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Collection Summary

Repository: Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries

Creator: Cushing, Florence

Title: Florence Cushing Papers

Dates: 1921-1928

Quantity: 0.4 cubic feet (1 box)

Abstract: The collection contains materials from 1921 celebrating Florence Cushing's contributions to Vassar College in connection with the 50th anniversary of the college's Alumnae Association, including a decorated autograph book. Also included are a scrapbook compiled by Elizabeth G. Houghton, and letters from the Board of Trustees, the College President, and the Secretary of the Alumnae Association congratulating Cushing on having a residence hall named in her honor in 1927.

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Biographical Note

Born in 1853 outside of Boston, Massachusetts, Florence Cushing was the daughter of an esteemed family known as "The family of judges" for their participation in legal affairs. Florence Cushing was the valedictorian of her Vassar class of 1874 and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She was among the founders of the Girls' Latin School of Boston as well as the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, which became the American Association of University Women, an organization of which she was the second president (1883-1885). She was the first Vassar College alumna to sit on the Board of Trustees, and served between 1887-1894 and 1906-1912. In 1913, she was elected to life membership on the Board, a position which she held until 1923, when she became 'trustee emerita.' For her exemplary work and devotion to Vassar, Cushing Hall, built in 1923, was named after her. She died at home in Norwell, Massachusetts on 20 September 1927.

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Scope and Content Note

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Access and Use

Access

This collection is open for research according to the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#) without any additional restrictions.

Restrictions on Use

Permission to quote (publish) from unpublished or previously published material must be obtained as described in the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#).

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Related Material

Related Materials

- [The Vassar College Biographical Files contains additional materials and information related to the life and career of Florence Cushing.](#)

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Subject Headings

Organizations:

- Vassar College--Alumni and alumnae
- Vassar College. Cushing Hall

Document Types:

- Correspondence
- Scrapbooks

VCL Categories:

- Vassar College Trustees

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Encoding Information

Encoded by Laura Streett, November 2006.

Updated by Emma Gronbeck, November 2024.

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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Florence Cushing Papers, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

Processing Information

Original processing date unknown.

Guide updated by Dean Rogers, October 2006.

Container list created by Emma Gronbeck, November 2024.

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Container List

- Box 1 "A Pot of Honey: Extracts from Letters Written in Connection with the Liber Amicorum," collection of excerpts of letters about Florence Cushing, [1927?]
- Box 1 Clippings about Florence Cushing, 1927
- Box 1 Decorated autograph book presented to Florence Cushing on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the AAVC, 1921
- Box 1 Houghton, Elizabeth G. (VC 1873) - "Memorabilia - Florence M. Cushing," scrapbook of clippings and correspondence, 1927-1928
- Box 1 Letter from Elizabeth Johnson to Florence Cushing, 1927 Mar 5
- Box 1 Letter from Helen Kenyon to Florence Cushing, 1927 Feb 8
- Box 1 Letter from Henry Noble MacCracken to Florence Cushing, 1927 Feb 10
- Box 1 Letter from Grace H. Macurdy to Florence Cushing, 1921 Nov 8
- Box 1 Letter from Harriet Sawyer to Florence Cushing, 1927 Feb 12

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