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## Mount Ida Records

1841-2018  
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Mount Ida College was a regional, co-educational college with 1500 students, over forty majors, and a graduate program designed for working adults. The college began in 1899 when George Franklin Jewett and his wife Abigail Fay Jewett purchased a property on a hill in Newton Corner named Mount Ida and began a college prep and finishing school program, the Mount Ida School for Girls, that steadily grew, adding a junior college curriculum in 1917. Under the financial stress of the Great Depression, the school closed in 1935, but was purchased four years later by William F. Carlson and reopened on the newly acquired Robert Gould Shaw II estate in Newton Centre. Mount Ida officially became a college in 1967, began admitting men in 1976, and in the late 1980s it merged with Chamberlayne Junior College and the New England Institute of Funeral Service Education. However, after a period of protracted financial difficulties in the early 2000s, Mount Ida College closed its doors on May 17, 2018, and the land and campus buildings were purchased by the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The Mount Ida College Records contain the historical records of the college, including photographs, yearbooks, course catalogs, student scrapbooks and memorabilia, publicity materials, the college's web and social media presence, and artifacts that document Mount Ida's athletic programs. The records of the New England Institute of Funeral Service were moved with the program itself to Cape Cod Community College.

### Background on Mount Ida College

#### Brief History of Mount Ida College by Norma Gahl, Spring 1997





Three Mount Ida College students with a mare and foal.

Mount Ida was originally founded in 1899, as a small private secondary school for women. In 1907, a tradition of educational innovation began when George Franklin Jewett, Mount Ida's first Principal, introduced a new curriculum of "Advanced Studies." The school flourished under Dr. Jewett's leadership until death in 1926. Mrs. Abigail Fay Jewett then took over the leadership for the school to be followed by her son-in-law Mr. C. Frederick McGill.

A new era began in 1939 when Dr. William Fitts Carlson bought the title of the Mount Ida School and relocated the school to its present location on the former Robert Gould Shaw II estate. Dr. William Fitts Carlson expanded the curriculum to include new career programs and liberal arts offerings. Enrollment increased from 100 students in 1940 to 342 students in 1948.

In 1960, Dr. William Fitts Carlson was succeeded by a new administration headed by his sons, Dr. F. Roy Carlson as President, and Dr. Edward W. Carlson as Vice President. In 1961, Mount Ida Junior College received associate degree-granting authority from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In 1970, Mount Ida was fully accredited by the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

In 1976, Dr. Bryan E. Carlson, the nephew of Dr. F. Roy Carlson and the grandson of Dr. William Fitts Carlson, became the sixth president of the College. Mount Ida developed its first comprehensive Master Plan during the late 1970s, and the introduction of baccalaureate programs represented the most profound and fundamental objective in the entire plan. In 1982, the institution's corporate name became Mount Ida College as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted initial baccalaureate degree authority, and the first Senior College curriculum was introduced. In the same tradition of educational innovation that had occurred through the leadership of George Franklin Jewett, Mount Ida pioneered a new curriculum structure for the completion of baccalaureate studies with the introduction of its innovative Tw Plus Two Undergraduate program.

In 1984 Mount Ida established a Two Plus Two undergraduate system that consists of a Junior College Division and a Senior College Division. Upon program completion of an associate degree students may continue to earn a bachelor's degree. The Senior College Division structure the curriculum to allow students to maximize their credit transfer. Qualified students can transfer all associate degree credits and continue with junior standing in at least one and sometimes more than one baccalaureate program.

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Upon Dr. Bryan E. Carlson's leadership, Mount Ida grew significantly in the 1980s by implementing a series of "mutual growth" mergers with three Boston area institutions. In 1987-1988 Mount Ida acquired Chamberlayne Junior College, which was established in 1892 as the Chamberlayne School by Miss Catherine J. Chamberlayne. In 1932 Chamberlayne received accreditation as a junior college. It is now known as the Chamberlayne School of Design and Merchandising of Mount Ida College and offers various two and four year programs in design and merchandising.

The Coyne Electrical and Technical School was established in 1896 by James Coyne. The Coyne Electrical and Technical School remained in Boston and merged with Chamberlayne Junior College. In 1988-1989 Mount Ida acquired the New England Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences, which was established in 1907 by A. Johnson Dodge. After merging with the Boston School of Anatomy and Embalming, Inc., in 1951, the school became the only fully accredited funeral service school in New England. In 1969 Dr. William H. Crawford received degree-granting privileges for an Associate in Science degree in Funeral Service.

Mount Ida's programs of study, in both the Junior and Senior College Divisions, are in keeping with and serve to reinforce the mission and purposes of the institution. All associate degree programs prepare students for immediate employment and/or for transfer into the Senior College Division or another institution for further study and/or a further degree. Mount Ida's Two-Plus-Two approach to undergraduate education guarantees eligible junior and community college graduates acceptance of the associate degree as a unit of study and admission into at least one bachelor degree program with full junior year status, in the Senior College division. All bachelor degree programs prepare students for significant employment or career advancement opportunities or for further study at graduate or professional schools.

By the mid-2000s, Mount Ida College was experiencing significant financial challenges due, in part, to deferred maintenance of its campus buildings and systems. The college considered several mergers, none of which were successful, and finally sold the campus in May 2018 to UMass Amherst in order to avoid bankruptcy. UMass Amherst currently operates the Mount Ida campus as its Greater Boston hub offering students access to a variety of enriching educational, professional, and cultural opportunities within the region.

## Scope of collection

The Mount Ida College Records contain the historical records of the college, including photographs, yearbooks, course catalogs, student scrapbooks and memorabilia, publicity materials, the college's web and social media presence, and artifacts that document Mount Ida's athletic programs.

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Advancement: press kit  
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Audiovisual: DVDs, VHS  
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Audiovisuals: CDS  
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Head shots, action shots and team photos for lacrosse, basketball, cross country, volleyball, softball, football, soccer.

Audiovisual: CDs  
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Audiovisual: CDs, DVDs  
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Audiovisual: CDs and DVDs  
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Audiovisual: DVDs  
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Audiovisual: Centennial convocation and concert (VHS)  
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Audiovisual: reel to reels  
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Award: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., plaque

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Building plans: upper power plant  
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Bylaws and incorporation: Mount Ida School for Girls  
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Calendars  
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Campus Life Bulletin  
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Calendar, fragment  
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Carlson, Bryan Edward: A Functional Analysis of Three Private Junior College Curricula in Historical Perspective to Determine Their Legitimacy for Present  
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Carlson, Bryan Edward: Four Year Report to Trustees  
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Carlson, Bryan Edward: Mount Ida College Institutional Narration  
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Carlson, Mary  
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Carlson, William F.: patent

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Ceramic plates  
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Chamberlayne Alumni Bulletin  
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Matteson, Carol J.: photobook, "A Decade of Distinction"  
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Photograph album  
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Includes men's soccer, women's volleyball and cross country

Photograph album  
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Box 40

Include men's football, women's soccer, men's soccer, men's volleyball, men's lacrosse.

Photograph album  
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Box 40

Includes men's volleyball, athletic banquet, banner unveiling, and men's lacrosse.

Photograph album  
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Photograph albums, postcards, program  
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Photographs  
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Photographs  
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Photographs, negatives  
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Photographs  
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Includes campus, student life, special events, athletics, commencements.

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1992-1999  
Box 22

Includes commencements, special events, athletics, conference and lecture series, centennial.

Photographs  
1999-2001  
Box 23

Includes commencements, special events, athletics.

Photographs  
2001-2004  
Box 24

Includes commencements, special events, athletics, conferences and conventions.

Photographs  
undated  
Box 28

Includes campus, student life, special events, athletics, conferences and conventions.

Photographs  
undated  
Box 29

Includes campus, student life, special events, athletics, conferences and conventions.

Photographs, negatives: Chamberlayne Junior College  
various dates  
Box 64

Includes fashion/design program, commencement, faculty and staff, student organizations, buildings, student life

Photographs: Chamberlayne Junior College, fashion shows  
1980s  
Box 62  
Photographs: commencements  
1983-1988  
Box 60  
Photographs: Coyne Electrical School  
various dates

Box 64  
Photographs: library  
1970s-1998  
Box 64  
Photographs: Mardi Gras  
1999  
Box 60  
Photographs: New England Institute (NEI)  
1961-1965  
Box 64  
Photographs: New England Institute (NEI) centennial  
1999  
Box 60  
Photographs: RAs and RDs  
2000-2001  
Box 60  
Photographs: Student Center construction  
undated  
Box 60  
Photographs: student organizations and activities  
1960-1979  
Box 40  
Photographs, unsorted  
various dates  
Box 86  
Photographs: Wadsworth Lecture, Osborne  
undated  
Box 60  
Pillow  
undated  
Box 83  
Posters, sports  
2013  
Box 87  
Plan for the year 2000  
1992  
Box 69  
Presentation: Haynes, Elan, "The Evolution and Globalization of Fashion and the Advent of Fashion Law  
undated  
Box 64  
Presidential name plates  
1960, 2000-2012  
Box 72  
Press releases  
1986-1988  
Box 69  
Press releases  
1975-2011  
Box 34

Board of Trustees, Board of Overseers, programs and initiatives, sports, students and student groups.

Press releases  
1994-1997  
Box 56  
Press release: Nebot, Jesus; film  
2005  
Box 66  
Program: Academic Convocation  
2008  
Box 66  
Program: Annual Antique Show/Sale  
1973  
Box 66  
Program: Etiquette Dinner  
2007-2008  
Box 66  
Program: Honors Sunday  
2011  
Box 66  
Programs  
2000-2011  
Box 34

Commencement, enrollment, student orientation, sports.

Programs and events  
1941-2017  
Box 62  
Programs and flyers  
1931-2017  
Box 58

Includes athletics events, awards, alumnae events, commencement, senior capstones, student activities.

Programs: Baccalaureate ceremony  
1969, 1984  
Box 64  
Programs: centennial holiday dinner  
1999  
Box 64  
Programs: centennial homecoming family weekend  
1999  
Box 64  
Programs: commencement  
1998  
Box 64  
Programs: convocation  
1997  
Box 64  
Programs: Martin Luther King annual breakfast  
2000  
Box 66  
Programs: Martin Luther King annual breakfast  
2002-2009  
Box 64  
Programs: mother-daughter weekend  
1964  
Box 64  
Programs: President's convocation  
1970

Box 64  
Programs: spring fashion show  
1952-1960  
Box 64  
Programs: student fashion show  
1960, 2007-2010  
Box 41  
Proposal: Art department suggested improvements  
1966  
Box 66  
Proposal: Master's Degree  
1995-1998  
Box 66  
Proposal: Science department courses  
1966  
Box 66  
Public Relations  
1987-1994  
Box 76  
Publications  
1963-1998  
Box 42  
Publications  
1963-2000  
Box 44

Includes reports, newsletters, pamphlets.

Publications: funerals  
1996-1998  
Box 47  
Publications: newspapers and bulletins  
1950-1997  
Box 47  
Publications, printed material  
1916  
Box 76  
Publications, printed material  
1940-2017  
Box 66  
Publications, printed material  
1960-2017  
Box 62  
Publications, printed material  
1964-2005  
Box 75  
Publications, printed material  
1986-2013  
Box 76  
Publications, printed material  
1987-2009  
Box 62  
Publications, printed material  
1991-2017  
Box 66  
Publications, printed material  
2011-2016  
Box 66  
Publications, printed material  
various dates  
Box 85

Includes college publications materials related to college events, academics, sports, buildings, student life, as well as some materials not related directly to Mount Ida.

Publications, printed material  
various dates  
Box 85

Includes college publications materials related to college events, academics, sports, buildings, student life, as well as some materials not related directly to Mount Ida.

Publications, printed material  
various dates  
Box 85

Includes college publications materials related to college events, academics, sports, buildings, student life, as well as some materials not related directly to Mount Ida.

Publications, printed material  
various dates  
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Publications, printed material  
various dates  
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Publications, printed material  
various dates  
Box 85

Includes college publications materials related to college events, academics, sports, buildings, student life, as well as some materials not related directly to Mount Ida.

Publications, printed material  
various dates  
Box 85

Includes college publications materials related to college events, academics, sports, buildings, student life, as well as some materials not related directly to Mount Ida.

Pulaski, Barbara  
1973-2014  
Box 76  
Quality and Diversity Task Force  
1999  
Box 76  
Rent-A-Book  
1998  
Box 76  
Reading Assistance Program: Assessment Data  
1997-1998  
Box 76

Report: Board of Trustees, institutional advancement  
1989  
Box 64  
Report: centennial in review  
1996-1999  
Box 64  
Report: Classroom Assessment Techniques  
1992  
Box 58  
Report: Decade of Progress  
1979-1989  
Box 64  
Report: Master Plan  
1981  
Box 58  
Report: Master's Program Feasibility Study  
1995-1998  
Box 64  
Report: Mount Ida Financial Statement  
1991  
Box 66  
Report: Murdock Wiswall House (president's house), historic paint colors  
2000  
Box 60  
Report: New England Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences financial statement  
1989  
Box 62  
Report: Office of Institutional Advancement  
1991  
Box 56  
Report: Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) to College Council  
2000  
Box 66  
Reports  
1929-2014  
Box 46

Committees, programs, enrollment, sports, history.

Reports  
1965-2007  
Box 32

Curriculum, sports, library, strategic plans.

Reports  
1972-1975  
Box 48  
Reports and publications  
1917-2009  
Box 41

Student newspapers, newsletters, alumni reports.

Reports: Master's Degree programs  
1994-1995  
Box 47  
Reports, miscellaneous  
1989  
Box 62

Includes fundraising, institutional development plan for merged campuses, 1980s historical summary.

Reports: Mount Ida  
1969  
Box 6  
Reports: Mount Ida  
1970-1998  
Box 54

Name changing and bachelor degree granting approval; Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Association; Institutional Self Study; Focused Report appendices.

Reports: Mt Ida  
1980-1998  
Box 55

Includes Self Evaluation (Committee on the Allied Health Education and Accreditation), Bereavement Education, Interior Design, Performing Arts, Master Plan, Partnership Plan with Chamberlayne College, Plan for 2000, Name Change and Bachelor Degree Granting Approval, Dental Assisting Program.

Reports: Mount Ida  
1984-1998  
Box 1  
Reports: Mount Ida  
1986-2001  
Box 5

Includes agreement between Mount Ida and Chamberlayne.

Resource packet: leadership  
1992  
Box 64  
Reunions  
1996-1997  
Box 85  
Reunions  
1991-1996  
Box 76  
Reunions: correspondence  
1980  
Box 66  
Ribbons  
1928-1930  
Box 63  
Scalise, Victor  
1988-1989  
Box 75

Memos, correspondence, documents relating to Scalise's work as Vice-President of Institutional Advancement.

School/College partnerships  
1990-1991

Box 75  
School Directors meetings  
1998  
Box 66  
School of Design: Gallery history  
2005-2011  
Box 49  
School of Social Science and Humanities: Senior Capstones  
2015  
Box 85  
Science grant  
2004  
Box 48  
Scrapbooks (reproductions)  
1909-1928  
Box 38  
Scrapbooks  
1945-1952  
Box 39  
Senior Capstones  
2013-2014  
Box 54

Three samples and abstracts of capstones for graduating seniors.

Slides  
1981-1992  
Box 52  
Slides  
ca. 1990-1998  
Box 53

Various sports teams including men's soccer, men's basketball, women's soccer, women's softball, lacrosse, equine.

Slides  
ca. 1992  
Box 50  
Slides: Coyne Electric  
1984  
Box 64  
Sports helmet  
undated  
Box 2  
Stock ledger  
1931  
Box 68  
Strategic Alliance Task Force  
1996  
Box 85  
Strategic Plans  
1999-2008  
Box 75  
Strategic Plan FY 2003-2007  
2002  
Box 75  
Stratford Foundation grant  
2005  
Box 62  
Stratford School of Boston  
ca. 1947  
Box 48  
Stratford of Boston pamphlets  
undated  
Box 59  
Student and faculty directory  
1994-1995  
Box 35  
Student Assessment Project  
1998-1999  
Box 58  
Student government  
1980-1996  
Box 35  
Student lists  
1906-1920  
Box 35  
Stuffed horse, Mount Ida mascot  
undated  
Box 84  
Subject files  
various dates  
Box 35

Includes historic publications and documents; Newton, Mass. plot plan; George Jewett; exhibits; W. Everett Wood.

Summer School Committee  
1991  
Box 76  
Tags with logo  
undated  
Box 84  
Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)  
1998-2008  
Box 75  
Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)  
2004-2005  
Box 64  
Technology Task Force: Strategic Planning Report  
ca. 2000  
Box 76  
Textiles: women's athletic uniform  
undated  
Box 78

Early athletic uniform from Mount Ida School.

Transcript: centennial oral history  
1998-1999  
Box 64  
Trophies  
2014-2017



Box 83

Ken Wright Invitational; Athletics Best Game.

Unconventional Wisdom: Conversations with the Women of Mount Ida: typescript  
ca. 1998

Box 56

Unconventional Wisdom: Conversations with the Women of Mount Ida:  
1998

Box 59

Wadsworth Learning Resource Center

1997

Box 66

Watch

undated

Box 83

Website Technology plan

1999-2000

Box 66

Women in Leadership Forum

1995-1998

Box 76

Wood, W. Everett: class notes

undated

Box 68

Xanadu

1964

Box 61

Framed presentaion copy of first edition inscribed to Dr. and Mrs. William F. Carlson on Class Night.

Yearbooks: Ye Idler

1907-1941

Box 7

Yearbooks: Ye Idler

1942-1961

Box 8

Yearbooks: Ye Idler

1962-1981

Box 9

Yearbooks: Ye Idler

1982-2015

Box 10

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1909-1920

Box 11

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1923-1943

Box 12

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1946-1950

Box 13

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1951-1957

Box 14

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1958-1963

Box 15

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1964-1970

Box 16

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1971-1981

Box 17

Yearbooks: Ye Idler (duplicates)

1982-1990

Box 18

Yearbooks (duplicates)

1991-2015

Box 19

## Administrative information

### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Provenance

Collection acquired in 2018 when UMass Amherst acquired the Mount Ida College campus.

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### Language:

English

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## Search terms

### Subjects

- Chamberlayne Junior College
- Education, Higher--Massachusetts--Newton
- Mount Ida College
- New England Institute of Funeral Service Education
- Single-sex schools--United States
- Universities and colleges--Massachusetts--Newton
- Women--Education--United States



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