

# EMORY COLLEGE.

## Emory College general records, 1834-1918

Emory University  
Emory University Archives  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-6887  
rose.library@emory.edu

---

### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Emory College.

**Title:** Emory College general records, 1834-1918

**Call Number:** Series No. 47

**Extent:** 2 linear ft. (5 boxes), 10 bound volumes (BV), and 5 oversize paper folders (OP)

**Abstract:** The general records of Emory College consist of an assortment of materials documenting various aspects of the history of the College from its founding in 1836 through the time of its move to the Emory University campus in Atlanta in 1919. The collection includes items relating to events and activities such as commencement; printed material and clippings on the history of the College; writings and other documents of several early presidents of the College; student papers; library records; faculty and student records; and legal documents including a copy of the College charter.

**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

---

### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### Related Materials in This Repository

Emory College Board of Trustees records (Series 46), Emory College financial records (Series 48), and Emory College student organization records (Series 49), Emory College registrar's records (Series 50), Emory College library records (Series 51), Emory College faculty records (Series 52), and Georgia Conference Manual Labor School Board of Trustees minutes (Series 45).

*Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.*

**Source**

Transfer

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Emory College general records, Emory University Archives, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Processing**

Processed by Nancy Hall Watkins, 2003.

---

**Collection Description****Administrative History**

The Georgia Conference Manual Labor School was organized by the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and chartered by the General Assembly of Georgia in 1834. The first students enrolled in 1835, and, by 1836, the Manual Labor School trustees had begun to favor the idea of extending the school's charter to provide for a university-type educational institute authorized to award diplomas and to grant degrees in literary study.

To fulfill that new purpose, Emory College was organized by the trustees of the Manual Labor School under the authority of the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The new college was chartered by the General Assembly of Georgia, December 10, 1836. The original Manual Labor School was never a financial success and continued as a separate entity only until July 22, 1840. At a joint meeting of the Boards of Trustees of the Manual Labor School and Emory College on that date, the two Boards were merged and the Manual Labor School officially transferred all its assets and liabilities to Emory College.

The original charter of Emory College was amended October 31, 1870, to recognize the formal relationships of the North Georgia Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South; the South Georgia Annual Conference, Methodist Church, South; and the Florida Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South to the Board of Trustees and the College.

Emory University was chartered on January 25, 1915, with members of the Educational Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, serving also as the Board of Trustees for the new university. On March 17, 1915, the charter of Emory College was again amended to allow Emory College to become the College of Emory University. On March 31, 1915, the Emory University Board of Trustees elected a new Board of Trustees for Emory College from among their number, and, on April 1, 1915, the formal and legal transfer of the assets and affairs of Emory College to Emory University took place.

The College continued to function on its original campus at Oxford until the summer of 1919, when it was transferred to the new Emory University campus in Atlanta. The last meeting of a separate Board of Trustees for Emory College took place on June 7, 1919 at Oxford in conjunction with Emory College Commencement.

**Historical Source:** Bullock, Henry Morton. *A History of Emory University*, 1836-1936. Nashville: Parthenon Press, 1936.

**Scope and Content Note**

The general records of Emory College consist of an assortment of materials documenting various aspects of the history of the College from its founding in 1836 through the time of its move to the Emory University campus in 1919. This includes records about events and activities; the history of the school (primarily brochures and newspaper clippings); several of the early presidents of the College; related publications; students' papers; faculty, student, and library records; and legal documents including a copy of the College charter.

The bulk of the materials pertaining to events and activities are related to commencement activities, including speeches and programs; Arbor Day observances (also referred to as Class Tree Day); and the laying of the Pierce Science Hall cornerstone. Legal documents include, but are not limited to, Acts of Incorporation for the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School and Emory College; deeds, title bonds, surety bonds and plot drawings of lots in Oxford, Ga.; and other records pertaining to the town of Oxford and the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School.

Information about the early presidents of the school relates to Warren A. Candler, James E. Dickey, Charles E. Dowman, Ignatius Alphonso Few, Atticus G. Haygood, Isaac S. Hopkins, George F. Pierce, Luther Smith, Osborne L. Smith, and James R. Thomas and includes correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings, and other items. There is also a report from James R. Thomas to the Board of Trustees regarding the re-opening of the school following the Civil War. Related publications include a typescript of *Florrie and the Blessed Town* by Polly Stone Buck, telephone directories ca. 1947 and articles written about the College and the town of Oxford.

The collection also includes faculty records, library records, correspondence, records of student grades, a scrapbook related to Emory College namesake John Emory, a book of poetry by Emory faculty member Capers Dickson, and other items.

**Arrangement Note**

Organized into seven series: (1) Events and activities, (2) Historical information, (3) Legal documents, (4) Presidents, (5) Related publications, (6) Student papers, and (7) Miscellaneous.

## **Description of Series**

[Series 1: Events and activities, 1840-1918](#)

[Series 2: Historical information, undated](#)

[Series 3: Legal documents, 1834-1917](#)

[Series 4: Presidents, 1865 and undated](#)

[Series 5: Related publications, 1947-1987](#)

[Series 6: Student papers, 1848-1900](#)

[Series 7: Miscellaneous, 1834-1986](#)

**Series 1**  
**Events and activities, 1840-1918**  
**Box 1**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes materials related to major activities at Emory College, particularly commencement programs and addresses. Some items related to the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School are also included.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	Arbor Day (Class Tree Day), 1892-1902
1	2	Commencement address: Beverly Allen Henry, 1848
1	3	Commencement address: James G. Paine, 1849
1	4	Commencement address: Alexander Stephens to Few and Phi Gamma Literary Societies, 1852
1	5	Commencement address: Luther M. Smith, 1868
5	1	Senior exhibition programs, 1840-1860
1	6	Commencement programs, 1859-1872
1	7	Commencement programs, 1873-1874
1	8	Commencement programs, 1875-1876
1	9	Commencement programs, 1877-1879
1	10	Commencement programs, 1880-1885
1	11	Commencement programs, 1886-1889
1	12	Commencement programs, 1890-1892
1	13	Commencement programs, 1893-1895
1	14	Commencement programs, 1896-1913
BV1		Commencement speeches by members of the Junior and Senior classes and selected orators, 1895
1	15	Speech on the laying of Pierce Science Hall cornerstone, Warren A. Candler, 1902
1	16	Miscellaneous, 1866-1918

**Series 2**  
**Historical information, undated**  
**Box 1**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes printed material related to the history of Emory College and Oxford, Ga.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	17	Articles
1	18	Brochures
1	19	Clippings

**Series 3**  
**Legal documents, 1834-1917**  
**Box 2 and OP1-3**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes copies of the charters for Emory College and the Georgia Conference Manual Labor school, deeds, bonds, subscriptions, and records related to plots of land in Oxford, Ga.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
2	1A	Georgia Conference Manual Labor School, untitled circular anticipating school's founding, 1833
OP3		Georgia Conference Manual Labor School Act of Incorporation, Charter and Amendments, 1834
OP1	1	Emory College Act of Incorporation, Charter and Amendments, 1836-1900
2	3	Appointment of A. B. Longstreet as attorney for Georgia Conference Manual Labor School, 1843
BV2		Commission to incorporate the town of Oxford
2	4	Deeds, 1822-1835
2	5	Deeds, 1843-1914
2	5A	Deeds list, compiled 1953
2	5B	Georgia Conference Manual Labor School land plat, 1840
2	6	Original plots of Oxford area
OP2		Original plots of Oxford area
OP2		Oxford land plat, circa 1914
2	7	Subscriptions to Georgia Conference Manual Labor School, 1843-1835
2	8	Surety bonds for town of Oxford, 1915-1917
2	9	Title bonds for lots in Oxford, 1837-1839, 1849

**Series 4**  
**Presidents, 1865 and undated**  
**Box 2**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings, and other items related to early presidents of Emory College including Warren A. Candler, James E. Dickey, C. E. Dowman, Ignatius Alphonso Few, Atticus Greene Haygood, Isaac S. Hopkins, George F. Pierce, Luther Smith, Osborne L. Smith, and James R. Thomas. Notable among items in this series is a report, 1865, by James R. Thomas to the Emory College Board of Trustees concerning the re-opening of the school after the Civil War.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by surname.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
2	10	Candler, Warren A.
2	11	Dickey, James E.
2	12	Dowman, C. E.
2	13	Few, Ignatius Alphonso
2	14	Haygood, Atticus Greene
2	15	Hopkins, Isaac S.
2	16	Pierce, George F.
2	17	Smith, Luther
2	18	Smith, O. L.
2	19	Thomas, James R., 1865-Report to the Board of Trustees regarding re-opening of the College after the Civil War.



**Series 5**  
**Related publications, 1947-1987**  
**Box 3**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes articles, a telephone directory, and other published material related to Emory College and the town of Oxford, Ga. There is also a complete typescript of *Florrie and the Blessed Town* by Polly Stone Buck and related correspondence.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in roughly alphabetical order by file type.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
3	1	Florrie and the Blessed Town by Polly Stone Buck, 1987-Correspondence
3	2	Florrie and the Blessed Town by Polly Stone Buck, no date-typescript of chapters 1-8
3	3	Florrie and the Blessed Town by Polly Stone Buck, no date-typescript of chapters 9-18
3	4	Florrie and the Blessed Town by Polly Stone Buck, no date-typescript of chapters 19-28
3	5	Telephone directories, [1947], no date
3	6	Town of Oxford, Georgia, and its Historic Cemetery by Laura Robinson Dodson, 1970. Typescript and copy of vol. 6 no. 2 of Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly in which the article appeared.
3	7	Miscellaneous, no date

**Series 6**  
**Student papers, 1848-1900**  
**Box 4, BV9 and BV10**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes compositions, letters, essays, diaries, and other items written by students of Emory College.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by student surname.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
BV9		Banks, Watkins: Composition book, 1851-1853
4	1	Dawson, H. R.: "Townie," Autograph album, 1858-
4	2	Eve, R. C.: Letter from father, 1861
4	3	Gibson, Thomas: Essay, 1860
BV10		Hutcheson, Thomas D.: Composition book, 1837-1843
4	4	Munro, George: Letter, 1887
4	5	Munson, G. B.: Letters, 1848
4	6	Summerlin, M. B.: Letter, 1851
4	7	Essay "The Anglo-Saxon race," undated
4	8	Miscellaneous, 1842-1900

**Series 7**  
**Miscellaneous, 1834-1986**  
**Box 4 and BV3-8**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes faculty records, library records, correspondence, records of student grades, a scrapbook related to Emory College namesake John Emory, a book of poetry by Emory faculty member Capers Dickson, and other items.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
4	9	Covington and Oxford Street Railroad Company By-Laws, no date
4	10	Faculty records, 1834
4	11	Library records, 1896-1907
BV8		Minute book, 1866-1879-Commissioners of the Town of Oxford
BV3		Record of grades, 1852-1913
4	12	Roll of honor, 1897-1907
BV4		Tributes and memorials to Emory College faculty, administrators and others, 1874-1915
BV5		John T. Emory family scrapbook, 1840-1890
BV6		Professor Capers Dickson's poems
BV7		H. H. Stone personal letters

---