

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES  
OF  
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34  
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To  
THE LYDIA ANDERSON, RN (1863-1939) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:  
1838-1941**

**17 Linear Inches  
(2 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
Elizabeth Shepard  
Assistant Archivist  
August 2009**

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**PROVENANCE:**

The archives does not have any record of who donated these papers.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

Lydia Anderson was born in New York City on January 16, 1863. Her father, Thomas Anderson, was the minister of First Baptist Church in New York City. She earned a B.A. degree from Rutgers Female College in 1895, a nurse's degree from New York Hospital Training School for Nurses in 1897, and a P.G. degree from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1909. She was the superintendent of nurses at Homeopathic Hospital, Providence, Rhode Island, 1897 and Associate Superintendent of nurses at Sloane Hospital, 1897-1902, Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, 1903-1904, and Mt. Sinai Hospital, 1903-1908. She was a visiting professor at thirty-two nursing schools between 1909-1936. She was on the faculty of New York Hospital Training School for Nurses where she was an visiting instructor, 1909-1932, instructor of history of nursing, 1932-1936, and guest instructor of history of nursing, 1936-1939.

Ms. Anderson was well regarded by her colleagues and students. She was dedicated to the field of nursing education. She was appointed to the New York State Board of Nurse Examiners in 1910 and served for seventeen years. Due to her interest in developing a library at New York Hospital School of Nursing, the library was named in her honor the Lydia E. Anderson Library.

She died on April 11, 1939 in Brooklyn, NY.

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**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

This small collection only provides a glimpse of Lydia Anderson's life. The biographies, correspondence, and scrapbook all indicate the great love and respect her colleagues, friends, students had for her. There is some business correspondence regarding speech invitations and her participation in nursing professional organizations. One organization was the History of Nursing Society of New York shows her interest in educating students about nursing history. There is little else here that reflects her career in nursing education.

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**ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:**

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**ACCESS POINTS:**

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**RELATED MATERIAL:**

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**BOX AND FOLDER LIST:**

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**Box 1:**

<b>Folder:</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Anderson Family, 1838-1926
2	Anniversaries, New York Hospital Training School for Nurses, 1927
3	Biographical, 1910-1941
4	Biographical, 1939
5	Brines, Mrs. John, 1939-1941
6	Cards-Research
7	Correspondence, 1922-1940
8	Correspondence, 1927-1941
9	History of Nursing Society, minutes, 1934-1935

**Box 2:**

<b>Folder:</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Clinic Book, ca. 1897
2	Scrapbook with cards from colleagues and students