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Margaret B. Pickel papers 13212567

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Pickel, Margaret Barnard, 1897-1955
Title:	Margaret B. Pickel Papers
ID:	13212567
ID:	UA#0301
Date [inclusive]:	1943-1954
Physical Description:	0.42 linear feet 1 document box
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection consists of the papers of Margaret B. Pickel as Dean of University Women at Columbia University.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Margaret B. Pickel papers; Box and Folder; University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Born in Sweetsburg, Canada in 1897, Margaret Barnard Pickel received a BA degree in 1919 and MA in 1923 from McGill University. Soon after, she arrived at Columbia University, where she earned her PhD in English in 1936. Upon graduation, Pickel continued to teach courses and was appointed Advisor to women graduate students in 1940. From 1940-41 she also served as the Head of Johnson Hall, the residence hall for graduate women students, until the building was taken over by the Navy for the USNR midshipmen from 1941 to 1945. In 1942 she established the War Work Information Bureau for Women College Students to find women paying (not volunteer) work in government departments and in industry. The Bureau also provided information about professional and specialized training courses. In 1945, Pickel was named by President Nicholas Murray Butler the first Dean of University Women and again Head of Johnson Hall. She was in charge of over 5,000 women students, 4,000 of

whom were enrolled in the professional schools (Law, Journalism, Architecture, Engineering, etc.). A member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Pickel raised funds for scholarships aimed at bringing teachers from abroad to receive training in the US. In 1954-1955, the AAUW renamed the international fellowship as the Margaret B. Pickel grant. Pickel was a voice for and about educated women and a frequent contributor to the New York Times magazine on issues of women, service and employment prospects during and after the war. She died unexpectedly in the summer of 1955.

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Summary

This collection consists of the office papers of Margaret B. Pickel as the Dean of University Women at Columbia University (1945-1955). The majority of the files relate to the refurbishing of 301 Philosophy before the bicentennial celebration of 1954. The space served as both Dean Pickel's office and the only women's lounge on campus.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged into one series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2018-04-06 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

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Processing Information

This collection was processed by Joanna Rios. Finding aid written by Joanna Rios in April 2018.

Accrual

No additions are expected

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Related Materials

Selected Related Material at Columbia

[Central Files, 1890-1984 \[Bulk Dates: 1890-1983\] \(UA#0001\)](#)

Selected Related Material at Columbia

[Historical Biographical Files \[18--?\] – 2012 \(UA#0004\)](#)

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Controlled Access Headings

- Women college administrators
- Women college graduates
- Women in education -- New York (State) -- New York
- Pickel, Margaret Barnard, 1897-1955
- Columbia University -- Administration
- Columbia University -- Graduate students

Collection Inventory

Series I. Margaret B. Pickel papers, 1943-1954

Title/Description	Instances	
American Association of University Women (AAUW), 1950-1954	box 1	folder 1
Harry M. Ayres, 1947	box 1	folder 2
Bicentennial, 1954	box 1	folder 3
Budget allocations, 1943-1954	box 1	folder 4
Budget correspondence, 1951	box 1	folder 5
Buildings and Grounds, 1947-1949	box 1	folder 6
Commencement, 1953	box 1	folder 7
Correspondence-general, 1945-1950	box 1	folder 8
Emergency fund, 1950-1953	box 1	folder 9
Albert C. Jacobs, 1947	box 1	folder 10
Alfred J. Kahn, 1950	box 1	folder 11
National Association of Deans of Women, 1947-1950	box 1	folder 12
University Extension, 1944-1946	box 1	folder 13
War Work Information Bureau for Women College Graduates, 1943	box 1	folder 14
Graduate Women's Lounge (301 Philosophy Hall), 1947-1953		
Renovation	box 1	folder 15
Bicentennial	box 1	folder 16

Scope and Contents

(Victory Division)

Kitchen	box 1	folder 17
Scope and Contents		
(Lost Cause Division)		
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Rest room	box 1	folder 18
Scope and Contents		
(Lost Cause Division)		
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Floor plans and essential decorations	box 1	folder 19
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General correspondence about repairs with President's Office	box 1	folder 20
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General reports and suggestions	box 1	folder 21
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Renovation estimates, 1947	box 1	folder 22

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