

# Guide to the Elizabeth Deering Hanscom Papers

MS 1754



compiled by Christine Weideman

September 1999

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
mssa.assist@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
mssa.assist@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1754

**CREATOR:** Hanscom, Elizabeth Deering, 1865-1960

**TITLE:** Elizabeth Deering Hanscom papers

**DATES:** 1824-1961

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers are comprised of scattered diary entries, a birth certificate, obituaries, correspondence regarding the anniversary of her graduation from Yale University, family genealogical information, a prayer read at her memorial service, five books from her library, her mother's wedding gown, and one of Hanscom's favorite dresses.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1754>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1754>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Ted Karber, Jr., 1993.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Elizabeth Deering Hanscom Papers (MS 1754). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Elizabeth Deering Hanscom was born on August 15, 1865 in Saco, Maine. She graduated from Boston University in 1887 after which she obtained her Master's degree there. Hanscom received her Ph.D. from Yale University in 1894, the first year the University awarded Ph.D.s to women. That same year she joined the Smith College faculty, where she became a full professor and occupied the Mary Augusta Jordan chair in the English department until her retirement in 1932. She was a popular teacher and was noted for introducing the study of American literature at a time when the field was generally not taught at institutions of higher education in the country. She died on February 2, 1960 in Weymouth, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers are comprised of scattered diary entries, a birth certificate, obituaries, correspondence regarding the anniversary of her graduation from Yale University, family genealogical information, a prayer read at her memorial service, five books from her library, her mother's wedding gown, and one of Hanscom's favorite dresses.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Biographical	1865-1961, undated
b. 1, f. 2 - 3	Books [from Hanscom's library]	1824-1871, undated
b. 2	Clothes [wedding gown of Hanscom's mother, and favorite dress of Hanscom]	

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Names**

Hanscom, Elizabeth Deering, 1865-1960

### **Corporate Body**

Smith College -- Faculty