



## Liberty Ladies College Records (K0128)

**Collection Number:** K0128

**Collection Title:** Liberty Ladies College Records

**Dates:** 1905-1910

**Creator:** Liberty Ladies College

**Abstract:** The collection contains documents relating to a private women's college in Liberty, Missouri. It includes a grade book for the academic years of 1905-1906 and 1906-1907, a small amount of correspondence, and a record book, along with miscellaneous receipts and other items from 1909 to 1910.

**Collection Size:** 0.2 cubic foot  
(4 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [kansascity@shsmo.org](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the University all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Liberty Ladies College Records* (K0128); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

**Donor Information:** The papers were transferred to the University of Missouri by the University of Missouri-Kansas City General Library on August 14, 1980 (Accession No. 0032).

**Processed by:** Processed by Erin Smither and intern, February 20, 2018

**Historical Note:**

Determining a need in the West for a well-equipped college for women, the citizens of Liberty, Missouri, under the leadership of Mr. J.J. Stogdale, collected \$15,000 in donations and sold \$20,000 in bonds in order to establish and construct the Liberty Female College. In May 1890, the cornerstone for the college was laid at the end of Franklin Street, west of town. The brick building was completed, at a cost of \$44,000, in September of that year and contained all the modern conveniences – steam heat, incandescent lighting, and bathrooms with hot and cold water.

The mission of the college was to, “enlarge, develop, perfect the intellect, and inspire to noble lives”. Reverend Flournoy Menefee served as the school’s first president and Miss Ida Hayes, as its Lady Principal. The college provided four years preparatory and four years collegiate work with A.B., B.S., and B.L. degrees given.

In 1895, Charles M. Williams purchased the college. In 1898, he and his wife, Ella T. Owens Williams, decided to change the name of the institution to Liberty Ladies College. The Williams operated the school until 1910, when the facility was leased and then sold to Mr. H.H. Savage in 1912. On February 23, 1913, the college burned. Although there was some discussion about rebuilding the structure, this was never accomplished and in 1921, the site was selected as the location for the new Liberty High School.

**Arrangement:**

This collection has been arranged chronologically into four folders.

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains four folders that relate to a private women’s college in Liberty, Missouri. It includes a grade book for parts of the academic years of 1905-1906 and 1906-1907 that lists each student’s name and the grade she received for each of her subjects. There is also a small amount of correspondence to and from Charles M. Williams concerning the academic standing of specific students. The collection also contains a record book and miscellaneous receipts and other items kept by Mrs. Williams for the years 1909 to 1910.

**Container List:**

f. 1                      Correspondence, 1905-1907

- f. 2            Grade book, 1905-1907
- f. 3            Record book, 1909
- f. 4            Miscellaneous items, 1910

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