

Mills College Historical Photographs

Prepared by F.W. Olin Library, Mills College

Mills College

F.W. Olin Library

Special Collections and Archive

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Mills College Historical Photographs

Mills College
F.W. Olin Library, Special Collections and Archive
Oakland, CA 94613

Date Completed:

June 18, 2009

Encoded by:

Janice Braun

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Mills College historical photographs

Dates: 1865-1922

Collection number: Consult library

Collector: F.W. Olin Library, Mills College

Collection Size: 200 items200 online items

Repository: F.W. Olin Library, Mills College Special Collections and Archive
Oakland, CA 94613

Abstract: This digital collection consists of items selected from the F.W. Olin Library's photograph collection that depict Mills College's early history. The photographs were selected from the three categories that are represented in the collection: buildings, portraits, and campus life. The F.W. Olin Library's photograph collection is a part of the Mills College Archive and includes images of historical and current interest to the College. The collection dates from the 1860s to the present with the bulk of the photos taken at the College's current site in Oakland where the College moved from Benicia, California in 1870.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

 <http://content.cdlib.org/search?style=oac-img;sort=title;relation=ark:/13030/kt900030bp>

Access

Collection open for research.

Preferred Citation

Mills College historical photographs. Mills College, F.W. Olin Library, Special Collections and Archive, Oakland, CA 94613.

Acquisition Information

Collected by the F.W. Olin Library and others.

Project Information

These 200 photographs were assembled from the photograph collection of approximately 12,000 in the Mills College Archive, which is housed in the Heller Rare Book Room, F.W. Olin Library, Mills College. They were digitized in order to provide broader access to the cultural and social history of Mills College for general audiences. The focus was on images that chronicle the first few decades of the College at its Oakland, California location. The digitization will continue in-house both on an on-demand basis and as small subcollections.

The project was part of the California Local History Digital Resources Program (LHDRP), a multi-year program supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Leveraging the infrastructure of the CDL in partnership with Califa and Infopeople, the LHDRP explores a model to aggregate, preserve, and provide permanent public access to local history materials maintained by California cultural heritage institutions via a single statewide online access point. For more information about the LHDRP, see <http://www.cdlib.org/inside/projects/oac/lsta/>.

Project activities took place from July 2008 through June 2009. Activities included selection, rehousing, digitization, and the production of metadata for 200 images. Digital objects were created and cataloged using CONTENTdm, a digital asset management tool shared by LHDRP participants. The cataloging conforms to the CDL's Guidelines for Digital Objects specifications for descriptive and copyright metadata (see <http://www.cdlib.org/inside/diglib/guidelines/>).

Digitization was performed by Northern Micrographics using flatbed scanners. For each physical item, three digital image files were created: a TIFF master, a JPEG access image, and GIF thumbnail image. Digital image files conform to the CDL's Guidelines for Digital Images (see <http://www.cdlib.org/inside/diglib/guidelines/bpgimages/>)

Administrative History

Founded in 1852 as the Young Ladies' Seminary in Benicia, California, Mills College has a rich history as a leader in women's education. The College moved to its present site in Oakland in 1870 where the original building, Mills Hall, still stands.

Scope and Content of Collection

The F.W. Olin Library's photograph collection is a part of the Mills College Archive and includes images of historical and current interest to the College. The collection dates from the 1860s to the present with the bulk of the photos taken at the College's current site in Oakland where the College moved from Benicia, California in 1870. The images are organized into three general categories: buildings, portraits, and campus life. They provide important documentation particularly for buildings that have been demolished, landscape features that have been altered, campus traditions that are no longer practiced, and campus culture that has evolved and changed over the course of over 150 years. The collection mostly consists of prints but also includes postcards, stereocards, slides, and proofsheets. The F.W. Olin Library's photograph collection is a part of the Mills College Archive and includes images of historical and current interest to the College. The collection dates from the 1860s to the present with the bulk of the photos taken at the College's current site in Oakland where the College moved from Benicia, California in 1870. The images are organized into three general categories: buildings, portraits, and campus life. They provide important documentation particularly for buildings that have been demolished, landscape features that have been altered, campus traditions that are no longer practiced, and campus culture that has evolved and changed over the course of over 150 years. The collection mostly consists of prints but also includes postcards, stereocards, slides, and proofsheets.

Most of these photographs were taken by commercial photographers hired by the College, College staff and students.

A finding aid is available for the photograph collection. Consult the library for more information.

Subjects

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Mills College
Mills Seminary
Oakland (Calif.)
Benicia (Calif.)
Women college students
College campuses
College buildings
Photographic prints
Photographic postcards
Postcards
Stereographs
