

EMORY COLLEGE.

Emory College library records, 1846-1936

Emory University
Emory University Archives
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Emory College.
Title: Emory College library records, 1846-1936
Call Number: Series No. 51
Extent: 31 bound volumes (BV)
Abstract: The collection is chiefly of records of the Emory College library related to acquisition and circulation of books and periodicals. There are also library catalogs and shelf lists noting the location of materials. The collection also includes a few volumes related to the libraries of the Few Literary Society and Phi Gamma literary society and to Emory University Library.
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

General Libraries records (Series 22) and Emory College student organization records (Series 49).

Source

Transfer

Citation

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

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Processing

Processed by Nancy Hall Watkins, 2006.

Collection Description**Administrative History**

Emory College was chartered in 1836 to the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1914, it was rechartered as Emory University.

The first librarian noted in Emory College records, in 1840, was George W. Lane, the professor of ancient languages. The college library played little part in the early history of Emory College and was described in a later history of the university as consisting of "the miscellaneous gatherings of deceased Methodist preachers." Few faculty or students used the library, which had no regularly scheduled hours. The primary library collections were in the possession of the college's two literary societies, Phi Gamma and Few, organized in the first three years of the college's existence. In 1860, the two societies between them owned something over 4000 volumes, while the college library contained fewer than 2000 volumes. The college was closed during the Civil War, when buildings were used as hospitals, and on its reopening in 1866, the holdings of the small library were found to have been largely scattered and lost.

The first serious attention to the library came under the presidency of Atticus Greene Haygood, a graduate in the class of 1859 and later agent for the Slater Fund to aid African-American education. Through the benefaction of a Northern philanthropist, George Seney (an admirer of Haygood), Seney Hall was built (1883) to house college offices, provide classrooms, and give space for the college library. There, for the first time, the library collection, could be shelved in an orderly arrangement and made available every day in the week. Finally, in 1897, the cornerstone was laid for a separate library building, Candler Hall. Shortly after Candler Hall opened, the literary societies transferred their collections to the library and in 1908 the college received its first book endowment, the John W. Akin fund devoted to English literature, with a gift of \$5,000. By 1915, when the Methodist Church, South, at the urging of Bishop Warren Candler, determined to establish a Methodist university in Atlanta, the college library showed a count of 41,000 volumes.

Scope and Content Note

The collection is chiefly of records of the Emory College library related to acquisition, accession, and circulation of books and periodicals. There are also library catalogs and shelf lists noting the location of materials. The collection also includes a few volumes related to the libraries of the Few Literary Society and Phi Gamma literary society, to specific library collections, and to Emory University Library.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by material type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
BV1		Shelf list, undated
BV2		Accession book, undated
BV3		Accession book, undated
BV4		Accession book, 1898-1903
BV5		Accession book, 1904-1908
BV6		Shelf list, undated
BV7		Accession book, circa 1908-1912
BV8		Accession book, 1912-1913
BV9		Accession book, 1913-1914
BV10		Accession book, 1915-1917
BV11		Accession book, 1917-1918
BV12		Emory University accession book, 1923-1936
BV13		Accession book: Harrison Collection, undated
BV14		Accession book: John W. Akin Fund (1 of 3)
BV15		Accession book: John W. Akin Fund (2 of 3)
BV16		Accession book: John W. Akin Fund (3 of 3)
BV17		Phi Gamma Society library records, 1857-1895 and undated
BV18		Library catalog, circa 1859
BV19		Few Society library records, 1885-1886
BV20		Circulation book, 1889-1891
BV21		Circulation book, 1893-1896
BV22		Circulation book, 1896-1898
BV23		Few Society library circulation book, 1896-1900
BV24		Circulation book, 1898-1900
BV25		Circulation book, 1900-1901
BV26		Circulation book, 1901-1902
BV27		Circulation book, 1902-1903
BV28		Shelf list, undated
BV29		List of religious works, undated
BV30		Periodical register (circa 1846-1897)
BV31		Periodical register, 1897-1901
