

MS-238, Grace A. Greene Normal School Alumnae Collection

Collection Number: MS-238

Title: Grace A. Greene Normal School Alumnae Collection

Creator:

Summary/Abstract: This collection consists of scrapbooks, memorabilia, lists of graduates, and reunion materials. Grace A. Greene Normal School first opened in 1869 as Dayton Normal School, and later became Dayton Teacher's College, before being named Grace A. Greene Normal School. The school gave rudimentary education to women who wished to become teachers in the Dayton area. It closed in 1931, but an active alumnae group continued for many years.

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

(Box Number, Folder Number), MS-238, Grace A. Greene Normal School Alumnae Collection, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

Materials were accessioned into the collection in July of 1992 from Mildred Gilbert.

Processed by: Kristina Sullivan, December, 1992

Finding Aid Updated by: Elizabeth Stanze, October, 2013

Arrangement:

Series I: Scrapbook

Series II: Books and Reports

Series III: Photographs

Series IV: Membership Index Cards

Series V: Miscellaneous

Biographical/Historical Note:

The first normal school was opened in 1869, with Emma Brown of Massachusetts as the first instructor. While first called the Dayton Normal School, it later became the Dayton Teacher's College. The school was closed after the 1931 school year in order to save money during the Great Depression.

Those who held the post of principal at the teacher's college between 1869 and 1931 include:

Emma Brown	1869 – unknown
Miss Parley	exact dates unknown
Mary Hall	1885-1887
Kate Slaught	1890-1894
Marie Kumler	1894-1895
Jan Marlay	1894-1895
Grace A. Greene	1895-1925
Maude Slaught	1925-1932

The school gave rudimentary education to those women who wished to become teachers. Between 1869 and 1932, the degree requirements changed from a one-year to a three-year program.

Grace A. Greene was born 7 April 1861 in Logan County, Ohio. Her parents, Benjamin F. and Grace Hunkins Greene, moved to the Dayton area in 1866. Ms. Greene graduated from Central High School in 1880 and attended Wellesly College in Massachusetts for three years.

Ms. Greene was a grade school teacher in the Dayton Public Schools until 1889. She travelled abroad for fourteen months during 1893 and 1894 to augment her education at a variety of technical schools. Ms. Greene became the Principal of the Dayton Normal School in 1895.

Ms. Greene has been remembered by her pupils for her tremendous energy, talent and unique style. There are many articles in the collection which describe her devotion to the education of women teachers.

In addition to teaching and holding down the post of principal, Ms. Greene was a charter member of the Helen Hunt Club and the Young Woman's League. She also taught Sunday School at the First Baptist Church for twenty years.

The first half hour of any day at the teacher's college began with a prayer or a poem, some written by Ms. Greene. She published a volume of poems that she shared with her students each day before the lessons began. That volume, *The Golden Treasury of Grace A. Greene*, was published in December of 1925, two months before her death from cancer.

Scope and Content:

The records within the Grace A. Greene Normal School Collection fall into five series: (1) Scrapbook 1884-1992, (2) Books and Reports, (3) Photographs, (4) Membership Index Cards, (5) Miscellaneous.

Series 1 contains the scrapbook of the teachers from the Normal School, a teacher's college in Dayton. The records date from 1884 to 1992. The scrapbook contains news clippings, programs, photographs, newsletters and correspondence.

Series 2 contains two books and a report from the Dayton School Board for the 1904-1905 school year.

Series 3 contains oversized photographs. There are two photographs; one of the senior class of 1924 and one of the class of 1925.

Series 4 contains membership index cards that record the lists of living and deceased members. This was begun when several graduates of the Normal School began to hold annual reunions in the 1970s.

Series 5 contains a notebook listing of all active and deceased members for the Cloverleaf Reunion Breakfast. There are also two letters of gift acknowledgement.

Collection Inventory

Series I: Scrapbook			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1		Scrapbook	1920s-1980s
Series II: Books and Reports			
1	1	<i>For Memory's Garden: Gems of Thought for Grades 1-8</i>	1938
	2	<i>The Golden Treasury of Grace A. Greene</i>	1925
	3	Dayton School Board Annual Report, 1904-05	1905
Series III: Photographs			
OS 29	Folder 5	Class of 1924	1924
OS 29	Folder 5	Class of 1925	1925
Series IV: Membership Index Cards			
2		Membership Cards for Living & Deceased Members	Circa

			1987-1992
Series V: Miscellaneous			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	4	Notebook	Undated
1	5	Correspondence	1992