

2010

First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records

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Guide to the First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records

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Processed by:
Lisa Zakharova
Date Completed:
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Descriptive Summary

Title: First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records

Dates: 1827-2009

Bulk Dates: 1827-1922

Collection number: MSS-2010-06-11

Creator: Walsh, James P.

Collection Size: 1 box, .5 linear feet

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records, 1827-2009 (bulk 1827-1922) was compiled by SJSU Emeritus Professor of History, James P. Walsh. This research collection originated from his earlier publication *One and the Same: The History of Continuing Education at San Jose State University, 1857-2007* (SJSU 2006). During the research process for *One and the Same*, Walsh discovered the history of the first graduates of the State Normal School. Walsh began the process to document in greater detail the lives of the first sixteen graduates of the San Jose Normal School, and has since published the article "Tadhg" Lets Change the Subject," published in *Back to the Future of Irish Studies; Festschrift for Tadhg Foley*, edited by Maureen O'Conner (2009). As he notes in his book and article, the first graduating class consisted of sixteen women, fifteen were single, and one was married. These women migrated to California during gold rush era, and several of them came from Irish immigrant families. The State Normal School laid the foundation for public higher education in California, and the graduates became the first credentialed teachers in the state. The records consist of correspondence, census lists, biographical and historical articles, handwritten notes, and includes the galley proofs of the article "Tadhg" Lets Change the Subject."

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

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records, MSS-2010-06-11, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Lisa Zakharova. Finding aid EAD encoded by Lisa Zakharova. Reviewed by Danelle Moon and Erin Louthen.

Project Information

This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

Organizational History

In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San Jose, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized \$200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal School is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West

Scope and Content of Collection

The First Class of San Jose State Normal School Research Records, 1827-2009 (bulk 1827-1922) was compiled by SJSU Emeritus Professor of History, James P. Walsh. This research collection originated from his earlier publication *One and the Same: The History of Continuing Education at San Jose State University, 1857-2007* (SJSU 2006). During the research process for *One and the Same*, Walsh discovered the history of the first graduates of the State Normal School. Walsh began the process to document in greater detail the lives of the first sixteen graduates of the San Jose Normal School, and has since published the article "Tadhg" Lets Change the Subject," published in *Back to the Future of Irish Studies; Festschrift for Tadhg Foley*, edited by Maureen O'Conner (2009). As he notes in his book and article, the first graduating class consisted of sixteen women, fifteen were single, and one was married. These women migrated to California during gold rush era, and several of them came from Irish immigrant families. The State Normal School laid the foundation for public higher education in California, and the graduates became the first credentialed teachers in the state. The records consist of correspondence, census lists, biographical and historical articles, handwritten notes, and includes the galley proofs of the article "Tadhg" Lets Change the Subject."

Arrangement

This single series collection is arranged by class ranking. The final folders contain additional research by Professor Walsh.

Indexing Terms

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

San Jose State University -- History

Education, Higher -- California -- San Jose

Education -- California -- San Jose

Women--History--California

Bibliography

Gilbert, Benjamin F., and Burdick, Charles. *Washington Square, 1857-1979: The History of San Jose State University*. San Jose, California: San Jose State University, 1980.

San Jose State University. *About SJSU*. http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/

Walsh, James P. San Jose, California: San Jose State University, 2003. *San Jose State University: An Interpretive History, 1950-2000*. San Jose, California: San Jose State University, 2003.

Walsh, James P. "Tadhg: Let's Change the Subject", in *Back to the Future of Irish Studies; Festschrift for Tadhg Foley*, edited by Maureen O'Conner, 2009. San Jose, California: San Jose State University, 2009.

Box 1

I First Graduates 1822-2009 (bulk 1827-1922)

Physical Description: 1 box

Scope and Content Note

This series consists of the research files compiled by SJSU Emeritus Professor of History, James P. Walsh for the publication "Tadhg" Lets Change the Subject," published in *Back to the Future of Irish Studies; Festschrift for Tadhg Foley*, edited by Maureen O'Conner (2009). This research originated from his earlier publication *One and the Same: The History of Continuing Education at San Jose State University, 1857-2007*.

As Walsh notes in his published article, the first sixteen graduates came to the West during the gold rush era of California. All were single women, with the exception of Annie E. [Sanford] Dubois. The women ranged in age from 17-34, and only three of the graduates were foreign born. All of the students were white, were daytime school teachers, and each attended the Normal School as night students. The first graduate, Ellen Casey graduated at the top of her class. Kate Kennedy, sixth in her class, lobbied for suffrage, unionization, and education. Mary Lynde, ranked thirteen in her class, and had a long career as a school principal, teacher, and writer. She also passed the California State Bar exam and became a practicing lawyer. Miss Lynde was one of only four women practicing law in early California. Mary A. Casebolt ranked second in her class and became a schoolteacher. Mary Louise Tracy ranked twelfth in her class and married Normal School teacher, John Swett, one of the founders of public education in California. Carolyn L. Hunt, number ten in her class, had a 40-year career as a botany and biology teacher. Annie E. Stanford Du Bois was the only married graduate, and despite the discrimination against married female teachers at the time, she had a very successful career as a teacher and as a principal.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged according to the original order established by Professor Walsh. The first sixteen folders are arranged by student class ranking. The last six include additional research files and a the galley proof of the article "Tadhg: Let's Change the Subject."

Box 1, Folder 1

Ellen Casey July 18, 1839- March 23, 1925

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 2

Mary A. Casebolt 1838-1888

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 3

Alice T. Baker 1840-1929

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 4

Laura E. Field undated

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 5

Eliza Hawkhurst 1830-1910

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 6

Kate Kennedy May 31, 1827- March 18, 1890

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folder 7

Lizzie Kennedy December 26, 1837- October 13, 1926

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 1, Folders 8	Adelia B. Kimball February 25, 1839- July 17, 1917 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 9	Mariana Alley Wills 1844-1925 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folders 10	Caroline L. Hunt 1840- January 21, 1922 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 11	Dorcas S. Prescott. 1830-1889 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 12	Mary Louise Tracey December 8, 1839- Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 13	Mary D. Lynde 1835-1921 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folders 14	Hannah Marks September 2, 1835- August 4, 1908 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 15	Beatrice Weed 1841- Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folders 16	Annie E. DuBois 1834- Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 17	Research: Back-up. 2008-2009 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 18	Minns' and Early History 1888-2005 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 19	Minns'> CSU # of grads. 2,621,978 2007 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 20	"Let's Change the Subject" mss Draft March 26, 2008 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folder 21	Tadhg's festschrift 2009 Physical Description: 1 folder
Box 1, Folders 22	Tadhg: "Let's Change the Subject-proofs" November 26, 2009 Physical Description: 1 folder