

# Guide to the Vassar College Training Camp for Nurses Records, 1917-1999 (bulk 1918-1919)

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## Table of Contents

- [Collection Summary](#)
- [Administrative History](#)
- [Scope and Content Note](#)
- [Subject Headings](#)
- [Related Material](#)
- [Administrative Information](#)
- [Access and Use](#)
- [Encoding Information](#)
- [Series List](#)
- [Container List](#)

## Collection Summary

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries
<b>Creator:</b>	Vassar College. Training Camp for Nurses
<b>Title:</b>	Vassar College Training Camp for Nurses Records
<b>Inclusive Dates:</b>	1917-1999
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	1918-1919
<b>Quantity:</b>	1.0 cubic foot (3 boxes)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Materials relating to Vassar College's Training Camp for Nurses, a program initiated to supply much-needed nurses for World War I.

[Top](#)

## Administrative History

The Vassar College Training Camp for Nurses was the result of a Vassar Alumnae Association request to have the college campus used to aid the war effort during the summer of 1918. A committee was formed to investigate various options, and in the end the nursing program was chosen because it targeted college women and would

provide them with skills of continued use after the war. The program was endorsed by the Council of National Defense (CND), the Red Cross, as well as several hospitals. The CND appointed a committee of medical educators to formulate the curriculum. Members included Isabel M. Stewart (Columbia University), Elizabeth Burgess (New York State Inspector of Training Schools), and Annie Strong (Simmons College). Recruiting, fund-raising and publicity responsibilities were handed to a group of alumnae which included Ada Thurston, Mabel Kirk and Minnie Blodgett. Vassar undergraduates contributed as well by volunteering at the farm and dairy in order to feed the participants. The program itself was an intensive 3-month series of courses followed by another year of practical training at the affiliated hospitals.

[Top](#)

## Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, news clippings, reports, printed material and photographs relating to Vassar College's Training Camp for Nurses.

[Top](#)

## Related Material

- Clappison, Gladys Bonner. Vassar's Rainbow Division, 1918. [S.l. : s.n.], c1964. [Available in both the Main Library and Grille: LD7182.9 .C42 1964]
- MacCracken, Henry Noble. "Girls Who Want to Go to France," Independent, 24 (11 May 1918): 248, 258 [Main Library AP2 .I53]
- "Mobilizing Women as Nurses," Literary Digest, 57 (27 Apr 1918): 33 [Main Library AP2 .L58]
- The Thermometer (a publication of Vassar Farm Unit and the Training Camp for Nurses) [Grille Dewey Folio 378.7V Z5 and Folio 378.7V Z52]
- [Henry Noble MacCracken Papers, Folders 67.43-67.46](#)

[Top](#)

## Subject Headings

### Names:

- Blodgett, Minnie Cumnock
- Stewart, Isabel Maitland
- Stimson, Marjorie
- Thurston, Ada

### Organizations:

- Vassar College--Alumni and alumnae

## **Subjects:**

- Nursing--Study and teaching--New York (State)
- Women and war--United States
- World War, 1914-1918--War work

## **VCL Categories**

- Vassar College Special Programs and Projects

[Top](#)

## **Encoding Information**

Encoded by Laura Streett, January 2009.

[Top](#)

## **Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation**

Vassar College Training Camp for Nurses Records, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

### **Processing Information**

Date of original processing work unknown. Updated by Laura Streett, June 2009.

### **Acquisition Information**

This collection includes gifts from a number of donors, including Marjorie Mercer Kendig. Other materials were transferred from Vassar College offices, and some materials were collected by staff of the Vassar College Libraries.

[Top](#)

## **Series List**

[Series I. General Correspondence](#)

[Series II. Clappison Correspondence](#) >

[Series III. Speeches And Presentations](#)

[Series IV. Course Material](#)

[Series V. Articles and Clippings](#)

[Series VI. Printed Material](#)

[Series VII. Lists](#)

[Series VIII. Miscellaneous](#)

[Series IX. Photographs](#)

## Container List

General Correspondence	
Folder 1.1	Dec 1917 - Jan 1918
Folder 1.2	Feb 1918
Folder 1.3	March 1918
Folder 1.4	Apr - June1918
Folder 1.5	ca. 1918
Folder 1.6	1920-1928
Folder 1.7	1936, n.d.
Clappison Correspondence	
Folder 1.8	1959 -1961
Folder 1.9	1962 - 1964, n.d.
Speeches And Presentations	
Folder 1.10	"Newer Phases of Nursing Education," n.d.
Folder 1.11	[Presentation of the Vassar Plan] (2 copies with notes)
Folder 1.12	Address to graduates by Herbert E. Mills
Folder 1.13	Unidentified speech, possibly by Minnie Cumnock Blodgett

<b>Course Material</b>	
Folders 1.14-1.15	Marjorie Mercer Kendig's notebooks, 1918
Folder 1.16	Marjorie Mercer Kendig's certificate, 1918
Folder 1.17	E.M. Buter's bibliography, 1918
Folder 1.18	I.M. Stewart's bibliography, 1918
Folder 1.19	Lists of textbooks
Folder 1.20	Printed material
<b>Articles and Clippings</b>	
Folder 2.1	Articles 1918
Folder 2.2	Articles, 1919-1954
Folder 2.3	Clippings, ca. 1918-1919
Folder 2.4	Clippings, 1934-1999
Box 3	Scrapbook of clippings, 1918
Box 3	Scrapbook of clippings, reports and pamphlets, 1918
<b>Printed Material</b>	
Box 3	Poster announcing the Training Camp, 1918
Folder 2.5	Vassar College Bulletins, 1918-1919
Folder 2.6	Nutting, M Adelaide - "Apprenticeship to Duty"
Folder 2.6	Stewart, Isabel - "Nursing a National Service"
Folder 2.6	Stewart, Isabel - "Preparatory Courses for Nurses"
Folder 2.7	"The Work of the American Red Cross"
Folder 2.7	"Opportunities in the Field of Nursing"
Folder 2.7	"The Nations Calll for Nurses"
Folders 2.8-2.9	Miscellaneous programs, notices and forms
<b>Lists</b>	
Folder 2.10	Analysis of Registered Students, Colleges Represented at the Training Camp

Folder 2.11	Those who attended the Training Camp for Nurses
Folder 2.12	People who received applications, etc.
Folder 2.13	Colleges addressed by speakers
Folder 2.14	Cooperating Hospitals
Folder 2.15	Organizers
Folder 2.16	Speakers
Folder 2.17	Bibliography of material about the Training Camp
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Folder 2.18	Vassar Board of Trustees resolution
Folder 2.19	Mills Gate
Folder 2.20	<i>The Thermometer</i> material, 1918-1921
Folder 2.21	Notes and receipts
Folder 2.23	Marjorie Stimson materials, approximately 1918-1934 (correspondence, printed material, photographs)
Box 3	Reunion booklet, May 1965
<b>Photographs</b>	
Folder 2.22	Photographs

[Return to the Table of Contents](#)

▼ Details

Abstract

Materials relating to Vassar College's Training Camp for Nurses, a program initiated to supply much-needed nurses for World War I.

Finding Aid Date

Inclusive Dates: 1917-1999

Collection Title

Vassar College Training Camp for Nurses Records