

Randolph-Macon Woman's College photograph album

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1910-1913

Title Statement

Randolph-Macon Woman's College photograph album Randolph-Macon Woman's College photograph album
MSS 16930

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library
P.O. Box 400110
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4110
URL: <https://small.library.virginia.edu/>

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Notes

Orange slip. EW. 12/16/25

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-03-05 17:47:17 +0000.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS 16930

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/1842

Unit Date

1910-1913

Mixed Materials [X006178830]

1 (Flat_Box)

Language

English

source

Auger Down Books

Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet One small oversized flat box Album measures 9.5 X 15 inches

Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was a purchase from Auger Down Books to the Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia Library on 10 October 2025.

Preferred Citation

MSS 16930, Randolph-Macon's Woman College, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia Library.

Biographical / Historical

Randolph-Macon Woman's College was among the earliest liberal arts institutions for women in the southern United States. It was founded by William Waugh Smith, then-president of Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, in response to the original institution's refusal to admit women. Smith's vision led to the development of a separate campus dedicated to women's education, situated on a 100-acre site overlooking the James River. The college officially opened in 1893 and enjoyed a reputation for academic excellence, offering a rigorous curriculum in the humanities, sciences, and fine arts. Randolph-Macon Woman's College's most accomplished alumna, Pulitzer and Nobel Prize-winning writer and humanitarian Pearl S. Buck, attended from 1911 to 1914.

Content Description

This material contains images of racist imagery. The purpose of this note is to allow users to decide whether they need or want to view these materials. This collection includes a photograph album compiled from 1910 to 1913 documenting the Randolph-Macon Woman's College, now called Randolph College, in Lynchburg, Virginia. It contains approximately 274 photos, mainly measuring 3 1/4 x 5 1/2 inches and smaller, with some small panoramas. All photographs have numbers written in silver ink, and many are captioned. The creator of the album is unknown. This album features pasted, dated, and captioned photographs documenting student life. The pictures include images of sports events, Greek life, many themed parties, including Dutch, Spanish, and Chinese parties -- the latter with a photo of Sieu-tsung Lok, the first Asian student from China. There are photos of organized events like May Day, Field Day, and graduation celebrations. Also captured are a variety of plays put on by the students. There are also two photographs of an unidentified Black man who may have been a porter at the college. There are also landscapes around Virginia and exterior shots of the campus buildings. One page of photographs titled "Milestones, 1913" contains two photos of students in blackface.

Keywords

Virginia -- History -- 20th century

women--education -- Virginia

Women in higher education

Virginia -- Lynchburg

Photograph albums

Women's Scrapbook/ Commonplace Book Collections (University of Virginia)

Auger Down Books

Randolph College