

A Guide to Diplomas, 1912-1941 UA 0036

Diplomas
1912-1941



Title Statement

A Guide to Diplomas, 1912-1941 UA 0036

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

UA 0036

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/458

Unit Date

1912-1941

Language

English

Abstract

Diplomas, 1912-1936, is an artificial collection, comprising diplomas and certificates issued to students at the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, later called the State Normal School for Women, State Teachers College at Harrisonburg, and the State Normal School Summer Session.

Creator

State Teachers College at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.)

Creator

State Normal and Industrial School for Women (Harrisonburg, Va.)

Creator

State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.)

Extent

0.3 cubic feet 1 folder

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

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Acquisition Information

Items were collected from various donors over the years. The Ruth Taliaferro diploma (1915) was a gift of Mrs. Lois W. Gaynor; the Garland Hope Farrar diplomas (1915, 1916) were a gift of Henry B. Frazier, donated on December 7, 1994; the Pauline Miley diplomas (1918, 1920) and Mary Louise Overton diploma (1922), were a gift of Mrs. John W. Wilson; the Frances Beam diploma (1936) was a gift of her daughter, Connie Daniels; the Anna Virginia Hollar diploma (1931) was a gift of Diane Yerian, donated August 6, 2015; the Violetta Lorane Davis diplomas (1923, 1930) were gifts of Wendy Mathias, donated October 20, 2018; others are orphaned in the collection.

Processing Information

Collection was formerly given the collection number SU 93-0225, Diplomas in Carrier Library.

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [box #, folder #], Diplomas, 1912-1941, UA 0036, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Administrative History

Diplomas and certificates awarded by the State Normal and Industrial School reflected the various courses of study designed to prepare white women for teaching in rural Virginia schools. The first graduating class was June, 1911, in which twenty students received diplomas.

The Regular Normal Course was a program designed to prepare women to teach in public schools. At the school's founding in 1909, the Regular Normal Course consisted of one to six years of study, and was open to students with little to no high school education. In 1910, entrance requirements were raised, and women had to have completed at least two years of high school or hold a teaching certificate as a result of a state examination in order to attend, which meant that the Regular Normal Course went from a six-year to a four-year course of study. By 1914, the first two years of the Regular Normal Course (the equivalent of the last two years of high school) was reformed as the two-year Preparatory Course, and upon completion, students received a First Grade High School Certificate. Completion of the third year of the Regular Normal Course entitled a student to receive the Professional Certificate, so long as certain teaching requirements were met. Those who completed the fourth year of the Regular Normal Course received the Full Normal diploma, which amounted to a lifetime teaching certificate requiring no ongoing maintenance.

The Professional Course was a two-year course designed for women who already had four years of high school, those who had completed the Preparatory Course, or who had already received a professional certificate. By 1915, students enrolled in the Professional Course had the option of pursuing specialized

certification in Kindergarten and Primary grades, Intermediate and Grammar grades, or High School. A student that completed one year of the Professional Course received a Junior State Normal Certificate, or the Professional Certificate. Those who completed the two-year Professional Course received a Full Normal diploma.

Various other programs, namely Household Arts Program (later named Home Economics Course), Manual Arts, Industrial Arts Course, Kindergarten Training, among others, were offered in the early years, though enrollment was quite small relative to the Regular and Professional Courses.

The Harrisonburg Summer Session, which started in 1910, was designed to appeal to those already in teaching positions. In 1911, the State Board of Education authorized the Normal School to issue a Summer School Professional Certificate – one for primary school and one for grammar grades – awarded to students who completed courses in the two six-week summer terms in two separate years. The Summer Professional Certificate was considered more advanced than the First Grade Certificate. By 1916, the certificate requirements increased to three six-week terms over three separate summers, and in 1918 it was replaced by the Elementary Professional Certificate, which required still more study. A unique feature of the Harrisonburg Summer Sessions was that enrollment was also open to men.

In 1918, the State Normal School began to offer four year Bachelor programs in Home Economics and Elementary teaching. In 1934 the school officially became a liberal arts institution, able to issue Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Education.

Scope and Content

Diplomas, 1912-1941, is an artificial collection, comprised of thirteen diplomas and certificates issued to students at the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, later called the State Normal School for Women, State Teachers College at Harrisonburg, and the State Normal School Summer Session.

Of particular note is the Isabelle M. Bateman certificate, issued by State Department of Public Instruction, which contains a field for "race: white." The Bateman certificate has four photographs adhered to reverse, with the following labels: Bettie Leffel, age 5; Uncle Arthur Davis; Grandmother Bateman; Uncle Arthur and Curtis Fawley.

Keywords

Diplomas

Certificates

Education, Higher -- Virginia -- Harrisonburg

Harrisonburg (Va.) -- History

Education, Higher -- Virginia -- History -- 20th century

State Normal and Industrial School for Women (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- History

State Normal and Industrial School for Women (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- Students

State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- History

State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- Students

State Teachers College at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- History

State Teachers College at Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg, Va.) -- Students

James Madison University -- Students -- History

Bibliography

Dingledine, Raymond C. "Madison College, the First Fifty Years, 1908-1958." Harrisonburg, VA: Madison College, 1959.

Arrangement

Items are arranged chronologically in a single folder.

Description of Subordinate Components

Diplomas

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/5535

Unit Date 1912-1941

Mixed Materials [1000898431] OV 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Ruth Randolph Conn

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14085

Unit Date 1912 June 11

Lizzie Stern McGahey

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14084

Unit Date 1912 June 11

Kathleen Chevallie Harless

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14086

Unit Date 1914 June 9

Keywords

Harless, Kathleen Chevallie, 1895-1988

Garland Hope Farrar

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14088

Unit Date 1915 June 8

Ruth Taliaferro

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14087

Unit Date 1915 June 8

Garland Hope Farrar

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14089

Unit Date 1916 June 6

Isabelle M. Bateman

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14082

Unit Date 1916 August 18

Pauline Miley

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14090

Unit Date 1918 June 4

Pauline Miley

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14091

Unit Date 1920 June 8

Mary Louise Overton

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14092

Unit Date 1922 June 6

Violetta Lorane Davis

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14081

Unit Date 1923 June 5

Keywords

Ryan, Violetta Lorane Davis, 1905-1989

Mary Sue Deal

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/25745

Unit Date 1924 June 10

Mary Julia Keezel

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14093

Unit Date 1927 August 26

Violetta Lorane Davis

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14080

Unit Date 1930 July 25

Anna Virginia Hollar

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14094

Unit Date 1931 August 27

Harry Denis Hoover

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/27757

Unit Date 1934 August 30

Keywords

Hoover, Harry Denis, 1913-2005

Frances Ruth Beam

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/14083

Unit Date 1936 June 8

Nancy Chappellear

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/27758

Unit Date 1939 July 21

Elinor Louise Turner

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/28529

Unit Date 1941 June 9