
Finding aid of the Philomathean Club Records

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Finding aid of the Philomathean Club Records

Collection number: MSS 295

Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections
University of the Pacific Library
Stockton, California

Processed by:

Don Walker

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Encoded by:

Shan Sutton

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Philomathean Club records

Dates: 1899-2002

Collection number: MSS 295

Creator: Philomathean Club

Collection Size: 12 linear feet

Repository: University of the Pacific. Library. Holt-Atherton Dept. of Special Collections
Stockton, California 95211

Abstract: The collection contains four principal elements: yearbooks, scrapbooks, minute books, and financial records.

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

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Biography / Administrative History

The Philomathean Reading Club, a women's club of Stockton, California, was organized November 17, 1893. Its object was "the cultivation of literary taste and the promotion of study." When membership had grown to about 300, the Club established a Philomathean Building Association for the purpose of raising funds for a club building (1910). By the following year, the Club had raised enough money to acquire a lot at Hunter and Acacia streets and to hire W.E. Wood and Son to build a clubhouse on the site. The first meeting in the completed clubhouse took place on February 9, 1912. The two-story building contained an upstairs lecture hall/ballroom and downstairs kitchen and meeting rooms.

In 1982 the club voted to be excluded from the Magnolia Historical District so that the membership could continue to exercise control over their building. Subsequently, as a result of several break-ins, expensive building repairs, and a decline in membership, the Philomatheans relinquished their historic clubhouse to the City of Stockton (2001).

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection contains four principal elements: yearbooks, scrapbooks, minute books, and financial records. There are also a number of miscellaneous items of interest, including: a list of gifts received by the club (1912-1982), some records of the Girls' Auxiliary (1965-1971), records of the Annual Card Party (1964-1996) and the Corresponding Secretary's lists of correspondents (1955-1964).

Indexing Terms

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

Box 1: Yearbooks. Most yearbooks contain: by-laws; lists of officers, committees and members; calendar of club events; the 50th and 100th year editions also contain brief club histories. 1899-2002

Box 2: Scrapbooks, 1916-1939

Box 3: Scrapbooks, 1941-1951

Box 4: Scrapbooks, 1955-1961

Box 5: Minute books, 1910-1978

Box 6: Minute books, 1982-1991

Box 7: Minute books, 1989-1993, 1996-2000

Box 8: Financial secretary's account books, 1915-1990

Box 9: Treasurer's account books, 1931-1993

Box 10: Miscellaneous financial records, 1929-1986

Box 11: Stock ledgers, 1910-1931

Box 12: Miscellaneous records. Includes membership records, and constitutions and by-laws. 1912-1990