

# Guide to the George Arthur Plimpton Papers BC01.03

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English  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Barnard Archives and Special Collections

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

[archives@barnard.edu](mailto:archives@barnard.edu)

URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biography .....	3
Collection Scope and Content Summary .....	4
Collection Arrangement .....	4
Administrative Information .....	4
Related Materials .....	6
Controlled Access Headings .....	6

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Barnard Archives and Special Collections
<b>Creator - cre:</b>	Plimpton, George A. (George Arthur)
<b>Title:</b>	George Arthur Plimpton Papers
<b>ID:</b>	BC01.03
<b>ID [aspace_uri]:</b>	/repositories/2/resources/4
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1889-1936
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.25 Linear Feet 3 document boxes
<b>Physical Location:</b>	This collection is located in the Barnard Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library. To use this collection, please contact the Barnard Archives and Special Collections at 212.854.4079 or archives@barnard.edu.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection consists of correspondence, Barnard College financial history and documents, and reminiscences of George A Plimpton. Plimpton was a Barnard College Trustee from 1889 to 1936 and Treasurer from 1893 to 1936.

### Preferred Citation

George Arthur Plimpton Papers, 1889-1936; Box and Folder; Barnard College Archives and Special Collections, Barnard Library, Barnard College

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biography

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George A. Plimpton was born in Walpole, Massachusetts in 1855. He attended Amherst College and moved to New York after graduating, where he worked as a salesman for Ginn and Heath textbook publishers. He became head of the firm in 1914. Plimpton was a member of the first Board of Trustees of Barnard College beginning in 1889, and served as Treasurer from 1893 until his death in 1936. Plimpton was the primary fundraiser for Barnard College, and was

succeeded on the Board of Trustees by his son, Francis T. P. Plimpton. George A. Plimpton's interest in education and textbooks led him to establish a collection of textbooks dating from the middle ages. The collection, especially strong in mathematic texts, was donated to Columbia University at his death.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Collection Scope and Content Summary

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George A Plimpton was a Trustee from 1889 to 1936 and Treasurer from 1893 to 1936. His files consist of Barnard College-related correspondence for this period, his financial history of Barnard College, some reminiscences, and financial documents. The collection includes correspondence, typescripts, financial records, and clippings relating to George A. Plimpton's activities as founder and Trustee of Barnard and his service as the College Treasurer.

The papers consist mostly of correspondence dating from the founding of Barnard in 1889 to his death in 1936. Early correspondence relates to the selection of a Dean for Barnard College. Financial records date from 1898-1919. Of special interest is a typescript, "A Financial History of Barnard", ca. 1918-1919. Other typescripts are reminiscences of General Horace W. Carpentier and Hetty Green as related to his experiences in soliciting funds for Barnard.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Collection Arrangement

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Each box and folder in this collection is arranged chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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New York, NY 10027  
[archives@barnard.edu](mailto:archives@barnard.edu)

URL: <http://archives.barnard.edu/>

## **Access**

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## **Publication Rights**

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Photocopies or scans may be made for research purposes.

## **Acquisition Information**

Transferred from the Barnard College Board of Trustees.

## **Accruals**

No additions are expected.

## **Processing History**

This collection was processed and the finding aid written by Heather Lember in January 2014.

Descriptive Rules Used: Finding aid adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Encoding: Machine readable finding aid encoded in EAD 2002.

Finding aid written in English.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Collections

BC01.11 - Francis T. Plimpton Papers

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Plimpton, George A. (George Arthur), 1855-1936
- College trustees
- Barnard College
- Correspondence
- Women's colleges -- New York (State) -- New York
- College administrators