

What's New in ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Photograph by Paul Schnaitrecher, 2006

Dear Friends,

Thanks to generous donations from alumnae and friends, and the energetic efforts of our staff, student assistants and interns, Archives and Special Collections is pleased to announce several new acquisitions and collections open for research. We also hosted several exhibits and events over the year and are gearing up for a large exhibit on the history of Mount Holyoke women in medicine to open next fall. I hope that you will take a moment to read about last year's highlights as well as events to come.

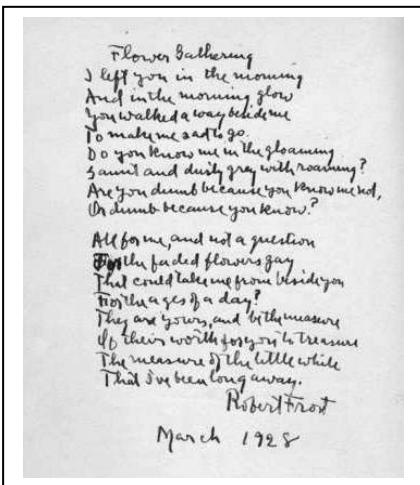
Jennifer Gunter King
Head of Archives and Special Collections

New Acquisitions

WENDY WASSERSTEIN'S PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

Archives and Special Collections holds the Wendy Wasserstein papers, spanning the years 1967 to present and documenting the life and work of the Pulitzer Prize winning playwright and author, and Mount Holyoke College graduate of the class of 1971. The partially processed collection will expand as Wendy's literary papers bequeathed to the College will be transferred to Archives and Special Collections this year. Plans are underway to ensure that the collection is fully processed as soon as possible. Wasserstein is most known for her plays including *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Uncommon Women*, and *The Sisters Rosensweig*. Her papers are comprised of writings, correspondence, programs and publicity materials, music, contracts, recordings, journals, appointment and address books, photographs and other biographical material. The writings are the bulk of the collection and include plays, manuscripts, speeches, articles, essays and reviews for more than thirty major and minor works, both published and unpublished. The correspondence, personal and professional, offers an unparalleled glimpse into the personality of the author. The Wasserstein papers have been donated by Ms. Wasserstein incrementally between 1991 and now. In addition, this year we purchased a complete collection of her publications, including films based on her plays. All of the published volumes are first editions, and many are inscribed by the author.

ROBERT FROST'S SELECTED POEMS.



The estate of Elizabeth Clark Lee (class of 1932) donated a signed copy of Robert Frost's *Selected Poems*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1923. The volume contains Frost's handwritten poem "Flower Gathering," signed March 1928 and correcting an error in the printed poem. This is a significant addition to other Robert Frost volumes in the collection including *A Boy's Will* (1913, 1915), *A Way Out: A One Act Play* (1929), *West-running Brook* (1928), *The Lovely Shall be Choosers* (1929), and *From Snow to Snow* (1936.)

An important addition to the **SUSAN HITCHCOCK KALMA'S PAPERS** was donated by her sister, **Martha Hitchcock Stewart**. A nurse, health care consultant, and Peace Corps officer, Susan Hitchcock Kalma (1943-2003,) class of 1965, devoted her life to serving people in Belize, Chad, Kryghstan, Sao Tome de Principe, Tanzania and other countries. Her papers include diaries, correspondence, travel journals, scrapbooks, writings, and photographs. These items will be added to the existing papers relating to her years at Mount Holyoke:

<http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh222.html>

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Rare Books • The collections date from 1470 with greatest strengths in the areas of American History, Dante's *Divina Commedia*, children's literature, Renaissance science, fine press editions, and works by the Collège de 'pataphysique.



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HUGH THOMSON SKETCHES

Two original pencil drawings by Hugh Thomson for the *Highways and Byways* series of books were donated by John Fink. The 1913 drawing is titled "Brampton" and the 1919 drawing is titled "At Didbrook." Thomson, born in Ireland, is best known for his illustrations of popular books. His work has been published in *The English Illustrated Magazine*, *The Graphic*, and in works by Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, James Lane Allen, and Austin Dobson. The sketches are described and are available online:

<http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh300.html>

<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/lits/library/arch/col/imagebase/index.html>



SUSAN MORITZ donated signed first editions of **JOHN UPDIKE'S** *HUGGING THE SHORE* and **WILLIAM MAXWELL'S** *THE OUTERMOST DREAM* in honor of her parents, Paul Walter Moritz and Margaret Barclay Sullwold Moritz. Both are inscribed to Moritz, former editor at *The New Yorker* and a Mount Holyoke graduate of the class of 1964. Last year Moritz donated Edith Oliver's signed copy of Virginia Woolf's *Street Haunting*.

Processing



THE ELLA T. GRASSO PAPERS OPENED TO RESEARCHERS IN SEPTEMBER 2005

The collection, measuring 108 linear feet, spans the years 1919-1981, and primarily documents Grasso's work as a member of the United States Congress, 1970-1974. The collection is a valuable resource for scholars of political science, history, and economics of the early 1970s as it provides primary sources on veteran affairs, the Vietnam War, President Richard Nixon's impeachment, gas prices and fuel shortages, family planning and birth control, and education legislation. Of special interest are the files on the Supreme Court's decision on *Roe v. Wade* in 1973.

Grasso, who earned both B.A. and M.A. degrees from Mount Holyoke College, became the first woman governor of Connecticut and the first woman governor elected in her own right. She began her political career working for the Connecticut State Department of Labor in 1942. In 1970 and 1972 she was elected to the United States House of Representatives from Connecticut's 6th District. In Congress she served on the Education and Labor Committee and the Veterans' Affairs Committee. In 1974 Grasso was elected as Governor of Connecticut. She was re-elected in 1979, but resigned from office on December 31, 1980 due to illness.

To mark the opening of the Grasso Papers, there is an exhibit in the Archives and Special Collections lobby from March 15-June 5, 2006, featuring documents, photographs and artifacts from the collection. As an accompanying research resource there is also an online exhibit highlighting major cornerstones in Grasso's life and career. It is available at <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/lits/library/arch/exhpro/exhibits/Grasso.shtml>.



Ralitsa Donkova, class of 2005 who holds a BA in political science, processed the collection and curated the exhibit. The processing project was funded by Mount Holyoke College alumnae Clara R. Ludwig, Mary Tuttle, Gwendolyn Glass and an anonymous donor. The collection has gathered publicity from both local and national media. For the complete finding aid see: <http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh301.html>

Photographs: Left, Ella T. Grasso Papers, Mount Holyoke College; Right, Hartford Courant Magazine, 2006. All rights reserved.

MERIBETH ELLIOTT CAMERON PAPERS (1905-1997)

This collection documents the personal life and professional activities of a distinguished historian who was a professor and administrator at Mount Holyoke from 1948-1970. The papers include letters to Cameron from friends and colleagues, and records reflecting her association with the International Federation of University Women. Of particular note are letters by Cameron's close friend Mary Sumner Benson, also a professor of history at the College.

<http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh313.html>

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Manuscripts • Personal papers of Mount Holyoke College trustees, presidents, faculty, staff, and alumnae. The collection also contains papers and records of some authors, artists, families and institutions not related to Mount Holyoke College.



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KATHARINE HOOK MACLAREN PAPERS (1919-2002)

The lively "Hookie" was a member of the Class of 1926 who, according to her daughter, Hannah MacLaren, "saved absolutely everything." Her diary, scrapbook, and extraordinarily detailed letters from her years as a student reflect her academic and social activities, and describe events such as the destruction of the first Rockefeller Hall by fire in 1922. The collection also includes a diary, correspondence, and memorabilia from her tour of France, Germany, Switzerland, Finland, Sweden, and the Baltic countries during the summer of 1926. <http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh293.html>

RUTH BACKES PAPERS (1864-1865, 1882, CA.1900-2001)

In 1991, psychologist and educator Ruth Backes of Amherst, Massachusetts, began to write a biography of Frances Perkins, a 1902 graduate of Mount Holyoke who was the first woman to serve in a presidential cabinet. Ultimately, Backes moved on to other pursuits before publishing her work, but donated her extensive collection of materials relating to Perkins to Mount Holyoke. These items include copies of letters and writings by Perkins, such as her reports as U.S. Secretary of Labor from 1933-1945. <http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/msh307.html>

Exhibits and Events

"Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians"

The Mount Holyoke College Library Information and Technology Services (LITS) will host the National Library of Medicine exhibit in September of 2006. The interactive, multimedia traveling exhibition honors the lives and achievements of American women in medicine since they first gained admission to American medical schools 150 years ago. The exhibit will also explore Mount Holyoke's history of educating women in the sciences, consistency producing pioneers in the fields of health care, medicine, and science.



Mount Holyoke Alumnae featured in the exhibit include:

- *Dorothy Hanfjine Andersen* (1922) Dr. Andersen was a noted pathologist and pioneer in cystic fibrosis research and treatment; Andersen was the first person to identify cystic fibrosis and the first American physician to describe the disease.
- *Virginia Apgar* (1929) Dr. Apgar was the first woman to achieve the rank of full professor at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. A pioneer in the field of anesthesia, she is most famous for the neonatal viability test used today and known as the Apgar Test.
- *Janet L Mitchell* (1972) Dr. Mitchell runs the largest prenatal program for pregnant, drug-addicted women in New York City.

In addition to the traveling exhibition, materials from the Virginia Apgar Papers and the Mary Phylinda Dole (class of 1886) papers held in Archives and Special Collections will be displayed.

Several Thursday programs are planned including an opening reception on September 14, 2006 featuring a talk by Dr. Lori Arviso Alvord, Associate Dean of Student and Multicultural Affairs at Dartmouth Medical School and author of *The Scalpel and the Silver Bear* (1999). Dr. Joan Reede, MD, MPH, MS, Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership at Harvard Medical School will speak at a September 21, 2006 evening reception. An alumnae panel and reception is planned for September 28, 2006.

The exhibit will be displayed in the Women in Politics room, on the 6th floor of Williston Library, throughout September of 2006. For more information, please visit: <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/lits/library/changingthefaceofmedicine/>.

Photograph: An illustration of anatomical lectures at the Women's Medical College of the New York Infirmary, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, April 16, 1870. National Library of Medicine, Images from the History of Medicine.

Mary Lyon Statue Unveiling and Birthday Party

On February 28--Mary Lyon's 209th birthday--Archives and Special Collections celebrated the unveiling of a bronze statue of Mount Holyoke's founder, a gift from the sculptor, Lu Stubbs. (See photograph on page 1.) After Ms. Stubbs talked about her inspiration for the work, more than one hundred guests enjoyed carrot cake and conversation as they viewed an exhibit on Lyon's life and legacy. Members of the Class of 1951 raised funds for a plaque and joined the Alumnae Association and LITS in funding the statue's installation. The plaque will be ready in time for the Class' 55 year reunion next month.

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**ENGAGING UNDERGRADUATES
CLASSES**

WITH MOUNT HOLYOKE'S

VAST COLLECTION OF PRIMARY SOURCES.

CHEMISTRY 250, "INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY," taught by Donald Cotter. Students in this class are consulting textbooks used by Mount Holyoke students in the 19th century as well as laboratory notebooks, research materials, and correspondence and other personal papers of students and alumnae. With assistance from Alexandra Balan (Tech Mentor) and Shaoping Moss (IT Consultant), their project is to encode an artifact(s) from the collection according to the standards established by the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI). These encoded documents will join documents from chemist Emma Perry Carr's papers that were encoded by students who took the course in the fall of 2004. See <http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/mountholyoke/mshhm015.html>.

HISTORY 283, "MAPPING THE MEMORABLE: A CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE AND ITS CAMPUS," taught by Robert Schwartz. When this class was offered for the first time in the fall of 2003, students began collaborating with LITS staff to create a digital historical atlas of Mount Holyoke's campus on the world wide web, combining archival materials with interpretive histories on various themes – the campus environment, student life, academics and historical contexts. Work on the atlas continues this spring as students select documents and photographs that illustrate changes to the campus over time. In addition, some students are developing a new theme – Mount Holyoke in the wider world, by exploring sources relating to the work of alumnae missionaries in Africa, China, Hawaii, India, and the Cherokee Seminary in Oklahoma. See <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/go/atlas>.

SOCIOLOGY 224, "PRACTICING SOCIOLOGY: ARCHIVAL AND FIELD METHODS FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJORS," taught by Eleanor Townsley. Students in this course are using documents, publications, and photographs in the collection as a way of understanding archival and field methods used in sociology to explore issues in research design for non-quantitative data. Students will focus on three related themes: gender and science at Mount Holyoke, the idea of Mount Holyoke as a scientific community, and the understanding and narration of scientific expertise by faculty and students at the College over time. This

is the third semester that Professor Townsley has taught this course:

<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/etownsle/soc224/index.html>.

BOOKS ON THE ROAD – Three volumes from our collections are featured in museum exhibits this spring as part of *GoDutch!* a region-wide celebration of Dutch culture spearheaded by Museums10.

At the **Mount Holyoke College Art Museum** is **Abrahami Orтели's** *Theatrum orbis terrarum : quod ante extremum vitae suae diem, postremum recensuit, nouis Tabulis et Commentarijs auxit atque illustrauit.* Antverpiae: Ex officina Plantinana apud Ioannem, 1601. The volume is on display as part of the exhibit "Designing the Natural World through Dutch Eyes" 21 March–2 July 2006.

Zacharia Heyns's *Emblamata moralia.* Rotterdam: P. van Waesberge, 1625, and **Ger. De Lairess'** *Atlas Minor: sive totius orbis terrarium.* Amsterdam : Nicholae Visscher, 1690-1699, are on display at the **Smith College Museum of Art** exhibit "The Golden Age: Dutch Prints and Drawings" 4 March – 4 June, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLECTION OR TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE EMAIL
ARCHIVES@MTHOLYOKE.EDU OR TELEPHONE (413) 538-3079.

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