

Guide to the Anna Onstott Reference Collection

1888-1943



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Anna Onstott Reference Collection

1888-1943

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The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

Biographical or History Note

Anna Long Onstott (1869-1944), American Methodist laywoman and historian, was born on June 19, 1869 near Wooster, Ohio to Frederick and Mary Horner Long. She attended school at Wooster University and also the Boston, Massachusetts School of Theology. She married Reverend Daniel Onstott on June 27, 1888 while attending the College of Wooster. Together they had three daughters Clyde E. Noble, Grace E. Noble, and Martha Spear.

When six years old she moved to Mansfield, Ohio and attend the Mansfield public schools. When twelve years of age she joined the First Methodist Church of Mansfield, Ohio. In 1891 Onstott moved to Boston, during which time, with her husband, served pastorates in New Hampshire. While in Maine, Mrs. Onstott was Conference Secretary of Maine Conference Women's Home Missionary Society.

Ten years were spent in Indiana following. Returning to Ohio, and while service at Willard, Ohio, the thirty-three years of parsonage life was broken by the sudden death on September 21, 1921 of her husband, Rev. Daniel Onstott. Several years were spent with a daughter, Mrs. Clyde E. Noble, at Princeton and at Brookhaven, Mississippi. There Onstott spent a year in Delaware, Ohio at Ohio Wesleyan University researching Methodist history. This research opened up further study in England, Ireland, and Canada where Onstott accumulated a valuable collection of original portraits and a Methodist art collection. Then followed ten years in New York of historical research and publicity in John Street Methodist Church. In 1934, the bicentennial of the birth of Barbara Heck was celebrated, and Onstott served as Publicity Chairman of the Barbara Heck Bicentennial Commission.

Onstott died Wednesday, May 24, 1944 of a heart attack. Funeral services were held in Mansfield, Ohio on May 27, 1944. She was buried beside her husband in Willard, Ohio the scene of their last pastorate.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains writings, clippings, publications, correspondence, and material related to the life of Barbara Heck and the bicentennial celebration of her life in 1934. In the processing of this collection, it became apparent that the papers were no longer in their original order. Therefore, the processor made the decision to organize the files by record type. A "Writings" folder contains all the writings published by Anna Onstott on the history of Barbara Heck and Irish Methodism, centered around her travels to Ireland. The "Correspondence" folder centers around Onstott's communication with Mary Hurd, one of Barbara Heck's descendants, though contains other documents. The "General Documents" folder has



within clippings about the bicentennial, its celebration, other material about John Street Church, research material, and the original three folders the collection came in which have been preserved in some fashion.

Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. Documents are arranged by record type.

Related Material

Records of the Mission Education and Cultivation Program Department of the General Board of Global Ministries

William Roland Phinney Papers

Embury Family Collection

Reverend C. Wesley Christman, Jr. Papers

Robert Drew Simpson Papers

Access Restrictions

Copyright still owned by Drew. Permissions to publish must be directed to Drew.

Use Access

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Anna Onstott Reference Collection, Methodist Collection - Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

Index Terms

Subject Terms

Church anniversaries

Church history

Early Methodism

Methodism History 18th century

Methodist women

Methodists, Canadian

Methodists, Irish

Geographic Terms

Canada

Ireland

New York (N.Y.)

Genre Terms



Articles
Clippings
Correspondence
Hymns
Leaflets
Manuscripts
Newspapers

Subject Names - Person

Heck, Barbara, 1734-1804

Subject Names - Corporate Bodies

Subject Names - Corporate Bodies

Table of Contents

Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1646-7-3:22	Writings	1930-1940
1646-7-3:23	Correspondence	1888-1943
1646-7-3:24	General Documents	1909-1934