understanding not only her own work but also activism in the region and nation. In particular, her papers document the role of women in the abolitionist movement and the relationship between abolitionism and the 19th-century women's rights movement.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Martha Schofield papers

Creator: Schofield, Martha, 1839-1916

Dates: 1853-1944

Collection number: RG 5/134

Geographic information:

Size: 3.75 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/friends/ead/5134scho.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: This collection contains biographical information, personal correspondence (1856-1916), and writings (primarily diaries, 1858-1903) by Martha Schofield, a Pennsylvania teacher who taught free blacks in South Carolina and founded the Schofield Normal and Industrial School in Aiken, S.C. Also included are financial and legal papers and School bulletins, annual reports, and some other papers. Among the correspondents are Martha Schofield's extended family and Susan B. Anthony.

Additional description: This collection provides a fascinating look into Schofield's personal life and activism. Her letters and diaries convey a harrowing picture of how the Civil War affected the daily lives of Northerners, as well as the ways in which Schofield contributed to the war effort, including sending food, sewing, and money; working in a hospital; and aiding contraband. Yet, as a Quaker, it was difficult to reconcile her antislavery sentiments with her pacifist beliefs, and her letters describe this struggle as well. In 1865, she was appointed a teacher with the Pennsylvania Relief Association, and from this point on sources document her move South, teaching, and eventually the establishment of her own school. Sources also chart her growing involvement in the suffrage movement, including her views on why women should have the right to vote and her friendship with Susan B. Anthony. The collection does include a few gaps—outgoing letters are less common after 1865, and diaries from 1863-64 and 1872-91 are not included—but each form is so compelling and revealing on its own. Schofield was remarkably candid and reflective, not only about politics but also about her personal life, including her friendship with Sadie Brower—a classic nineteenth-century romantic friendship that included referring to Sadie as her wife and deep depression when Sadie got married—and her attempts to map out unconventional relationships with men. Beyond letters and diaries, Schofield penned many articles on such issues as women's rights and racial equality.

Research interest: Beyond charting Schofield's involvement in abolitionism, the war effort, educational initiatives, and suffrage, the collection documents the ways in which nineteenth-century women attempted to create satisfying lives for themselves outside of marriage and motherhood. Of particular interest is the fact that Schofield was so young (early twenties) when she produced much of this writing, making her relatable to students. Despite the presence of some cross-writing, her handwriting is highly readable.

Repository: Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

Title: Northern Association of the City and County of Philadelphia for the Relief and Employment of Poor Women Records

Creator: Northern Association of the City and County of Philadelphia for the Relief and Employment of Poor Women

Dates: 1841-1929

Collection number: RG 4/053

Geographic information: Philadelphia (Pa.)

Size: 1 lf

Finding aid: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/Library/friends/ead/4053noas.xml>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: This Hicksite Quaker women's charity was organized in 1844 and incorporated in 1856. Its mission was to provide employment in sewing for poor women. The collection contains legal documents, financial records, membership list (1849-1872), reports, correspondence, and related papers.

Additional description: The most interesting documents in this collection are the single extant annual report (1849) and the Seybert Institution report (1918). The former documents the association's commitment to helping the "worthy" poor and its role as a precursor to modern social welfare organizations. The latter gives brief life histories of the women receiving aid through the association, albeit through the eyes of those conducting the report. Other documents are largely about donations, rules and procedures, and income and expenditures.

Research interest: This organization is an interesting footnote in the history of women's benevolent and social welfare activism and in the life of cofounder Lucretia Mott, but the collection does not provide enough material for an in-depth investigation. It is interesting to note that they offered aid to both white and African-American women.

Repository: Haverford College
Title: Josiah White Papers
Creator: White, Josiah (1781-1850)
Dates: 1797-1949
Collection number: 1166
Geographic information:
Size: 10 lf
Finding aid: <http://library.haverford.edu/file-id-801>
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Thirteen letters from abolitionist and educator Sarah Mapps Douglass to her friend Rebecca White, written between 1854 and Douglass's death in 1882. Letters describe Douglass's religious journey, her fondness for Rebecca, her own family history (with a particular focus on her mother and grandfather) and their attempts to confront racism, her time at Woman's Medical College, and the challenges of teaching.

Additional description:

Research interest: While Douglass was a leader in the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society, these letters are unique in providing her individual voice—particularly important for a movement that was for African Americans but for which the bulk of the extant documents come from white women. These letters, by contrast, offer an illuminating look at Douglass's activism and the challenges she faced, as well as the nature of an interracial friendship in the nineteenth-century US.

Repository: Haverford College
Title: Rebecca Singer Collins Papers
Creator: Rebecca Singer Collins (1804-1892)
Dates: 1824-1886
Collection number: 1196
Geographic information:
Size: .5 lf
Finding aid: <http://library.haverford.edu/file-id-753>
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Letters and diaries of Rebecca Singer Collins (1804-1892), a nineteenth-century Quaker well known for her religious and philanthropic work. The collection contains many letters between Rebecca and Isaac Collins during his extended business trip to London in 1845. Rebecca's diaries in the form of booklets and individual pages are dated 1824-1847. Entries are not in order; some are on stray pages rather than in books, and some of the entries in books have been copied from stray "scraps." Most entries concern Rebecca's religious feelings and her often-repeated desire to dedicate herself more and more fully to her faith. Some later entries describe her charitable visits to prisoners, the poor, the sick, and the patients of an insane asylum. One diary is dedicated to the illness and death of Rebecca's brother Henry, including accounts of the remedies offered by doctors, and of Henry's mental and spiritual condition.

Additional description: Collins's main interlocutor was her husband; her letters to him largely concern religion, family, her and others' health, and her daily activities. The most interesting parts of this collection are diaries from the 1840s. While earlier writings focus on Collins's religious journey, later diaries describe her visits to prisons and almshouses in some detail, including descriptions of her interactions with prisoners. Visits include several trips to Blockley Almshouse, including one with Dorothy Dix, as well as to the Moral Reform Retreat for Coloured Women, Moyamensing Prison, the Magdalen Asylum, and the House of Refuge.

Research interest: While not about women's rights per se, Collins's writings show how religion pushed women to be involved in public life. Like her friend Dorothy Dix, Collins felt that she had a right and a duty to enter spaces like almshouses and prisons, ministering to both women and men. Papers also offer a glimpse of how an elite Quaker woman viewed prisoners, the poor, "women of immoral character" (her emphasis) and more.

Repository: Haverford College

Title: The Female Association of Philadelphia for the Relief of Women and Children in Reduced Circumstances

Creator: The Female Association of Philadelphia for the Relief of Women and Children in Reduced Circumstances

Dates: 1800-1999

Collection number: 831

Geographic information:

Size: 4 lf.

Finding aid: <http://library.haverford.edu/file-id-938>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The records of a women's charitable Quaker organization based in Philadelphia spanning the 19th and 20th centuries, which provided money to needy women and children while building assets with which to accomplish their work. The records include: A history of the association; correspondence, 1800-1955, including letters of officers of the Female Association: Hannah Boudinot, Susan Bradford, Gladys Connelly, Mary Hodge, Margaret Stocker; also Elias Boudinot, Benjamin Chew, Benjamin Rush, and James Vanuxem; Board of Directors reports, 1804-1830s and undated; Committee reports, 1810-1812; Legal papers, 1802-1972, including agreement of account with Pennsylvania Company, amendments to charter and by-laws and articles of incorporation; Financial accounts, 1801-1967; and a line cut seal of incorporation designed by Thomas Sully, 1811.

Additional description: Most of the records of this organization, which employed women in spinning, are administrative, dealing with donations, changes to the constitution and by-laws, etc. Correspondence is all incoming; in addition to the members listed earlier, some of it is addressed to early member and prominent Philadelphia philanthropist Rebecca Gratz. Meeting minutes are also administrative, dealing with the election of officers, finances, committee reports, facilities, and more.

Research interest: Scattered observations reveal what members of this organization believed about the causes of poverty and the role of women. Members remained tied to an individual rather than structural understanding of poverty, believing it was connected to sin and immorality. Thus, they aimed to help the "worthy" poor—widows in particular, or, as they put it, "real widows" (emphasis theirs). Nonetheless, they saw their activism as proof that women could exercise influence outside of the household "to a certain extent" (emphasis theirs) without adversely affecting their domestic duties.

Repository: Haverford College

Title: The Female Society of Philadelphia for the Relief and Employment of the Poor records

Creator: The Female Society of Philadelphia for the Relief and Employment of the Poor

Dates: 1795-1978

Collection number: 1234

Geographic information:

Size: 6.25 lf

Finding aid: <http://library.haverford.edu/file-id-895>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The collection includes mostly administrative records, as well as pamphlets, newspaper clippings, and photographs from major gatherings and events. The charter from the Female Society's incorporation in 1815 is also included. The collection dates from the Female Society's founding in 1795 until 1978. The administrative records include Minutes, 1795-1978; Treasurer's Books, 1795-1907; Resumes of Account, 1845-1914; Investments, 1845-1933; Legacies from 1816; Subscribers' Names, 1812-1894; Donations, 1904-1914; Record of Particular Cases from 1828; Standing Committee Minutes, 1838-1891; records from the Committee of Admission, 1868-1873; House of Industry Weekly Reports, 1830-1919; Names of Scholars; Cooperation with other Societies; Time Books, 1935-1943; Payroll Books, 1947-1949; Monthly Reports, 1940-1947; Budgets and Monthly Reports; and records of Women's Savings, 1923-1949. In addition, there are pamphlets, invitations, newspaper clippings, and some photographs from a reception held in 1889, the centennial celebration in 1895, and the sesquicentennial celebration. There is an account of Anne Parrish, silhouettes of Anne Parrish, a diagram of a quilt made by the women of the Female Society, and a notebook by Catharine W. Morris from 1802. There are also miscellaneous papers and images from throughout the Female Society's history.

Additional description:

Research interest: Although this association had much in common with other charitable organizations—its members preferred providing work to aid whenever possible, and they were careful to distinguish between the “worthy” and “unworthy” poor, occasionally denying someone admittance for reasons like uncleanliness or intemperance—it also differed in ways that point to a diversity of strategies within Philadelphia's benevolent community. For instance, they aided men as well as women, providing clothing, coal, and groceries to the infirm. They also aided women of different races and ethnicities, mentioning interactions with “colour'd” and German aid recipients. This collection would be quite valuable for a study of the organization's day-to-day activities.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: Caroline Katzenstein papers

Creator: Caroline Katzenstein

Dates: circa 1850-1965

Collection number: Am. 8996

Geographic information: 1326 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA, 39°57'1.253"N 75°9'46.835"W

Size: .9 lf

Finding aid: http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy_files/migrated/findingaidam8996katzenstein.pdf

Digitized content and other formats: 5%

Abstract: The Caroline Katzenstein papers document Katzenstein's participation in the women's suffrage movement from 1909 to 1921, her efforts to help women obtain equal pay for equal work in the 1920s, her tireless promotion of the Equal Rights Amendment from 1923 to 1965, and her early career as an insurance agent (1909-ca. 1930). Katzenstein's book, *Lifting the Curtain*, is in HSP's library collections. Among the materials are her typed and handwritten correspondence; papers pertaining to her book, *Lifting the Curtain*; her published paper, "The Sporting Spirit" tracts, broadsides, and convention programs from national and Pennsylvania suffrage groups; her executive secretary reports for the Pennsylvania Woman's Suffrage Association; correspondence pertaining to the National Woman's Party and the Equal Rights Amendment; ERA resolutions, hearings and congressional testimonies; a scrapbook with newspaper clippings; photographs of women suffragists; and a 1955 review of *Lifting the Curtain*, presented on WCAU-FM, Philadelphia. There is scant information on Katzenstein's personal life or her family.

Additional description:

Research interest: These papers offer a lively firsthand account of the suffrage movement in Pennsylvania. Katzenstein was involved in almost every suffrage organization in Pennsylvania at one time or another, often holding positions where she was responsible for detailing the group's activities, cultivating relationships with the press, and more. Thus, these papers provide a wealth of documentation on evolving suffrage strategies, including lobbying legislators, holding open-air meetings and parades, and organizing the Liberty Bell tour. Further, they demonstrate the close relationship between state and national activism, detailing the frequent visits Alice Paul and others made to Pennsylvania and the participation of many Pennsylvania women in picketing the White House, along with their subsequent imprisonment. They also document some of the conflict within the suffrage movement, including between NAWSA and the NWP, as well as the role of race within the movement. These papers also illustrate continuity between first- and second-wave feminism through Katzenstein's long activist career.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Title: Dora Kelly Lewis correspondence
Creator: Dora Kelly Lewis
Dates: 1884-1921
Collection number: 2137
Geographic information: Philadelphia, PA, USA
Size: .75 lf
Finding aid: <http://discover.hsp.org/Record/ead-2137/Description#tabnav>
Digitized content and other formats: Less than 1%

Abstract: Dora Kelly Lewis served actively in the suffrage movement. She became an executive member of the National Woman's Party in 1913, served as the chairman of finance in 1918, and as the national treasurer in 1919. In 1920, she headed the ratification committee. The correspondence of Dora Kelly Lewis consists of encouraging and endearing letters from her husband, Lawrence Lewis, 1884-1903, reporting on his legal practice and commenting on Dora's suffragist activities. Letters from 1914-1921 are, for the most part, from Dora to her children and her mother. Several 1917 and 1919 letters detail picketing, watchfires, and other demonstrations, as well as the arrests and imprisonment that followed. Letters from 1919-20 discuss her travels as she worked to convince state legislatures to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment. There are a few typed diary pages. These letters document her efforts in gaining the franchise for women.

Additional description:

Research interest: A strong collection documenting the suffrage movement, especially for students who may not be aware of the sacrifices suffragists made and the poor treatment they received. Beyond the visible drama of arrests and imprisonment, Lewis's letters also document the long, slow work of organizing.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: Edith Madeira papers

Creator: Edith Madeira

Dates: 1900-1951 (bulk 1917-1919)

Collection number: 2053

Geographic information: State of Palestine, 31°57'25.39"N 35°13'54.213"W

Size: .4 lf

Finding aid: http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy_files/migrated/findingaid2053madeira.pdf

Digitized content and other formats:

Abstract: Edith Madeira (1865-1951) served as the chief nurse for the American Red Cross Commission to Palestine from June 1918 to January 1919. The Commission was formed “to look after the sickness and starvation of the civilian population in the occupied area of Palestine.” The papers of Edith Madeira consist of typescript letters, 1917-1919; her “Report for Nursing Service” detailing the Commission’s work in Palestine; Madeira’s nursing diploma and license; memoirs detailing her voyage to Palestine, by way of South Africa and the Indian Ocean; memoirs featuring her service in Palestine and surrounding regions; and a scrapbook filled with photographs, memorabilia, and a few plant specimens.

Additional description:

Research interest: These papers offer historians the opportunity to explore how women negotiated a place they were not supposed to be—the frontlines of war—in a profession that was not always recognized as such—nursing. Yet, Madeira was in a privileged position in relation to those she was helping. Much has been written about interactions between Progressive reformers and those whom they were trying to aid in the context of the United States. Madeira’s papers—especially the several drafts of her report of her experiences—provide researchers with an opportunity to see what happened when a sensibility focused on efficiency and a certain brand of professionalism traveled abroad. In addition to commentary on the war, Madeira’s report is replete with observations on Palestinian natives hired to work in the hospital, Armenian refugees, Africans, and others, all of whom she approached employing an Orientalist gaze.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: New Century Trust records

Creator: New Century Trust

Dates: ca. 1854-2004 (bulk 1882-2000)

Collection number: 3097

Geographic information: 1227 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA, 39°57'14.418"N 75°9'35.475"W

Size: 49.7 lf

Finding aid: http://hsp.org/sites/default/files/legacy_files/migrated/findingaid3097nct.pdf

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The New Century Trust was founded in 1893 as the incorporated body of the New Century Working Women's Guild. Eliza Sproat Turner (1826-1903), a progressive women's activist, helped create both organizations. Over several decades, the trust oversaw and provided financial support for the guild's activities for women in the workforce. The records of the New Century Trust include their own and mostly those of the New Century Guild and its predecessor, New Century Working Women's Guild. Spanning from the mid-1800s to the early 2000s are board and committee meeting minutes, administrative files, membership materials including members' information cards, financial records, photographs, artifacts, clippings, and ephemera.

Additional description: Although this is a large collection, the bulk of its materials are from the post-1920 period. Those that do fit into the project scope are, like meeting minutes, mostly procedural. They do, however, paint a picture of the New Century Guild as somewhere between a settlement house, a union, and a social club by and for self-supporting women. Both meeting minutes and office account books also provide insight into the kinds of evening classes the Guild offered. Given that the organization shared DNA with the Consumers League (Florence Kelley was a founder), it is not surprising that these sources place special emphasis on investigating and improving the working conditions of women and girls. Other points of discussion involved suffrage, home life and paid work, and women's contributions to the war effort. Extant copies of publications, clippings, conference programs, etc., date almost entirely from later in the 20th century.

Research interest: Despite the presence of such prominent Philadelphians as Lucretia Blankenburg and Charlotte Peirce on the Executive Board, the fact that the Guild aimed to be an organization by and for working women allows their voices to come through. The Guild thus differed from many other organizations established for working women in the same era. Members were proud to work for wages and based much of their identity on this activity, particularly interesting given the wide range of occupations represented by the Guild's membership. These records will thus be interesting to historians of women, wage work, and class consciousness.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: Pennsylvania Abolition Society Papers, Series 5

Creator: Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society

Dates: 1833-1870

Collection number: Collection 490 (PAS), E.441 .A58 v. 114 (annual reports); E441. v. 208; E441.A58 v. 16 (pamphlet)

Geographic information: Philadelphia, PA, USA

Size: 1.5 lf

Finding aid: <http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/p/PAS0490.html>

Digitized content and other formats: 30%

Abstract: Founded in 1833, the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society was an interracial abolitionist group. An immediatist group in Garrisonian tradition, it comprised members of Philadelphia's black elite, including Sarah Mapps Douglass and members of the Forten and Purvis families, as well as such prominent white women as Lucretia Mott, Mary Grew, and Sarah and Angelina Grimke. Extant materials include meeting minutes, annual reports, correspondence (mostly incoming), and a pamphlet addressed to the women of Pennsylvania. Documents espouse a version of abolitionism based on both Christian morality and natural rights, one that argued for women's special right and duty to combat the institution. They also discuss such seminal events as the 1837 murder of Elijah Lovejoy, the 1838 burning of Pennsylvania Hall, the controversy over women's participation in the 1840 antislavery convention in London, and, later, the Fugitive Slave Act, onset of war, Emancipation Proclamation, and more.

Additional description:

Research interest: Historians have long recognized the significance of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society, making these records very important. They shed light on some of the most vexing questions about the abolitionist movement, including whether women were able to participate on equal ground with men, the extent to which white abolitionists believed in full racial equality, whether the abolitionist movement truly changed from moral to political over time, and the extent to which women abolitionists drew on mainstream gender discourses to justify their participation.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: The New Century Journal of Women's Interests

Creator: New Century Guild

Dates: 1887-1931

Collection number: HQ 1906.P5 N494

Geographic information: 1227 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA, 39°57'14.418"N 75°9'35.475"W

Size: .5 lf

Finding aid:

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: This collection includes bound copies of the New Century Guild's journal from 1887-1931, the vast majority of which is missing from the New Century Trust Records. The journal changed its name several times, starting as the Journal of Woman's Work and eventually settling on the New Century Journal of Women's Interests. Published every four weeks, the journal included news on the Guild's activities, reprints of annual reports, the names of new members, lists of books and magazines available at the Guild, and more. Additionally, it gave Guild members an opportunity to share their thoughts on a staggering variety of topics. Essays address issues including women's education, pay discrimination, suffrage, gender roles, race relations, marriage, and labor legislation. Some volumes are indexed, with lists of original essays included.

Additional description:

Research interest: It is extremely rare to get access to working women's voices like this, and for that reason, these journals are a dream source for historians. Although some authors only give initials, it should be possible to cross-reference full names with membership roles to figure out authors' occupations.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Title: Woman Suffrage Party of Logan minutes

Creator: Woman Suffrage Party of Logan/Pennsylvania League of Women Citizens

Dates: 1915-1920

Collection number: Am. 8894

Geographic information: Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA, 40°02'37"N 75°10'55"W

Size: .04 lf

Finding aid: <http://discover.hsp.org/Record/ead-Am.8894/Description#tabnav>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Begun as the Germantown branch of the Woman Suffrage Party, this woman's organization called itself the Logan Suffrage League until 12 July 1915, when it changed its name to the Woman Suffrage Party of Logan. Its social, literature, membership, and press committees had as their mission the sponsorship of women's suffrage speeches and the distribution of circulars advertising such occasions and other fund-raising events. This minute book, 16 March 1915 to 10 December 1919, of regular, public, special, and executive meetings includes two photographs of suffragist Anna Howard Shaw. Also included is a dance program from a dance held 16 January 1920 at the Hotel Rittenhouse, sponsored by the Philadelphia League of Women Citizens in honor of the death of Wolstan Dixey.

Additional description: Largely procedural meeting minutes from 1915-1919, these notes describe events hosted, fundraising efforts, officers' elections, dues collection, and the like. This volume is interesting largely for its documentation of how the suffrage movement had changed by the twentieth century's second decade. Suffragists by this point were increasingly using public tactics; members of the Woman Suffrage Party of Logan held open-air meetings, hung banners across Broad Street, advertised in newspapers, staged theater performances, monitored polling places, attended hearings in the state legislature, and actively worked to defeat state politicians who voted against state suffrage. There is little to no discussion of some important national and even state-level developments in the suffrage movement; for example, minutes do not explicitly mention the failed 1915 state referendum, although they do discuss the successful 1919 state campaign. Originally the Germantown (Philadelphia) branch of the Woman Suffrage Party, this organization changed its name to the Pennsylvania League of Women Citizens in 1919, when Pennsylvania women won the right to vote.

Research interest: The notable absences in these papers make it difficult for researchers to glean much about the particular trajectory of the Pennsylvania suffrage campaign. As noted, this volume is most useful for what it documents about the changing strategies of suffragists between the late nineteenth century and the second decade of the twentieth century.

Repository: Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Title: Woman Suffrage Society (Philadelphia, Pa.) minutes, 1892-1901
Creator: Woman Suffrage Society of the County of Philadelphia
Dates: 1892-1901
Collection number: Am. 3154
Geographic information: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Size: .08 lf
Finding aid:
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: Made up of meeting minutes of the Woman Suffrage Society of the County of Philadelphia, these notes are largely procedural, noting budgets, the election of officers and members, committee reports, and the like. These notes demonstrate the kinds of tactics suffragists used at this time, including pursuing press coverage, distributing literature, bringing suffrage speakers to women's groups, holding letter writing campaigns, sponsoring essay contests, and hosting fundraisers. There is also some discussion of petitioning the state legislature, as well as of related issues including women's employment, the single tax movement, the arguments of anti-suffragists, and suffrage developments elsewhere in the nation. Among those involved in this activism were such prominent Pennsylvania suffragists as Jane Campbell, Charlotte Peirce, Lucretia Blankenburg, and Rachel Foster Avery. Additionally, these notes include summaries of lectures given by speakers including Henry Blackwell and Anna Howard Shaw. Finally, this volume documents debates over relationships among local, state, and national organizations.

Additional description:

Research interest: Although a single volume, these notes are dense and information-packed. Researchers interested in a case study of a local suffrage organization will find them of use, but there is little that will advance the literature on the broader suffrage movement in the last decade of the nineteenth century. As noted, however, they do shed some light on membership, tactics, and relationships among local, state, and national organizations

Repository: Library Company of Philadelphia

Title: Cassey and Dickerson Friendship Albums

Creator: Amy Matilda Cassey, Mary Anne Dickerson, Martina Dickerson

Dates: 1833-1856, 1833-1882, 1840-1846

Collection number: P.9764, 13860.Q, 13859.Q

Geographic information: Philadelphia (Pa.); more data points of events/homes of contributors found on interactive map: http://lcpalbumproject.org/?page_id=81 (we can supply spreadsheet used for map if easier)

Size: P.9764: 1 album (76 leaves, 10 drawings), 13860.Q: 1 album (81 leaves, 7 plates, 4 illustrations), 13859.Q: 1 album (95 leaves, 4 drawings)

Finding aid: Descriptions only, with digitized content

Digitized content and other formats: http://lcpalbumproject.org/?page_id=12

Abstract: Friendship album of Amy Matilda Cassey, a middle-class African American woman active in the anti-slavery movement and African American cultural community, contains contributions dating from 1833 until 1856. Contains original and transcribed poems, prose, and essays on topics including slavery, womanhood, religion, friendship, female refinement, death, and love. Contributors, many women of the African American elite community, are prestigious reformers and abolitionists active in the anti-slavery, intelligentsia, and cultural community of the antebellum North including Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Baltimore. Albums belonging to Mary Anne and Martina Dickerson, young middle-class African American Philadelphians, were probably created as a pedagogical instrument to promote cultivated expression. Album belonging to Mary Anne Dickerson contains engraved plates depicting scenic views, and original and transcribed poems, prose, essays, and drawings on topics including friendship, motherhood, mortality, youth, death, flowers, female beauty, and refinement. Martina's album contains original and transcribed poems, prose, and essays on topics including love, friendship, sympathy, courage, and female refinement. Also includes drawings, primarily of flowers. Identified contributors in both are mainly black elite intelligentsia active in the African American anti-slavery and cultural community of mid-nineteenth century Philadelphia. Album belonging to Mary Anne Dickerson contains engraved plates depicting scenic views, and original and transcribed poems, prose, essays, and drawings on topics including friendship, motherhood, mortality, youth, death, flowers, female beauty, and refinement.

Additional description:

Research interest: These albums offer a look at networks in action, showing how close-knit the abolitionist community was. Although the most number of entries come from members of Philadelphia's free black elite, contributors come from as far away as Boston and include such notable figures as the women and men in the Forten and Purvis families, Sarah Mapps Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Lucy Stone, and others. They document how important learning, erudition, aesthetics, and faith were to members of the black elite, but they also shed light on gender norms within this community. Included are some interesting elements of gender conservatism, including odes to domesticity, submission, and motherhood. Frederick Douglass's entry in the Cassey album contrasts the "beauty, elegance, and refinement" of the album with his own duty "to grapple with huge wrong--with gigantic tyranny--to launch the fierce denunciations of outraged and indignant men at the hoary headed oppression!," suggesting that these two worlds were incompatible. It would be of great interest to historians, then, to see if and how this context manifested itself in women's activism in such organizations as the Philadelphia Female Antislavery Society.

Repository: Swarthmore College Peace Collection

Title: Emily Greene Balch Papers

Creator: Emily Greene Balch (1867-1961)

Dates: 1842-1961

Collection number: DG 006

Geographic information:

Size: 27.75 lf

Finding aid: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/DG001-025/DG006/DG006EGBintro.htm>

Digitized content and other formats: no; microfilmed

Abstract: The papers of Emily Greene Balch, the second U.S. woman to win a Nobel Peace Prize (1946), contain her diaries (1876-1955, scattered), journals (c. 1894-1948, scattered) and notebooks, all of which provide autobiographical background. Correspondence to and from Balch spans the years from 1875 until her death in 1961. A gap from 1907 until 1913 may have been caused by a fire at Wellesley in 1914, when many papers were destroyed. A considerable amount of important correspondence (1920-c. 1941) relates to the affairs of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), an international organization which Balch led for many years. Her writings (1884-1956) include articles and speeches--some published, others in manuscript, draft, or note form--as well as letters to the editor, book reviews, poems, a song, and research notes. There are many writings pertaining to Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Some books written by Balch are not microfilmed but can be found in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection library.

Additional description: Before she became a peace activist, Emily Greene Balch was a member of Bryn Mawr's first graduating class (1889). Materials from this part of her life include letters to friends and family members, appointment books, lists of contacts, and occasional observations on issues like labor conditions and economic inequality. Later autobiographical writing also attributes her political awakening to her time at Bryn Mawr.

Research interest: The significance of this collection to the current project largely depends on how parameters are defined. Balch was connected to Philadelphia because she was educated at Bryn Mawr, and materials from her years there do some shed light on how she became the activist that she did. However, other collections can likely make this connection in a stronger way. Materials from later in her life have a higher research value.

Repository: Swarthmore College Peace Collection

Title: Hannah Clothier Hull Papers

Creator: Hannah Clothier Hull 1872-1958

Dates: 1889-1958

Collection number: DG016

Geographic information:

Size: 3 lf

Finding aid: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/DG001-025/DG016HCHull.html>

Digitized content and other formats: no; microfilmed

Abstract: The Hannah Clothier Hull Papers contain personal correspondence (1889-1956), professional correspondence, speeches, articles, and manuscript notes. There is also biographical material, family papers, newspaper clippings, and photographs. Among Hull's early personal correspondence is a folder of letters she wrote to her friend Caroline Cooper Biddle. These letters chart the close friendship between the two young women at the turn of the century. A large part of the collection reflects Hull's work in the peace movement, especially the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Her work for suffrage and women's rights is also well-represented.

Additional description: Pre-1920 materials are relatively sparse, although they provide some insight into Hull's Quaker upbringing and involvement in the peace and suffrage movements. A series of fliers reveals the strategies members of the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage Association used to advance their cause, and a series of letters to, from, and about Jane Addams show how fond the two women were of each other.

Research interest: Although Hull was involved in activism before 1920, her most important contributions were to Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and these are the activities best represented by this collection. For the purposes of this project, the most interesting materials are Hull's letters to Caroline Biddle while a young woman. While not about rights per se, they provide a classic example of the close friendships women formed in this era. They also provide rare insights into women's personal lives, which in many collections are entirely absent or largely eclipsed by political activities.

Repository: Swarthmore College Peace Collection

Title: Jane Addams Collection

Creator: Jane Addams (1860 - 1935)

Dates: 1838-

Collection number: DG 001 / DG 113

Geographic information:

Size: 130 lf / 82 reels

Finding aid: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/Library/peace/DG001-025/DG001JAddams/index.html>

Digitized content and other formats: in progress (Ramapo College); microfilmed

Abstract: The bulk of the Jane Addams Collection consists of correspondence, as well as Rockford Seminary notebooks, diaries, engagement calendars, writings and speeches by and about Addams, passports, visiting cards, reviews of her books, reference files, death notices, condolences, descriptions of memorial services, photographs, the Nobel Peace Prize medal, and memorabilia.

Additional description: For this project, papers related to Addams's connections to Philadelphia were surveyed. She attended Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia for one year, although her time there is not extensively documented. Her work in the peace movement especially brought her into contact with Philadelphia activists; her principal correspondents in the city were fellow Woman's Peace Party/Women's International League for Peace and Freedom members Hannah Clothier Hull and Lucy Biddle Lewis. However, these materials are scattered, and most of them come not from the Addams papers themselves but from the Hull, WILPF, and other collections.

Research interest: As a suffragist, peace activist, and founder of Hull House, Jane Addams's significance to the history of women's activism is tremendous. Ramapo College is in the process of digitizing a small portion of the correspondence from the published microfilm edition of the Jane Addams Papers. For those interested in the stories of activists in and around Philadelphia, the papers of some of her correspondents are more consistently valuable.

Repository: Swarthmore College Peace Collection

Title: Woman's Peace Party Records

Creator: Various

Dates: 1915-1919

Collection number: DG043

Geographic information:

Size: 11.5 lf

Finding aid: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/DG026-050/dg043wilpf/Part%20I-Woman'sPeaceParty.htm>

Digitized content and other formats: no; microfilmed

Abstract: Consists of general organizational files of the national office (in Chicago) such as meeting minutes and correspondence, as well as material from the State Branches.

Additional description: The Woman's Peace Party existed between 1915 and 1919, becoming the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) US Section. Headquartered in Chicago and with branches in several states, Philadelphia- and Pennsylvania-related materials are scattered throughout this collection. The two Philadelphia women most involved in the organization were Hannah Clothier Hull and Lucy Biddle Lewis, who played important roles in crafting and debating the group's agenda. Both are featured in annual meeting minutes, which often include detailed transcripts. Additionally, state branches were relatively autonomous, and this collection includes a fair number of meeting minutes, programs, pamphlets, and clippings that shed light on the Pennsylvania branch's specific activities. There is also some correspondence between Pennsylvania branch members and national office members, including Jane Addams.

Research interest: With the centennial of these events underway, the Pennsylvania-specific parts of this collection will be interesting to researchers studying World War I's effects on the Commonwealth. Additionally, they will be useful to historians interested in the relationships between state and national offices, debates within the peace movement, the interrelatedness of peace and suffrage, how activists' strategies changed once the US entered the war, or the biographies of such women as Hull and Lewis.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center

Title: Association for Jewish Children Records

Creator: Association for Jewish Children

Dates: 1855-1973

Collection number: SCRC 37

Geographic information:

Size: 29.72 lf

Finding aid: <https://library.temple.edu/scrc/association-jewish-children>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The Jewish Foster Home and Orphan Asylum was founded in 1855 as the Jewish Foster Home Society for the purposes of “providing a home for destitute and unprotected children of Jewish parentage.” Rebecca Gratz, secretary of the Philadelphia Orphan Asylum, was among the founding members of the Jewish Foster Home Society. This collection contains admission registers for foster home wards, indenture agreements, annual reports, administrative records, and reports on the foster home. The admission registers record the names and ages of children entering the foster home, the date of entry, and in some cases nativity, an abbreviated statement of reason for placement, and date of discharge from the home. Some of the earliest records of admission also include indenture agreements or contracts signed by a parent or guardian binding the institution to provide food, clothing, medicine, and education for children placed there. In return, the parent or guardian committed the child to a stated number of years of labor. Administrative records in this series include Board of Managers meeting minutes, a near complete run of annual reports from 1856 to 1919, and documentation about the creation and administration of a fund to educate wards of the foster home through the Cassie Theobold Pfaelzer Trust. Also of note are the meeting minutes of the Girl’s Literary Society, a group consisting of older female wards who engaged in literary recitation and musical performances for the benefit of the residents.

Additional description:

Research interest: What makes these records interesting also makes it challenging to fit the collection under the scope of women’s rights. Until 1875, managers and officers were all women, while men sat on the Board of Council. Starting in 1875, men filled the roles previously held by women, who were demoted to the associate board. As a result, their voices disappeared from annual reports, where previously they had expounded on the relationship between women and reform work in some detail. While this lends itself to comparing different reform strategies and philosophies, it also makes it difficult to locate women’s agency.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center

Title: Hebrew Sunday School Society of Philadelphia Records

Creator: Hebrew Sunday School Society of Philadelphia

Dates: 1802-2002 (bulk 1888-1980)

Collection number: SCRC 50

Geographic information:

Size: 35 lf

Finding aid: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/hebrew-sunday-school-society>

Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: In 1838, Rebecca Gratz (a Jewish philanthropist in Philadelphia), along with the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, founded a Sunday School in Philadelphia that was open to all Jewish children regardless of parental financial standing or synagogue affiliation. Founded in 1819, the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society was the first Jewish charitable organization in Philadelphia, and the first such organization in the United States to offer free basic Jewish religious education. In the first year of operation, attendance at the school grew to 80 students, a number which represented nearly 90 percent of the Jewish children in Philadelphia at the time. The Female Hebrew Benevolent Society operated the Sunday School until 1858 when it was incorporated as the Hebrew Sunday School Society (HSSS). Rebecca Gratz served as president of the organization until she was 80 years of age. The Hebrew Sunday School Society records house the organizational records of HSSS. This collection, which dates from 1802 to 2002, consists of minutes, reports, correspondence, budgets and financial statements, staff and student lists, event programs, clippings, books and research materials, photographs, lantern slides, pins, plaques, and other memorabilia. These records and materials document the history and evolution of HSSS and evidence an organization concerned with the betterment of Jewish children through religious education, including those with special needs. The collection is a unique and rich example of the growth and establishment of the first Hebrew Sunday schools that existed outside of any synagogue, with records that provide a look into how decisions were made over the course of the Society's existence regarding what and how to teach, as well as a look into Jewish life in Philadelphia.

Additional description: The pre-1920 materials in this collection shed significant light on the operations of the school. Minutes and annual reports describe academic activities and procedural matters, and there is also some insight into the school's educational philosophy. Students were to be as quiet as possible, stay in their desks, and repeat their teachers' words, and teachers were to be "kind" but "strict." Also of interest are materials produced about students. For the school's 75th anniversary in 1889, administrators solicited notes from former students listing their dates of attendance. A list of those who responded appears in the event's program. The Northern School's record of pupils is also extant between 1890 and 1903. It includes students' names, ages, and addresses, as well as their fathers' (occasionally mothers') names and occupations, pointing to class and residential patterns.

Research interest: These records are important for the history of Jewish institution building in Philadelphia, but they have less to say about the history of women's rights, although the very existence of the school reflects Rebecca Gratz's dedicated activism. Later remembrances of Gratz included in this collection do include some biographical information about her, but they shed more light on how she functioned as a symbol than on who she was as a person or activist.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center
Title: Jewish Ys and Centers of Greater Philadelphia, Neighborhood Centre Branch records: Series 1
Creator:
Dates: 1891-1969
Collection number: SCRC 22
Geographic information:
Size: 92 lf
Finding aid: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/jewish-ys-and-centers-greater>
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The Jewish Ys and Centers of Greater Philadelphia, Neighborhood Centre Branch Records, document the organization's activities as a social welfare organization, settlement house, educational facility, and recreational community center. The collection contains administrative and financial records, correspondence, child care case files, self-studies and surveys, population statistics, and programming documentation from the primary branch, satellite branches, and day camps operated by the Neighborhood Centre. The collection provides details about the planning and implementation of services at the center, designed to aid and improve the lives of the Jewish immigrant community in twentieth century Philadelphia.

Additional description: Records related to the pre-1920 era, for most of which the organization was named the Young Women's Union, are scarce. The charter, constitution, and annual reports provide insight into the services the YWU provided for its neighbors, including a day nursery and shelter, kindergarten, gymnasium, library, sewing school, evening classes and clubs, and more. Annual reports also shed some light on how the YWU negotiated its relationship to mainstream American culture, including Americanization. Finally, papers document the YWU's connection to other Progressive institutions, especially the Children's Bureau.

Research interest: Much of the scholarly work on settlement houses has focused on those established by elite Protestant women for immigrant communities who were largely Catholic and Jewish, investigating the power dynamics between these two very different groups. Less work has been done on activists who shared cultural points of reference with those they aimed to help, although historians have found that African American women who aimed to help other members of their community operated somewhat differently. These papers offer the opportunity to fill in another piece of this puzzle. Did a shared religion mitigate tensions between these two groups, and, if so, how does this relationship alter our understanding of Progressive reform more broadly?

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center

Title: Octavia Hill Association records

Creator: Octavia Hill Association

Dates: 1880-1970

Collection number: SCRC 29

Geographic information:

Size: 8.25 lf

Finding aid: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/octavia-hill-association>

Digitized content and other formats: Helen Parrish diaries only

<http://digital.library.temple.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/helen%20parrish%20diaries/order/nosort>

Abstract: The Octavia Hill Association was incorporated in 1896 to improve working class housing conditions through the sympathetic management of dwellings which it purchased and renovated. The Association's activities were modeled after the work in London of Octavia Hill, with whom one of its founders, Helen Parrish, had studied. These records contain the personal diaries, correspondence, and notes of Helen Parrish (1888-1943), as well as reports, legislative files, correspondence, publications, and clippings of the Octavia Hill Association (1880-1970). Also included are glass lantern slides, negatives, and photographic reprints relating to the Association's properties and community activities, and depicting housing interiors and exteriors before and after renovations, court yards, and street scenes around Philadelphia.

Additional description: The diaries detail Helen Parrish's "friendly visits" to her tenants. Like other early social welfare work, these visits were incredibly invasive, policing tenants' sexual behavior, childcare practices, financial decisions, and drinking habits. Race relations, especially interracial relationships, come up frequently. Interestingly, unlike social welfare programs aimed exclusively at women (mothers' pensions, for example, and, later, ADC), Parrish policed the behavior of both men and women. She mentions many of the same people several times, making it possible for researchers to trace their stories. Correspondence is mostly incoming, including several letters from Octavia Hill and her sister, Miranda. Notes and speeches go the furthest in documenting the influences on Parrish and the OHA, as well as their very specific vision for how best to practice charity. Meanwhile, subseries on legislative involvement and speeches, conferences, and reports best document the actions the OHA pursued.

Research interest: It is rare for historical figures to lay out their thoughts, influences, and goals so explicitly. Helen Parrish emerges as a figure as complex and compelling as Jane Addams, one whose life and work encapsulate the central paradox of Progressivism as both altruistic and coercive. This collection thus adds new evidence to the perennial debate over which characteristic more fundamentally describes this movement. Moreover, these papers reveal Philadelphia to be a city as important to Progressive reform as New York and Chicago, not only within the US but also as a hub in the transatlantic circulation of Progressive ideas.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center
Title: Young Women's Christian Association of Philadelphia, Germantown Branch
Creator: YWCA Germantown Branch
Dates: 1785-1982 (bulk 1869-1982)
Collection number: Acc. 877, 280, PC-46, PC-89
Geographic information:
Size: 44 lf
Finding aid: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/young-womens-christian>
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The materials in this collection include records documenting the history of the YWCA of Germantown, including activities, administration, financial records, photographs, and special events.

Additional description: Of all of the branches, the Germantown YWCA has the most extensive pre-1920 documentation. Minutes and reports are exhaustive and sometimes redundant, as each committee collected others' reports and noted them in their own minutes. Of particular interest are their attempts to found a branch for African-American women, which is documented throughout the collection but especially in the Committee of 22 minutes. Other topics covered include debates over whether to affiliate with the Philadelphia YWCA, women's work conditions and labor laws, and contributions to the war effort. Two books included in the collection, *The Handbook of the Young Women's Christian Association Movement* (1916) and Elizabeth Wilson, *Fifty Years of Association Work among Young Women* (1916), provide detailed histories of the Y movement, although they are not specific to Philadelphia. The collection also includes a number of photographs; although many are from later in the 20th century, a handful depict leisure and athletic activities from the 1910s and 1920s.

Research interest: In addition to comprehensive institutional documentation, the chronological scope of this collection offers the opportunity to chart changing ideas of ideal womanhood, especially as envisioned in cross-class relationships. While in the early years of the organization directors cast their patrons as "women adrift," alternately downtrodden and wanton, in later years they appealed to their audience as modern, independent, and useful. For students in particular, this collection provides a good illustration of the shift from true to new womanhood.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center
Title: Young Women's Christian Association of Philadelphia, Kensington Branch
Creator: YWCA Kensington Branch
Dates: 1891-1981
Collection number: Acc. 520, 531, 552,PC-43
Geographic information:
Size: 10 cubic feet
Finding aid: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/young-womens-christian-0>
Digitized content and other formats: No digitized content

Abstract: The collection covers the period from 1891 to 1981, with the bulk of the material dated 1960-1980. The Board minutes span nearly the entire history of the organization, thus providing an excellent overview of the Kensington YWCA. Of special interest in this collection is the Board and program minutes from the very beginning of Kensington Branch.

Additional description: In addition to other association business, meeting minutes discuss in considerable detail the kinds of classes the branch should hold and the hiring of teachers and employees. Minutes also include some discussion of women's contributions to the war effort, supplemented by patriotic materials that can be found in scrapbooks. Program minutes from 1891 to 1900 are especially interesting. Early entries include narrative accounts of each evening's activities—how many young women came, what the night's entertainment was, etc. As evidence of the association's efficacy, they include quotations from attendees emphasizing how grateful they are and how anxious they are to get into classes (albeit from the perspective of board members). Later accounts feature class rosters with the names, addresses, and occupations of students. Many of them were domestic or factory workers (especially in the garment trades), but there were also a handful of dressmakers, tailoresses, clerks, stenographers, and teachers.

Research interest: This collection is interesting largely as an institutional history or in the context of other, similar organizations formed around the same time, including but not limited to other YWCAs. Its target audience was somewhere between that of a settlement house and a working women's guild; while each involved elite women attempting to help those in need of aid, the class status of the second group was not identical. Historians may wish to investigate whether these differences affected relationships between the various constituencies.

Repository: Temple University Libraries, Special Collections Research Center

Title: Young Women's Christian Association of Philadelphia, Metropolitan Branch records

Creator: YWCA Metropolitan Branch

Dates: 1897-1993

Collection number: Acc. 635, 902, PC-85

Geographic information: 125 lf

Size: <http://library.temple.edu/scrc/young-womens-christian-3>

Finding aid: No digitized content

Digitized content and other formats: The Young Women's Christian Association of Philadelphia (Pa.), Metropolitan Branch Records contains administrative records, correspondence, minutes, financial records, photographs, publications, committee records, project records, and other materials by and related to the YWCA of Philadelphia, Metropolitan Branch, as well as other Philadelphia branches of the organization.

Abstract: These records include a great deal of information about both procedural matters—including relationships with other YWCA groups—and daily activities and services. As minutes, reports, and other sources show, the YWCA Metropolitan Branch ran a boarding house, restaurant, lending library, employment bureau, and more. There is also a fair amount of information about women's contributions to the war effort. Within these administrative records are also hints of what the women who ran the YWCA believed about gender. Minutes, for instance, regularly include memorials to members who have died, providing not only biographical material but also indications of the qualities they valued and believed women should have. Reports and other documents note that their work was necessary to protect young working women from the temptations that their low wages would otherwise lead them to indulge in. While these papers thus shed light on the particular feminist vision of elite, white, Protestant women, there is little to provide insight into the experiences of members.

Additional description: These papers would largely be of interest to two groups of researchers: those interested in institutions, particularly women's institutions, and those interested in late nineteenth and early twentieth-century attempts to curb urban "vice." Historians can see how such campaigns were overlaid with assumptions about class, ideal womanhood, and other factors.

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