Adelphean Society Papers
Alpha Delta Pi Sorority

Volume: 1.0 linear foot
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Biographical/Historical Sketch:
“Founded on May 15, 1851, Alpha Delta Pi is the oldest secret society for college women in the world. Established at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, the first college chartered to grant degrees to women in the world, the story of Alpha Delta Pi is a remarkable one and it all began with a young girl’s dream. Eugenia Tucker was just sixteen years old when she left her family home in Laurens County, Georgia, to enter Wesleyan College. Before the end of her first year she would establish the first sorority in the world.” When Eugenia Tucker decided to form a society, her dearest and most admired friends were asked to join her. She listed them in her journal as: Ella Pierce, daughter of a bishop; Octavia Andrew, daughter of a bishop; Bettie Williams of South Carolina; Sophronia Woodruff; and Mary A. Evans, daughter of a useful and beloved pastor of Macon Mulberry Street Methodist Church for several years.

Wesleyan Female College was the first college in the world chartered to grant degrees to women. The college was chartered on December 23, 1836. Classes started in January 1839 with almost one hundred students. It was only fitting that the first chartered college for women became the birthplace for the first secret society for women. The history of Alpha Delta Pi and the history of Wesleyan College are intertwined. The Adelphean Society, which was founded by a group of six Wesleyan students in 1851, became Alpha Delta Phi in 1905 and then Alpha Delta Pi in 1913. Eugenia Tucker was the leader of the six founding members who came together to form an association for self-improvement. The college president and two faculty members were sponsors of the organization. For sixty-five years the spirit of Wesleyan nourished the spirit of the Adelphean Society and vice versa.

Information from:

Scope and Content:
The Adelphean Society papers are organized by type and then chronologically. The papers include copies of The Adelphean magazine, charter materials, centennial materials, and exhibition bulletins.

Related Collections:
Wesleyan College Digital Collections
Wesleyan College Yearbooks
Displays in the Wesleyan College Archives and in Candler Hall

Collection Inventory:

Box 1
   Folder 1: The Adelphean magazine (February 1936)
   Folder 2: The Adelphean magazine (May 1936)
Folder 3: The Adelphean magazine (September 1936)
Folder 4: The Adelphean magazine (Spring 1938)
Folder 5: The Adelphean magazine (Winter 1958-1959)
Folder 6: Program-ADP, Alumnae Club (January 13, 1933)
Folder 7: Biennial Celebration Program (May 25, 1894 & May 25, 1900)
Folder 8: Centennial Celebration (1951)
Folder 9: Centennial gift (1951)
Folder 10: ALPHA DELTA PI Chapter Directory ALPHA
Folder 11: “Members of the ADELPHIAN Society (1850-51 & 1895-96)
Folder 12: Adelphean/ ADP Charter materials (1904, 1905, 1907)
Folder 13: ADPi Correspondence
Folder 14: Exhibition Bulletins (1872, 1882, 1888)
Folder 16: Newspaper clippings
Folder 17: Photograph- Chapter room
Folder 18: Scrapbook “My commencement” Elizabeth Soloman (1910-1911)
Folder 19: Sesquicentennial material (2001)
Folder 20: Sesquicentennial CD Photos taken by Macon Photographer (July 1, 2001)
Folder 21: Sesquicentennial VHS “A Better Place 150 years of Progress for Women” (2001)
Folder 22: “We Live For Each Other” Copyright of Alpha Delta Pi