

ANDREWS, Grace. May 30, 1869–July 27, 1951.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE (BS 1890), COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (MA 1899, PhD 1901).

Grace Andrews was born in Brooklyn, New York, one of five children (four daughters and a son) of Susan Matthews (Hotchkiss) (b. ca. 1827–1915), of Connecticut, and Edward Gayer Andrews (1825–1907), born in New York State. Her father had studied at Cazenovia Seminary, graduated from Wesleyan University in 1847, and was serving as pastor of a church in Cooperstown at the time of her parents' marriage in 1851. Later he was briefly president of Mansfield Female College in Ohio, was principal of Cazenovia Seminary, and in 1872 became a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The three surviving siblings of Grace were Winifred (b. ca. 1856), born in Ohio, and Helen (b. ca. 1859) and Edward (b. ca. 1863), both born in New York. From 1872 to 1880 the family was living in Des Moines, Iowa, and from 1880 to 1888 they were in Washington, D.C. In connection with her father's extended trip to India, Grace, her brother, and her mother spent about six months in Europe in 1877.

Grace Andrews was educated at the Mount Vernon Seminary (later a college for women and now a women's campus of George Washington University) in Washington, D.C., before going to Wellesley College. She entered Wellesley in 1885 as a member of the class of 1889 and, having taken the five-year course with music, graduated in 1890. While at Wellesley she was a member of Zeta Alpha, a literary and theatrical society on campus. She began graduate work at Columbia University in October 1897 and earned a master's degree in 1899 and a PhD in 1901. No advisor is indicated in the records. From 1900 to 1902 Andrews served as an assistant in mathematics at Barnard College. She reported to Wellesley that during the first year she was teaching two classes, one freshman level and one elective, and had light duties the second year. She was living in Manhattan when she joined the AMS in December 1901 and remained at the same address through at least 1903, after which she moved to her family's home in Brooklyn. She continued to live with her mother after her father's death in 1907 and remained in the family home until her mother's death in 1915.

From 1905 to 1926 Grace Andrews was an accountant to the treasurer at Wesleyan University, work she was able to do while living in Brooklyn. She noted in 1909 that she was going to be taking a course in accounting. From 1916 until her death she had responsible positions with the New York branch of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving at various times as home base secretary, receiving treasurer, treasurer, chairman of the finance committee, and director.

Although she was not employed as a mathematician after 1902, Grace Andrews attended about two AMS meetings a year in New York City through 1907 and remained a member of the society until about 1918. Andrews was a member of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden; the New York Wellesley Club; the Kosmos Club of Brooklyn, where she was treasurer and director; and the Women's University Club of New York. She liked to travel and spent about a month every summer out of the city, frequently in the nearby mountains. She was an avid reader and fond of doing double crostic puzzles. Although she lived alone after the death of her mother, she had many nieces and nephews in the vicinity and was involved with her extended family.

Grace Andrews died at eighty-two in 1951 in Margaretville, New York, near where she had frequently visited in the summers. The funeral and burial were in Syracuse, New York. Andrews made a bequest of \$500 to Wellesley College in honor of the class of 1889.

Organizational affiliations: AMS, Phi Beta Kappa.

Thesis and dissertation:

1899 Isothermal systems of plane curves. MA thesis, Columbia University.

1901 The primitive double minimal surface of the seventh class and its conjugate. PhD dissertation, Columbia University. Printed by Evening Post Job Printing House, NY.

References to: AmMSc 1–4; AmWomSc; BiDWSci; WhoEast 1930; WomScSearch; Wom-WWA.

Other sources: Owens questionnaire 1937; Columbia University Archives; communication with Wellesley College Archives; NatCAB 12 (Andrews, Edward Gayer); Francis J. McConnell, *Edward Gayer Andrews: A Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church* (New York: Eaton and Mains, 1909); US Census 1860, 1870 NY, 1880 IA, 1910, 1920, 1930 NY.

Last modified: July 19, 2009.