Guide to the George Arthur Plimpton Papers
BC01.03
Finding aid prepared by Heather Lember

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

Repository: Barnard Archives and Special Collections

Creator - Creator: Plimpton, George A. (George Arthur), 1855-1936

Title: George Arthur Plimpton Papers

Date [inclusive]: 1889-1936

Extent: 1.25 Linear feet ; 3 document boxes

Physical Location: This collection is stored offsite and advance notice is required for access. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu.

Language: English

Abstract: This collection consists of correspondence, Barnard College financial history and documents, and reminiscences of George A Plimpton. Plimpton was a Barnard College Trustee from 1889 to 1936 and Treasurer from 1893 to 1936.

Preferred Citation

George Arthur Plimpton Papers, 1889-1936; Box and Folder; Barnard College Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College
Biography

George A. Plimpton was born in Walpole, Massachusetts in 1855. He attended Amherst College and moved to New York after graduating, where he worked as a salesman for Ginn and Heath textbook publishers. He became head of the firm in 1914. Plimpton was a member of the first Board of Trustees of Barnard College beginning in 1889, and served as Treasurer from 1893 until his death in 1936. Plimpton was the primary fundraiser for Barnard College, and was succeeded on the Board of Trustees by his son, Francis T. P. Plimpton. George A. Plimpton's interest in education and textbooks led him to establish a collection of textbooks dating from the middle ages. The collection, especially strong in mathematic texts, was donated to Columbia University at his death.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

George A Plimpton was a Trustee from 1889 to 1936 and Treasurer from 1893 to 1936. His files consist of Barnard College-related correspondence for this period, his financial history of Barnard College, some reminiscences, and financial documents. The collection includes correspondence, typescripts, financial records, and clippings relating to George A. Plimpton's activities as founder and Trustee of Barnard and his service as the College Treasurer.

The papers consist mostly of correspondence dating from the founding of Barnard in 1889 to his death in 1936. Early correspondence relates to the selection of a Dean for Barnard College. Financial records date from 1898-1919. Of special interest is a typescript, "A Financial History of Barnard", ca. 1918-1919. Other typescripts are reminiscences of General Horace W. Carpentier and Hetty Green as related to his experiences in soliciting funds for Barnard.

Collection Arrangement

Each box and folder in this collection is arranged chronologically.
Administrative Information

Publication Information
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Access
This collection has no restrictions.

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Accruals
No additions are expected.

Acquisition Information
Transferred from the Barnard College Board of Trustees.

Processing History
This collection was processed and the finding aid written by Heather Lember in January 2014.


Finding aid written in English.

Related Materials
Related Collections

BC01.11 - Francis T. Plimpton Papers

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Correspondence

Subject(s)

- Barnard College
- College administrators
- College trustees
- Plimpton, George A. (George Arthur), 1855-1936
- Women's colleges--New York (State)--New York