

# **Guide to the Constance Warren Papers**

## **RG 2.2**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

November 05, 2013

Sarah Lawrence College Archives  
2002  
Sarah Lawrence College Archives  
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## Summary Information

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|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Repository</b>       | Sarah Lawrence College Archives                               |
| <b>Title</b>            | Constance Warren Papers                                       |
| <b>Date [bulk]</b>      | Bulk, 1930-1946   |
| <b>Date [inclusive]</b> | 1926-1971   |
| <b>Extent</b>           | 2.75 linear feet 2 record cartons, 1 document box, 1 flat box |
| <b>Language</b>         | English   |
| <b>Text [Oversize]</b>  | 4   |
| <b>Text [Box]</b>       | 1   |
| <b>Text [Carton]</b>    | 2   |
| <b>Text [Carton]</b>    | 2   |

## Biographical Note

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Constance Warren received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Vassar College in 1904 and a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1905. Second president of Sarah Lawrence College, from 1929 to 1945, she also authored “A New Design for Women’s Education” (1940) promoting the individualized educational model at Sarah Lawrence. Her academic program called for students to attend conferences with a faculty member in each course and a donning or advising system, which gave personal attention to all students. The curriculum was flexible and without specified course requirements, and written evaluations rather than letter grades reported student performances. This curricular structure remains intact at Sarah Lawrence College and has widely influenced other institutions.

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## Scope and Contents note

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Box One: The Biographical Information file contains miscellaneous newspaper clippings, articles, and press releases on Constance Warren and personal letters and postcards written by and to Constance Warren. Of particular note is a list of articles and speeches by Constance Warren.

Genealogical Information contains correspondence to the archives from Sarah Andrews, niece of Constance Warren and author of “Summers in Maine,” a family history, as well as excerpts from “Summers in Maine” and a family tree.

Death & Memorial Service file includes correspondence regarding Constance Warren’s death and memorial service. Of note are copies of speeches by Joseph Campbell and Esther Raushenbush at the memorial service.

Oral History: “Conversation Between Constance Warren and Henry Noble MacCracken” contains a transcript of Warren’s dialogue with Henry Noble MacCracken, President of Vassar College and Sarah Lawrence College Board of Trustees member. Warren and MacCracken were responsible for devising the education principles upon which the foundation for Sarah Lawrence College was laid.

The folder titled Edited Version: “Conversation Between Constance Warren and Henry Noble MacCracken”, Constance Warren, ed. and Edited Version: “Conversation Between Constance Warren and Henry Noble MacCracken”, Henry Noble MacCracken, ed. files contain transcripts of the conversation with handwritten editorial comments from each participant in the margins.

“Personal Reminiscences of the Early Days of Sarah Lawrence College” file include the handwritten original draft of this essay and three typed copies, one of which has handwritten editorial comments in the margins. Subjects covered are how Warren came to Sarah Lawrence College, reasons for presidency acceptance, “Wayside,” Director of Education, relations with former SLC President Marion Coats, inauguration, the students, the faculty, (Advisory Committee on Appointments, faculty member selection,

social conservatism and intellectual freedom) the Depression (finances, publicity, scholarships), inter-racial policy, Negro students, Jewish students, Bennington College connection, building plans (MacCracken Hall, Library, Science Laboratories, Robinson House, Morris House, Infirmary, Andrews House, Nursery School, attempt to unite two parts of campus, naming of dormitories, care of buildings and grounds, recreation, fencing the grounds), relations with Yonkers, fund raising (research grant from the General Education Board), alumnae association, campus life, the curriculum, quality of students, research, accrediting, becoming a four-year college, Vassar co-operation, religion and ethics, student relations with faculty, employees, the location of the college, field work, the Board of Trustees, the college during WWII, and Mary Milligan (Warren's secretary).

Boxes Two & Three: Of note is the "Early College Documents" Notebook, compiled by Constance Warren, pertaining to the founding of Sarah Lawrence College. Subjects covered include William Van Duzer Lawrence's Letter of Instruction to the Trustees, Provisional Charter, Absolute Charter, By-Laws, Constitution of the Community, Grant of Power, Agreement with Vassar, Agreement with Neighbors, Trustee Meeting with Students (1929), Statute of Instruction (1928-1929), Students' Handbook of College Procedure (1929-1930), Staff Meetings, Formal Notices (1929), and Financial Reports.

Box Four: Oversized scrapbook of newspaper clippings of reviews of "A New Design in Women's Education," by Constance Warren.

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## Arrangement note

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Arranged alphabetically by subject heading.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Sarah Lawrence College Archives 2002

### Revision Description

Finding aid entered in Archivists' Toolkit by Sarah Pinard. April 2012

### Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open to researchers without restriction.

## **Processing Information**

Processed June 2002. Correspondence with faculty removed and rehoused in Faculty Files.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Progressive Education Association (U.S.).
- Reed College (Portland, Or.).
- Vassar College.

### **Genre(s)**

- Correspondence
- Oral Histories (Document Genres)

### **Personal Name(s)**

- DeCarlo, Charles R
- Lynd, Helen Merrell, 1896-1982
- MacCracken, H. N. (Henry Noble), 1880-1970
- Raushenbush, Esther
- Taylor, Harold, 1914-1993
- Ward, Paul L., 1911-2005
- Warren, Constance, 1880-1971

## Collection Inventory

|  | <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Biographical Information n.d.  | 1             | 1             |
| Genealogical Information n.d.  | 1             | 2             |
| Death and Memorial Service 1971  | 1             | 3             |
| MacCracken, H. N. (Henry Noble), 1880-1970 Warren, Constance, 1880-1971 Oral History: "Conversation Between Constance Warren & Henry Noble MacCracken" 1961                              | 1             | 4             |
| MacCracken, H. N. (Henry Noble), 1880-1970 Warren, Constance, 1880-1971 Oral History: "Conversation Between Constance Warren & Henry Noble MacCracken," Constance Warren, ed. 1961       | 1             | 5             |
| MacCracken, H. N. (Henry Noble), 1880-1970 Warren, Constance, 1880-1971 Oral History: "Conversation Between Constance Warren & Henry Noble MacCracken," Henry Noble MacCracken, ed. 1961 | 1             | 6             |
| "Personal Reminiscences of the Early Days of Sarah Lawrence College" 1962  | 1             | 7             |
|  | <b>Carton</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
| Academic Freedom 1932, 1937-1938, 1940   | 2             | 1             |

|                                 |   |    |
|---------------------------------|---|----|
| Admissions 1933-1939            | 2 | 2  |
| Articles - Published 1930-1935  | 2 | 3  |
| Articles - Published 1937-1943  | 2 | 4  |
| Articles - Published 1944-1956  | 2 | 5  |
| Articles and Speeches 1932-1935 | 2 | 6  |
| Articles and Speeches 1936-1939 | 2 | 7  |
| Articles and Speeches 1940-1943 | 2 | 8  |
| Articles and Speeches 1944-1947 | 2 | 9  |
| Articles and Speeches 1948-1959 | 2 | 10 |
| Bennington College 1930-1946    | 2 | 11 |

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Bennington College.

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Brush Farm Stables (Riding School) 1928-1930 | 2 | 12 |
|--|---|----|



|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Bequests and Gifts to the College 1953-1967  | 2 | 13 |
| Committee on Tolerance 1942  | 2 | 14 |
| Consumer Education Course 1942   | 2 | 15 |
| Correspondence 1929-1940   | 2 | 16 |
| Correspondence 1940-1959   | 2 | 17 |
| Correspondence 1960-1971   | 2 | 18 |
| Correspondence - Art Galleries concerning paintings by Innes 1926-1941             | 2 | 19 |
| Correspondence - "Crank" and "Racket" Letters 1932-1945                            | 2 | 20 |
| Correspondence - Educational Policy Committee 1939                                 | 2 | 21 |
| Correspondence - Helen Merrell Lynd 1929-1939, 1945                                | 2 | 22 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>  |   |    |
| <b>Personal Name(s)</b>  |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lynd, Helen Merrell, 1896-1982</li> </ul> |   |    |
| Correspondence - Lectures on Campus 1944   | 2 | 23 |

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Correspondence - Nathan Hofheimer Foundation 1938                                | 2 | 24 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>  |   |    |
| <b>Corporate Name(s)</b>   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nathan Hofheimer Foundation.</li> </ul> |   |    |

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|--|---|----|
| Correspondence - National Association of Deans of Women 1929-1933  | 2 | 25 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>  |   |    |
| <b>Corporate Name(s)</b>   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Education Association of the United States. National Association of Deans of Women.</li> </ul> |   |    |

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|---|---|----|
| Correspondence - Publicity Program 1937 | 2 | 26 |
|---|---|----|

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Correspondence - President Charles DeCarlo 1969-1971                   | 2 | 27 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>                                      |   |    |
| <b>Personal Name(s)</b>  |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DeCarlo, Charles R</li> </ul> |   |    |

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Correspondence - President Esther Raushenbush 1958-1969                 | 2 | 28 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>                                       |   |    |
| <b>Personal Name(s)</b>   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raushenbush, Esther</li> </ul> |   |    |

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|---|---|----|
| Correspondence - President Harold Taylor 1945-1949                            | 2 | 29 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>   |   |    |
| <b>Personal Name(s)</b>   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taylor, Harold, 1914-1993</li> </ul> |   |    |

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Correspondence - President Harold Taylor 1950-1959                            | 2 | 30 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>   |   |    |
| <b>Personal Name(s)</b>   |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taylor, Harold, 1914-1993</li> </ul> |   |    |

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|--|---|----|
| Correspondence - President Paul Ward 1960-1965 | 2 | 31 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>              |   |    |

**Personal Name(s)**

- Ward, Paul L., 1911-2005

Correspondence - Reed College 1935-1943

2

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**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Reed College (Portland, Or.).

Correspondence - Mrs. George Sheffield 1930-1936

2

33

Correspondence - Students 1935

2

34

Correspondence - Vassar College 1930-1933

2

35

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Vassar College.

Correspondence re: the Spread of Educational Ideas in other Educational Institutions 1940-1941

2

36

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Warren, Constance, 1880-1971 Correspondence re: "A New Design for Women's Education," by Constance Warren 1939-1944 | 2 | 37 |
|---|---|----|

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Correspondence re: "Conversation between Constance Warren & Henry Noble MacCracken" 1962 | 2 | 38 |
|--|---|----|

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Personal Name(s)**

- MacCracken, H. N. (Henry Noble), 1880-1970
- Warren, Constance, 1880-1971

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Correspondence re: "Personal Reminiscences of the Early Day of SLC" 1958-1966 | 2 | 39 |
|---|---|----|

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|---|---|----|
| Correspondence re: 90th Birthday Celebration 1970 | 2 | 40 |
|---|---|----|

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Correspondence re: Constance Warren's Death 1971 | 2 | 40 |
|--|---|----|

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Personal Name(s)**

- Warren, Constance, 1880-1971

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Correspondence re: Constance Warren's Death | 2 | 41 |
|---|---|----|

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Curriculum - Statements on Dance, Dramatics, and Music 1938, 1941 | 3 | 7  |
| "Early College Documents" Notebook 1929-1944                      | 3 | 8  |
| Director of Education 1944  | 3 | 9  |
| Educational T.V. 1955-1956  | 3 | 10 |
| Entertainment Invitations n.d.                                    | 3 | 11 |
| Faculty Committee on College Needs 1937                           | 3 | 12 |
| Films 1935-1939   | 3 | 13 |
| Glen Washington Road (possible closing of) 1940-1942              | 3 | 14 |
| Health Department 1938  | 3 | 15 |
| Inauguration 1929   | 3 | 16 |
| Leisure Time Activities 1928-1934                                 | 3 | 17 |
| Membership in Organizations and Committees 1936-1944              | 3 | 18 |
| Memos to Faculty and Students 1931-1944                           | 3 | 19 |
| National Student Council - Committee on Reorganization 1931       | 3 | 20 |

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Negro Students 1941   | 3 | 21 |
| Notes on the Founding of the College 1937   | 3 | 22 |
| Neighbors 1929-1944   | 3 | 23 |
| "No-Year" Plan 1935   | 3 | 24 |
| Parents Dinner at the Cosmopolitan Club 1933  | 3 | 25 |
| Parents Tea 1934  | 3 | 26 |
| Progressive Education Association 1930-1932   | 3 | 27 |
| Progressive Education Association - Correspondence 1930-1939                                  | 3 | 28 |
| <b>Controlled Access Headings</b>   |   |    |
| <b>Corporate Name(s)</b>  |   |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressive Education Association (U.S.).</li> </ul> |   |    |
| Progressive Education Association - Conferences 1933, 1934, 1936                              | 3 | 29 |

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Progressive Education Association (U.S.).

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Progressive Education Association - Meeting 1936 | 3 | 30 |
|--|---|----|

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Progressive Education Association (U.S.).

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Progressive Education Association - Minutes 1933-1934 | 3 | 31 |
|---|---|----|

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Progressive Education Association (U.S.).

|                            |   |    |
|----------------------------|---|----|
| Radio Broadcasts 1936-1944 | 3 | 32 |
|----------------------------|---|----|

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| Reports of the President to the Board of Trustees 1937-1938 | 3 | 33 |
|---|---|----|

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Corporate Name(s)**

- Sarah Lawrence College. Board of Trustees.



|  |   |                 |
|--|---|-----------------|
| Research in Education 1942, 1949-1951  | 3 | 34              |
| Retirement 1943, 1957  | 3 | 35              |
| School of Nursing (proposed) 1943  | 3 | 36              |
| Speaking Engagement Itineraries 1930-1946  | 3 | 37              |
|  |   | <b>Oversize</b> |
| Scrapbook - Newspaper Reviews of "A New Design for Women's Education," by C. Warren n.d. |   | 4               |