**Title:** Florence I. Hunter diaries
**Identifier/Call Number:** ARC Mss 92
**Language of Material:** English
**Contributing Institution:** UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Research Collections
**Creator:** Hunter, Florence I., 1901-1961
**Physical Description:** 3.75 linear feet (2 cartons, 3 document boxes)
**Date (inclusive):** 1920-1958

**Abstract:** Consists of 31 diaries written by Florence I. Hunter, an eyewitness to historical events ranging from women's suffrage to World War II and changes in the religious order in which her husband was a pastor. Beginning with her 1937 diary, Florence interleaved the pages with newspaper clippings, church bulletins, and a variety of ephemera related to events in her life.

Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library

**Access Restrictions**
The collection is open for research.

**Use Restrictions**
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**Preferred Citation**
[Identification of Item], Florence I. Hunter diaries, ARC Mss 92. Department of Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Acquisition Information**
Library purchase, 2019.

**Biographical Note**
Florence I. Hunter (Walmer) of Hershey, Pennsylvania, was an eyewitness to historical events ranging from women's suffrage to World War II and changes in the religious order in which her husband was a pastor. Hunter (1901-1961) worked for many years as a stenographer at a New York department store and was married relatively late in life to Paul W. Hunter (1893-1983), a pastor with the United Methodist Church.

Florence seems to have led a very pious life. She regularly attended church and Sunday school, and took part in a variety of religious organizations. Vacation generally involved going to a religious camp. This was true even before she met and married her minister husband.

Florence gave birth on June 29, 1934, to her first child, J. Paul, and she recovered in the hospital for nearly two weeks but did not appear to have any major complaints or complications. Together, the couple had three children and took care, at times, of a daughter resulting from Paul's first marriage, which ended in divorce.

**Scope and Content**
The collection is comprised of 31 diaries written by Florence I. Hunter during her time spent in various New York and Pennsylvania towns. Most of the entries are records of her daily life, who she visited, weather conditions, how she was feeling, and local events. Included in the entries are mentions of women's suffrage, World War II, and presidential elections and politics. The bulk of the entries relate to her life as a religious woman and her role in her husband's ministry. Those entries include funeral service descriptions, weddings, and religious functions that she attended.


**Arrangement**
The collection is arranged in chronological order.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
- Women -- New York (State) -- 20th century -- Diaries
- Women -- Pennsylvania -- 20th century -- Diaries
- Women -- Suffrage -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Personal narratives, American
New York (State) -- Social life and customs -- 20th century
Pennsylvania -- Social life and customs -- 20th century
Church bulletins
Clippings (information artifacts)
Correspondence
Diaries
Printed ephemera
Hunter, Florence I., 1901-1961 -- Diaries

| box 1 | Diaries 1920-1941 |
| box 2 | Diaries 1942-1955 |
| box 3 | Diaries 1956-1958 |
| box 4 | Clippings, letters and ephemera 1937-1949 |
| box 5 | Clippings, letters and ephemera 1950-1958 |