

Title: Study Class of Germantown papers

Dates: 1897-2024 (inclusive) and 1964-2020 (bulk)

Physical Description/Extent: 5.5 linear feet (8 boxes)

Creator(s): Study Class of Germantown

Language: English

Subjects: Education--Research, Financial statements, Report writing, Women--Education /

Location: Germantown (Philadelphia, Pa.), Northwest Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Pa.),

Philadelphia (Pa.) / Organization: Germantown Historical Society

Form: Clippings, Correspondence, Instructional and educational works, Minutes (records), Photographs, Programs (Publications)

Preferred citation: Study Class of Germantown papers, 1897-2024, Coll. XXXX, Germantown Historical Society, Historic Germantown

Abstract: The Study Class of Germantown papers measure 5.5 linear feet in eight boxes, date from 1897-2004, and consist of correspondence, financial statements, meeting minutes, annual programs, and presented papers. The collection documents the administrative and academic legacy of the Study Class of Germantown's members, educated women from Germantown, Mt. Airy, and Chestnut Hill in Northwest Philadelphia.

Biographical/historical: The Study Class of Germantown (1897-2024) was an organized society of women founded in Philadelphia's Historic Germantown. The purpose of the Study Class was to engage a group of, no more than, twenty-five women in the study and analysis of modern history and current events. For its inaugural year, Mrs. Dallam, Mrs. Day, and Mrs. Shoemaker served as the society's president, vice-president, and secretary, respectively. The secretary, specifically, was responsible for keeping account of the Study Class expenditures, member dues, and attendance.

Initially, the Study Class followed a rigorous schedule; the women met two to three times a month, with three student presentations and a current events discussion set for each meeting. From its founding year until 1912, participants were levied with fines for tardiness, unexcused lateness, and failure to cite their sources. However, by the group's fiftieth anniversary, current events discussions had been removed from the annual program altogether and only one student presentation was scheduled for each meeting. Additionally, the frequency of meetings decreased to once a month and biannual luncheons were held in the fall and spring.

Sources:

Mattern, Anna. "The Study Class of Germantown." *Germantown Crier*, Dec. 1967, pp. 102–104.

Scope and contents:

The Study Class of Germantown papers measure 5.5 linear feet in eight boxes, date from 1897-2024, and consist of correspondence, financial statements, meeting minutes, annual programs, and presented papers.

This collection is of value to researchers who wish to learn about women's education throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, the legacies of specific members from within the organization, or the contributions of the Study Class of Germantown to the culture and community of Northwest Philadelphia and its surrounding environs.

The collection is organized into two series: I. Administrative and II. Papers and programs.

Series I. includes financial documents collected by the Study Class treasurer, such as treasurer's reports; bank statements; and a checkbook, as well as, correspondence, photographs, publication clippings, meeting agendas, and meeting minutes.

Series II. includes printed programs for each Study Class year, students' research papers, and summaries of students' paper presentations. Note that not all presented papers are included in this collection.

Collection Inventory			
Box #	Series title	Folder #	Folder title
1	Administrative	1	Treasurer's reports, bank statements and checkbook (2012-2023, undated)
		2	Treasurer's reports, 1933-1939
		3	Treasurer's reports, 1939-1947
		4	Treasurer's reports, 1944-1948
		5	Treasurer's reports, 1949-1953
		6	Treasurer's reports, 1953-1956
		7	Treasurer's reports, 1956-1958
		8	Treasurer's reports, 1959-1960
		9	Treasurer's reports, 1960-1963
		10	Treasurer's reports, 1963-1965
		11	Treasurer's reports, 1965-1966

		12	Treasurer's reports, 1966-1970
		13	Treasurer's reports, 1971-1972
		14	Treasurer's reports, 1972-1973
		15	Treasurer's reports, 1980-1989
		16	Treasurer's reports, 2001-2023
		17	Treasurer's reports, 2013-2023
2	Administrative	1	Booklet paste-ups and bylaws, 1919-1920, 1951, 1963, 1971-1972, 1980-1988, 1992-1993, undated
		2	Correspondence, 1949, 1956-1957, 1967, 1970-1973, 1975-1989
		3	Correspondence, 1990-1992, 1997, 2002, 2007-2008, 2015-2019, 2021, undated
		4	Correspondence, donations, 2002, 2010-2011, 2014-2016, 2018, 2020, 2023, undated
		5	Member resumes, 2008-2010, 2016-2017, 2019, undated
		6	Other material, invitations, maps, pamphlets
		7	Photos, Study Class members, 1972, 1983
		8	Publications and clippings, 1952, 1956, 1967, 1985, 1987-1988, 1990-1991, 1995
3	Administrative	1	Agendas, 2015-2021
		2	Attendance and officers list, 2006-2019

		3	Guidelines for papers and summaries
		4	Meeting minutes, 1970-1980
		5	Meeting minutes, 1980-1990
		6	Meeting minutes, 2006-2009
		7	Meeting minutes, 2010-2013, undated
		8	Meeting minutes, 2014-2021
		9	Speakers list, 2004-2013, and class topics, 1980-2007
4	Papers and programs	1	Annual programs, 1897-99 (scans available)
		2	Annual programs, 1900-09 (scans available)
		3	Annual programs, 1910-19
		4	Annual programs, 1920-29
		5	Annual programs, 1930-39
		6	Annual programs, 1940-49
		7	Annual programs, 1950-59
		8	Annual programs, 1960-69
5	Papers and programs	1	Papers presented, 1928-29, European Cities
		2	Papers presented, 1930-31, Colonial Backgrounds
		3	Papers presented, 1938-39, The Romance of Rivers
		4	Papers presented, 1940-41, The Tudor Years

		5	Papers presented, 1953-54, Provocative Personalities
		6	Papers presented, 1959-60, Our Nation Finding Itself
		7	Papers presented, 1963-64, Philadelphia
		8	Papers presented, 1964-65, The 20th Century: Trends in a Swiftly Changing World
		9	Papers presented, 1965-66, Let us now praise famous women!
		10	Papers presented, 1966-67, The ladies, God bless them!
		11	Papers presented, 1967-68, Accounts from the story of Philadelphia
		12	Papers presented, 1968-69, unknown theme
		13	Papers presented, 1969-70, unknown theme
		14	Papers presented, undated, unknown themes
6	Papers and programs	1	Papers presented, 1970-71
		2	Papers presented, 1971-72: The Victorian Era
		3	Papers presented, 1972-73: China - The Swinging Door
		4	Papers presented, 1973-75: The American Woman
		5	Papers presented, 1976-77: Then and Now, 1776-1976

		6	Papers presented, 1977-78: The Middle East, Crux of the Crisis
		7	Papers presented, 1978-79: Spotlight on Africa
		8	Papers presented, 1979-80: Impacts - Stepping Stones to Change
		9	Annual Programs, 1970-79
		10	Papers presented, December 1980: History of Study Class of Germantown
		11	Papers presented, 1980-81: The Touch of Inspiration
		12	Papers presented, 1981-82: The Ways of Man
		13	Papers presented, 1982-83: Explorers and Exploration
		14	Papers presented, 1983-84: Novelists since World War II
		15	Papers presented, 1984-85: The Many Aspects of the Performing Arts
		16	Papers presented, 1985-86: The Great Migration to America
		17	Papers presented, 1986-87: Winds of Change, Seven Decades of the Pulitzer Prize
		18	Papers presented, 1987-88: Mysteries
		19	Papers presented, 1988-89: For Better or Worse, Change in Our Time

7	Papers and programs	20	Papers presented, 1989-90: South of the Border, A Study of Latin America
		21	Annual Programs, 1980-89
		1	Papers presented, 1990-91, Flash Points
		2	Papers presented, 1991-92, How women create their lives through improvisation
		3	Papers presented, 1992-93, Friends, Lovers and Others: Dynamic Partnerships
		4	Papers presented, 1993-94, Subjects of Desire
		5	Papers presented, 1994-95, Pivots of Perspective
		6	Papers presented, 1995-96, Myths and their meaning
		7	Papers presented, 1996-97, Food for Thought
		8	Papers presented, 1997-98, Geography of the Imagination
		9	Papers presented, 1998-99, Triumphs of the Human Spirit
		10	Papers presented, 1999-2000, Turning Points
		11	Papers presented, 2000-01, America: Lost and Found
		12	Papers presented, 2001-02, Breaking Boundaries
		13	Papers presented, 2002-03, Changing Times

		14	Papers presented, 2003-04, The Legacy of the 20th Century
		15	Papers presented, 2004-05, The Spark of Genius
		16	Papers presented, 2005-06, Adventures of the Mind and Spirit
		17	Papers presented, 2006-07
		18	Paper summaries, 2006-07
		19	Annual programs, 1990-97
8	Papers and programs	1	Annual programs, 2009-2012, 2014-2024
		2	Papers presented, 2007-08, Families
		3	Paper summaries, 2007-08, Families
		4	Papers presented, 2008-09, Transitions
		5	Paper summaries, 2008-09, Transitions
		6	Paper presented, 2009, Louis Kahn
		7	Papers presented, 2009-10, Notable Influences
		8	Paper summaries, 2009-10, Notable Influences
		9	Papers presented, 2010-11, Society for Better or Worse
		10	Paper summaries, 2010-11, Society for Better or Worse
		11	Papers presented, 2011-12

		12	Paper summaries, 2011-12
		13	Papers presented, 2012-13
		14	Paper summaries, 2012-13
		15	Papers presented, 2013-14, Navigating Transitions
		16	Paper summaries, 2013-14, Navigating Transitions
		17	Papers presented, 2014-15, I think, therefore I am
		18	Paper summaries, 2014-15, I think, therefore I am
		19	Papers presented, 2015-16
		20	Papers presented, 2016-17, undated
		21	Paper summaries, 2015-2017
		22	Papers presented, 2017-18
		23	Paper summaries, 2017-2019
		24	Papers presented, 2018-19, Perspectives: Artistic and Social
		25	Papers presented, 2019-20
		26	Papers presented, 2020-21
		27	Paper summaries, 2020-21
		28	Papers presented, 2022
		29	Papers presented, 2023-24

Immediate source of acquisition:

Gift of Katy Hinline, October 8, 2015.