



ArchivesSpace

Guide to the American Society of Women Engineers and Architects Records LR001802

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <http://reuther.wayne.edu>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator:	Counts, Hilda
Creator:	Eaves, Elsie
Creator:	Melton, Lou Alta
Title:	American Society of Women Engineers and Architects Records
ID:	LR001802
Date [inclusive]:	1919-1946
Physical Description:	.5 Linear Feet (1 MB)
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Material entirely in English.
Abstract:	<p>Following World War I and prior to the incorporation of the Society of Women Engineers in 1950, a small group of women created the American Society of Women Engineers and Architects, a professional network to support working women engineers and counsel young women interested in pursuing engineering as a profession. The American Society of Women Engineers and Architects Collection includes correspondence related to early members Lou Alta Melton and Hilda Counts' 1919 female engineering college enrollment survey; newsletter and correspondence of the American Society of Women Engineers and Architects; correspondence to and from member Elsie Eaves; and a copy of Alice Goff's 1946 publication, Women Can Be Engineers.</p>

Citation Style

"American Society of Women Engineers and Architects Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

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History

Following World War I, and prior to the founding and incorporation of a national Society of Women Engineers, graduate women in engineering and architecture created a small professional network, eventually calling themselves the American Society of Women Engineers and Architects. Two early leaders included Lou Alta Melton and Hilda Counts, both graduates of the University of Colorado-Boulder. Their efforts to survey female students enrolled in college-level engineering and architecture courses resulted in one of the earliest national enrollment surveys of women in engineering. Other early pioneers, such as University of Colorado graduate Elsie Eaves, counseled and advised young women interested in pursuing careers in science and technology. Eaves also assisted in providing information on successful female engineers to various organizations, and eventually gained a reputation as a center of information on women in engineering. A SWE charter member, for a number of years she served as Archives Chair for the national Society of Women Engineers following its founding in the early 1950s.

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Scope and Content

The American Society of Women Engineers collection includes correspondence related to Melton's and Counts' 1919-1920 female engineering enrollment survey; early membership application, constitution, newsletter and correspondence of the American Society of Women Engineers and Architects; incoming and outgoing correspondence of Elsie Eaves; and a copy of University of Michigan graduate Alice Goff's 1946 publication, *Women Can Be Engineers*. Important Subjects: American Society of Women Engineers and Architects Engineering Engineering—Societies, etc. Engineering—Vocational guidance Engineering students—United States Engineers Women—Employment—United States Women—Societies and Clubs—United States Women engineering students Women engineers Women in engineering Important Names: Hilda Counts Elsie Eaves Alice Goff Lou Alta Melton

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Arrangement

Folders are arranged in chronological order by subject.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Acquisition

Deposited with the national Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Archives in 1994.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Lura Smith on April 10, 2014.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials."

Other Copies

The collection, excepting folder 9, has been digitized and is available as PDF files in the Reuther Library's digital repository.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Society of Women Engineers National Records

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Controlled Access Headings

- Society of Women Engineers
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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Women in Engineering Academic Survey, Correspondence, January-May, 1919	Box 1	Folder 1
Photocopies of Folder 1	Box 1	Folder 1a
Women in Engineering Academic Survey, Correspondence, May 1919 - August 1920	Box 1	Folder 2
Photocopies of Folder 2	Box 1	Folder 2a
American Society of Women Engineers and Architects, Membership Application and Logo, ca. 1920s	Box 1	Folder 3
Photocopies of Folder 3	Box 1	Folder 3a
American Society of Women Engineers and Architects, Constitution and By-laws, 1919	Box 1	Folder 4
Photocopies of Folder 4	Box 1	Folder 4a
Elsie Eaves, Correspondence, 1929-1940	Box 1	Folder 5
Photocopies of Folder 5	Box 1	Folder 5a
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Women Associate Members, 1944	Box 1	Folder 6
Photocopies of Folder 6	Box 1	Folder 6a
The Woman Engineer, ca. 1931, 1936-1937	Box 1	Folder 7
Photocopies of Folder 7	Box 1	Folder 7a
Women Engineers and Architects newsletter, March 1938-March 1941	Box 1	Folder 8
Photocopies of Folder 8	Box 1	Folder 8a
Women Can Be Engineers, Alice Goff, 1946	Box 1	Folder 9
Photocopies of Folder 9	Box 1	Folder 9a

