

Lucy Wheelock, (1888-1940)

Archives, Wheelock College Library
Boston, MA 02215

Title: Lucy Wheelock Collection

Date: 1871-[on-going]

Quantity: 4.5 Cubic Feet (7 document boxes, 1 half document box, 1 card file box, and 1 folio box)

Collection ID Number: 1A

Biography

Lucy Wheelock was born February 1, 1857 in Cambridge, Vermont to Edwin Wheelock, a minister and descendent of John Adams, and Laura (Pierce). Lucy spent the early part of her life in Cambridge, Vermont where she studied at Underhill Academy and later moved to Reading, Massachusetts where she attended and graduated from Reading High School in 1874. After graduation, Lucy returned to her hometown in Vermont where she taught in the village school, but in a few years time, came back to Massachusetts to study at the Chauncey-Hall School in Boston. Here she learned the German language and became interested in early childhood education. The writings and works of Friedrich Froebel, the founder of kindergarten, particularly fascinated her. Miss Wheelock went on to train at the Kindergarten Training School as a kindergarten teacher, finishing in 1879. Upon completion of her education, she returned to the Chauncey-Hall School, this time as a kindergarten teacher, and began translating the works of Friedrich Froebel and Johanna Spyri, writer of the children's book *Heidi*.

In 1888, the Wheelock Kindergarten Training School was established as a department of the Chauncey-Hall School in Copley Square. The first class consisted of six students. Miss Wheelock's school eventually moved to Dartmouth Street in Boston's Back Bay in 1896. As the school continued to grow, it was forced to move into a larger building. The first move was to Newbury Street in 1904 and then again in 1914 to the Riverway, where Wheelock College is located today.

Throughout her life, Miss Wheelock was active in many professional activities related to the education of kindergarten teachers. She served as a member, and later as President, of the International Kindergarten Union (IKU). Her involvement with the IKU also included the title of Chairperson of the Committee of Nineteen commissioned by the IKU. As Chairperson of the committee, Miss Wheelock prepared a report on the current status of kindergarten methods and philosophy. Miss Wheelock was a member of the IKU Froebel Memorial House Committee and was instrumental in the planning of a pilgrimage for 70 American teachers to the birthplace of Friedrich Froebel in 1911. She was also active in the National Congress of Mothers (NCM).

Lucy Wheelock wrote many articles, book chapters, and edited journals related to the education of young children. In 1940, she was granted the title of Principal Emeritus of Wheelock College and died in 1946 in Massachusetts. Since 1888, Wheelock College has built upon the pioneering work of Lucy Wheelock to play a leading role in the preparation of early childhood and elementary school teachers and the formation of local and national education policy in America.

Consult the following sources for more information on the life of Lucy Wheelock:

- *Wheelock College 100 Years : 1888/89-1988/1989*. Elizabeth Anne Liddle, Editor ; design: Diane Schaefer. Boston: Wheelock College. 1988. 372.2 W57
- Wheelock, Lucy. *Childhood Days*. Boston: Wheelock College. ARCHIVES 920.7 W57c
- Wheelock, Lucy. *My Life Story*. Boston: Wheelock College. 920.7 W57m

Scope and Content

This collection documents the life and professional work of Lucy Wheelock, founder of Wheelock College. The collection consists primarily of materials related to the founding of Wheelock College and Miss Wheelock's professional work in early childhood education, with a small number of items exhibiting personal interests.

The collection is organized in four series with the fourth series being organized into two sub-series:

- I. **Biographical and Personal**
- II. **Images**
- III. **Correspondence**
- IV. **Professional Work**
 1. **Professional Affiliations and Activities**
 2. **Writings**

Restrictions

Access:

Access to the collection is unlimited. Researchers are allowed to view all pieces of the collection. The archives is open by appointment only. Call the Reference Librarian at (617) 879-2222 to make an appointment.

Copyright:

Requests to publish material from the collection should be submitted to the Library Director.

Cataloging Entries

The following catalog entries provide controlled subject access to the collection. All entries are searchable in the Wheelock College Library's online public access catalog.

Wheelock, Lucy, 1857-1946
Wheelock College -- History
Wheelock, George, 1867-1929
Wheelock, Edwin, 1822-1907
Froebel, Friedrich, 1782-1852
Early childhood education – United States – History
International Kindergarten Union
Association for Childhood Education (U.S.)
International Kindergarten Union. Committee of Nineteen.
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964

Administrative Information

Acquisition:

The collection was the donation of Wheelock alumnae, faculty, staff, and Miss Wheelock's family.

Processing Information:

Laura Reade and Judy Ceven initially organized the collection. Jill Snyder rearranged the collection based on archival principles January through May of 2002. Accession correspondence and archival inquiries were removed from the collection. Acidic material such as newsprint was photocopied onto acid-free paper and then discarded unless the original had some intrinsic value. Photographs of Miss Wheelock initially housed in the "photograph collection" were moved to the Lucy Wheelock collection. Materials relating to the history of the Wheelock School (Wheelock College) were relocated to other collections in the archives.

Series Description

Series I:

Biographical and Personal, 1871-1989

Documents the life, work, and interests of Lucy Wheelock and contains artifacts believed to have once been owned by Miss Wheelock. Items include Miss Wheelock's red cape, her doctoral hood, a weaving book, an honorary degree from the University of Vermont, notebooks, and a scrapbook of trade cards. Biographical information on the life of Miss Wheelock from personal papers and newspaper clippings to a diary of her travels can be found in this series as well. There is a small amount of information about Miss Wheelock's father Edwin, and brother George. The information on Edwin also contains letters from Thomas Cushing to Edwin Wheelock as well as from Henry H. Barnard. Much of the correspondence between the men is in reference to Miss Wheelock. This series also contains tributes to Lucy and a chapter of an autobiography by Miss Wheelock entitled *My Life Story*.

Series II:

Images, 1877-1946

Contains photographs and images of Miss Wheelock, such as images from magazines and larger framed pictures. Images of Miss Wheelock date from the 1860s to the 1940s and include photographs with classmates and students throughout her life as an educator. Most Lucy Wheelock photographs located in the photograph collection have been relocated to this collection; however, one can also find pictures of Miss Wheelock in PC9, Oversized Box C. Photographs from the Froebel Pilgrimage are located in the Professional Work [box 7] series of this collection. Glass slides thought to have been purchased by Miss Wheelock during the Froebel Pilgrimage are located in Professional Work [box 8].

Series III:

Correspondence, 1884-1946

Documents correspondence between Miss Wheelock and others during her time as the founder and President Emeritus of Wheelock College. While there are a few letters written by Miss Wheelock, the majority are written to Miss Wheelock from friends and colleagues. This series also houses Seasons Greetings cards from Lucy to others and a letter from Herbert Hoover.

Series IV

Professional Work, 1873-1967

Documents the professional work of Miss Wheelock at Wheelock College. Contains information relating to Lucy's work within the educational community and articles written by Miss Wheelock about education. The series is divided into two sub-series:

1. Professional Affiliations and Activities

2. Writings

Subseries 1. Professional Affiliations and Activities, 1873-1967

Documents the professional work and affiliations in which Miss Wheelock was involved, and contains correspondence, programs, and reports relating to Miss Wheelock's work with professional organizations around the world. In particular, this series contains information relating to the International Kindergarten Union and the Committee of Nineteen, which consists of newspaper clippings, annual meeting programs, a scrapbook, and information on settlement houses. One can also find information about the Froebel Pilgrimage, which was organized by Miss Wheelock in 1911. The information preserved from this pilgrimage includes a travel diary, photographs, a book written by Miss Wheelock, audio and recording tapes of Lucy's writings, and many maps and ephemeral materials from Germany. This series also contains 59 glass slides believed to have been purchased by Miss Wheelock while abroad.

Subseries 2. Writings, 1882-1946

Documents the writings of Miss Wheelock on kindergarten and early childhood education. These writings consist of both unpublished and published writings, lecture notes, articles written for various Wheelock College publications, and professional education journals edited by Lucy. Check the Wheelock College Library Catalog at <http://www.wheelock.edu/library/> for other writings by Lucy.

Container List

Box 1 (oversized)

Series I: Biographical and Personal

- Red Cape
- Doctoral Hood
- Tribute to Lucy Wheelock, "The Flags are Up..."
- Silver book marker
- Wine bottle marker
- University of Vermont Honorary Degree, 1925
- International Kindergarten Society membership certificate, 1903, Box 1

Box 2

- Chronologies and timelines of Lucy Wheelock, 1954-1968 **Folder 1**
- Speeches and personal remembrances of Lucy Wheelock, 1929 **Folder 2**
- Published materials and news clippings on Lucy Wheelock, 1890-2000 **Folders 3-5**
- Clippings on Wheelock School **Folder 6**
- Lucy Wheelock Obituaries, 1946-1947 **Folder 7**
- Wheelock Family Materials **Folder 8**
- University of Vermont (LW Honorary degree), 1925 **Folder 9**
- Tributes to Lucy Wheelock **Folder 10**

Box 3

- The Children's Friend - Tribute to Lucy Wheelock from the Alumni Association. Ca. 1924, **Folder 1**
- The Children's Friend: The Life and Letters of Lucy Wheelock, L.L.D. by Charlotte Louise Greene, Teacher's College, Columbia University, New York City, 1927, **Folder 2**
- Lucy Wheelock – Homemade Reader, **Folder 3**
- Autograph Book, 1874-1876, **Folder 4**
- Birthday Book – Gift, 1906, **Folder 5**
- Guest Book – Gift, 1917-1962, **Folder 6**
- Songbook, n.d., **Folder 7**

Box 4

- Board of Trustees Resolution, Lucy Wheelock, October 2, 1946, **Folder 1**
 - Lucy Wheelock, Scrap Book, 1873-1939, **Folder 2**
 - Weaving Book, **Folder 3**
- [Oversized documents from other series]**
- Committee of 19, Report, ca. 1905, **Folder 4**

- Writings on Froebel, n.d., **Folder 5**
- Wheelock, Lucy. "The Appeal of the Kindergarten to College Women." *The Congregationalist* LXXVII, No. 22 (1 June 1893): 861-862, **Folder 6**

Box 5

- Notebook – Homemade Reader, **Folder 1**
- Calling cards, **Folder 2**
- Trade Cards – Loose, **Folder 3**
- Trade Cards, Scrap Book, Ca. 1871 [contains printed materials on the history and significance of trade cards, 1967, 1981], **Folder 4**
- Lucy Wheelock, Travel diaries, ca.1882, and 1903, **Folder 5**
- Lucy Wheelock, Travel Diary, 1903, **Folder 6**
- "My Trip Abroad", Travel Diary, 1910, **Folder 7**
- "My Life Story" – Autobiography by Lucy Wheelock – ca. 1925, **Folder 8**
- Drafts of "My Childhood Days" by Lucy Wheelock, **Folder 9**
- Miss Wheelock, Friends and Associates, 1900-1950, **Folder 10**
- Writings of others, **Folder 11**

Box 6

Series II: Images

Subseries 1. Biographical

A. Family portraits (Includes portraits of Lucy Wheelock's mother, father and siblings, as well as a portrait of the family home in Cambridge, Vermont.)

- **Folder 1:** 1A.1-1A.6

B. Lucy Wheelock Portraits

- **Folder 2:** 1A.7-1A.18
- **Folder 3:** 1A.19-1A.35

Subseries 2. Professional

A. Students, colleagues, and events

- **Folder 4:** 1A.36-1A.43
- **Folder 5:** 1A.44-57
- **Folder 6:** 1A.58-.74; 1A.96-.100

B. Froebel Pilgrimage

- **Box 9, Folder 5 (with Froebel Pilgrimage materials)** 1A.77-1A.94

Subseries 3. Miscellaneous [including Lucy Wheelock Child Center, from PC6.]

- **Folder 7:** 1A.75-.76
- **Folder 8:** PC6.287-291

Oversized Box C

Subseries 4. Oversized (also in PC9)

- [includes: Framed image of Lucy Wheelock, 8x10, on filing cabinet in archives
- Framed image of Lucy Wheelock, 20x24, on filing cabinet in archives

Box 8

59 glass slides from Europe:

1. "Old Mill at Guy's Cliff, Warwick"
2. "Morris Dances, Stratford"
3. "Addison Walk, Magdalene College, Oxford."
4. "Anne Hathaway's Cottage"
5. "Houses of Parliament, London"
6. "Tower of London from across the Thames"
7. "Raphael, Knight's Dream, 1497"
8. "Pere La Chaise" [cemetery in Paris]
9. "Union Familiale, Drawing, Berlin Kindergarten"
10. "Union Familiale, Cardboard, Berlin Kindergarten"
11. "Union Familiale, Cooking, German Kindergarten"
12. Versailles Palace from Place de' Armer"
13. "St. Cloud Children"
14. "Swiss Lake Lacerne, Arenstrasse near Tunnel"
15. "Switzerland, Valley of Grindelwald"
16. "Swiss, Jungfrau from Interlaken"
17. "Roemerberg, Frankfurt"
18. "Munich, Lsar River"
19. "Nuremberg"
20. "Heidelberg"
21. "Blankenburg, Heidelberg, Auto"
22. "Rhine"
23. "Cologne Cathedral"
24. "Potsdam Kaiser"
25. "Waldschule-garden"
26. "Waldschule-resting"
27. "Pestalozzi-Froebel Haus-garden"
28. "Pestalozzi-Froebel Haus-Bath"
29. "Pestalozzi-Froebel Haus-Doll House"
30. "Wartburg"
31. "Eisenach-Market"
32. "Dragon's Gorge"
33. "Blankenburg-Griefenstein"
34. "Blankenburg"
35. "Blaneknurg-Froebel Haus"
36. "Blankenburg-Froebel Home"
37. "Frau Froebel"

38. "Blankenburg-First Kindergarten"
39. "Blankenburg"
40. "First Kindergarten"
41. "Kindergarten Children"
42. "Woman with fagots"
43. "Schwarza River"
44. "Schwarzathal-River"
45. "Schwarzburg"
46. "Schwarzburg"
47. "Oberweisbach Street"
48. "Oberweissbach- Froebel's birthplace"
49. "Keilhau"
50. "Keilhau School"
51. "Monument Froebel"
52. "Schweina"
53. "Old Pupils- Schweina"
54. "Mothers- Schweina"
55. "Two Children – Schweina"
56. "Kindergarten Children—Schweina"
57. "Man"
58. "Monument Froebel's"
59. "Monument –People"

Box 6 (continued)

Series III: Correspondence

- Correspondence From Lucy Wheelock, 1874, 1911-1946, **Folder 9**
- Correspondence (Personal) to Lucy Wheelock, A-M, 1884-1945, **Folder 10**
- Correspondence (Personal) to Lucy Wheelock, N-Z, 1892-1955, **Folder 11**

Box 7

- Letters from Lucy Wheelock, "On Board the Saxonia, June 1903" (homemade scrapbook) **Folder 1**
- Correspondence from Alice Stone Blackwell, 1930-1946, **Folder 2**
- Letter from Herbert Hoover, November, 1928, **Folder 3**
- Correspondence (Professional) to Lucy Wheelock, 1891-1938, **Folder 4**
- Correspondence (Professional) to Lucy Wheelock, n.d. **Folder 5**
- Seasons Greetings Cards from Lucy Wheelock, **Folder 6**

Box 7 (cont.)

Series IV: Professional Work

Subseries 1. Professional Affiliations and Activities

- Material from Chauncy Hall School, ca 1893/94, **Folder 7**

- International Kindergarten Union, Writings and Speeches, 1892-1928, **Folder 8**
- International Kindergarten Union - News Clippings, Ca. 1898, **Folder 9**
- International Kindergarten Union - Annual Meeting Programs, 1899-1923, **Folder 10**
- International Kindergarten Union - Notebook/ Scrapbook (photocopy) 1898-1900, **Folder 11**
- Committee of 19, Reports and plans, **Folder 12**
- Committee of 19, Report, Ca. 1905, **Box 4, Folder 5**
- Committee of 19 - Correspondence, 1939-1940, **Folder 13**
- Programs in which Lucy Wheelock Participated, 1893-1927, **Folder 14**
- Programs - Education Organizations, 1900-1942, **Folder 15**
- Settlement Houses, 1912-1921, **Folder 16**

Box 8

[See Series II. Images]

Box 9

- Lucy Wheelock, Professional Activities, 1873-1937, **Folder 1**
- Froebel Pilgrimage, 1911-1912, **Folder 2**
- Froebel Pilgrimage Book, Hard Cover, 1911, **Folder 3**
- Froebel Pilgrimage Book, Soft Cover, 1911, **Folder 4**
- Froebel Pilgrimage, Travel Diary, 1911, **Folder 5**
- Published writings about the Froebel Pilgrimage, 1910-1911, **Folder 6**
- Tape - Froebel Pilgrimage, Ca. 1967, Box 9 [audio tape and recording tape of Lucy Wheelock's words narrated by Laura Reade], **Folder 7**
- Froebel Pilgrimage, Photos (IA.77-94) 1911, **Folder 8**
- Froebel Pilgrimage Ephemera, 1911, Box 9, **Folders 9-10**
- National Kindergarten College, Chicago, Student Yearbook, ca. 1917 (gift to L. Wheelock), **Folder 11**

Subseries 2. Writings

- Writings on Froebel, **Box 4, Folder 6**

Box 10

- Lucy Wheelock Published Writings, 1882-1946 (1 of 3), **Folder 1**
- Lucy Wheelock Published Writings, 1882-1946 (2 of 3), **Folder 2**
- Lucy Wheelock Published Writings, 1882-1946 (3 of 3), **Folder 3**
- Lucy Wheelock Published Writings, N.D. (1 of 2), **Folder 4**
- Lucy Wheelock Published Writings, N.D. (2 of 2), **Folder 5**
- Lucy Wheelock - Letters from Europe, 1913, **Folder 6**
- Lucy Wheelock – Writings for the Alumnae Newsletter, 1941-1943, 1944, 1946, **Folder 7**
- Lucy Wheelock – Writings for the “The Wheel,” 1916-1943, **Folder 8**

- Lucy Wheelock – Writings for the Student Handbook, 1936-1937; 1941-1944, **Folder 9**
- Lucy Wheelock --Writings, Misc.(1 of 2), **Folder 10**
- Lucy Wheelock – Writings, Misc. (2 of 2), **Folder 11**

Box 11

- Lucy Wheelock - Lecture Notes, 1920-1945 (1 of 2), **Folder 1**
- Lucy Wheelock – Lecture Notes, 1920-1945 (2 of 2), **Folder 2**
- Lucy Wheelock – Notes, [1929-1930], **Folder 3**
- Lucy Wheelock – Notes, [1929-1930], **Folder 4**
- "The Child's Hour," Lucy Wheelock, Editor, 1893-1895, **Folder 5**
- "The Kindergarten in New England", Edited by Lucy Wheelock, 1935, **Folder 6**
- Lucy Wheelock, "The Appeal of the Kindergarten to College Women" in *The Congregationalist*, 78 no. 23, June 1, 1893, pp. 861-862, **Box 4, Folder 7**