



South Carolina Women: Historical Manuscript Collections at the South Carolina Historical Society

This resource is intended to highlight some of the collections created or compiled by women living, travelling and/or working in South Carolina and is by no means exhaustive. Titles are arranged chronologically by the creator's birthdate and collection names and call numbers link to online catalog records.

Eliza Lucas Pinckney (1722-1793)

Eliza Lucas Pinckney changed agriculture in colonial South Carolina when she developed indigo as one of the state's most important cash crops. Its cultivation and processing as dye produced one-third the total value of exports before the Revolutionary War. Manager of three plantations at age sixteen, Pinckney had a major impact on the economy.

[Eliza Pinckney Receipt Book - SCHS 43/2178](#)

[Letter: "To my dear Madam" - SCHS 43/919](#)

[Pinckney Family Papers- SCHS 37/38](#)

[Letter to Harriott Horry-SCHS 43/110](#)

Harriot Pinckney Horry (1749-1830)

Daughter of Eliza Lucas Pinckney (1722-1793) and Charles Pinckney (ca. 1699-1758), a prominent South Carolina attorney and state Representative. Harriot Pinckney married Daniel Horry (d. 1785), owner of Hampton Plantation, and their children were Daniel Huger Horry (1769-1828), who changed his name to Charles Lucas Pinckney Horry, and Harriott Pinckney Horry (1770-1858), who married Frederick Rutledge (1769-1821).

[Harriott Pinckney Horry Diaries- SCHS 1086.03.02](#)

[Note: to Mrs. Horry, \[1793\] - SCHS 43/934](#)

[Letter: to Harriott Horry from C.C. Pinckney- SCHS 43/126](#)

[Letters to Harriott Horry-SCHS 43/2033](#)

Hagar Richardson d. 1818

Hagar Richardson was a freed woman of color who was the mistress of Arnoldus Vanderhorst. Formerly a slave who lived on Vanderhorst's Kiawah Island plantation, Richardson gave birth to two of the former governor's children- Eliza, born in 1805, and Peter, born in 1807. In May of 1810, Vanderhorst manumitted Richardson along with her three children (she had an older daughter, Sarah, born in 1803) and her father, Peter. In addition, Vanderhorst also established a trust fund for them before they relocated to a house on Water street in Charleston.

[Hagar Richardson Estate Papers- SCHS 1169.02.02](#)

Ann Simons Ball (1776-1840)

Ann Simons was the daughter of Keating Simons (1753-1834) a Charleston, S.C. factor and South Carolina state Representative. She married Berkeley County, S.C. plantation owner John Ball (1782-1834) in 1814.

[Ann Simons Ball family correspondence- SCHS 1134.02.03](#)

Ann Heatly Reid Lovell (d. 1834)

St. Matthew's Parish, S.C. plantation owner. She was the daughter of William Heatly (d. 1788) of Orangeburg District, S.C. Her sister, Sophia Heatly, wed Joseph Dulles, a Charleston, S.C. merchant who later resided in Philadelphia (Pa.). Ann Heatly married William Reid, and after he died in the 1780s she wed Major James Lovell. The marriage was not successful, and Lovell left her and went to New Orleans, La., where he became Surveyor of Customs. When he returned years later he found that she had arranged her affairs in such a way that gave her sole legal control over them. In 1826 he left her again. Ann Lovell owned several plantations including property which was later known as Lang Syne Plantation.

[Ann Heatly Reid Lovell Papers- SCHS 1103.03.01](#)

[Estate and Family Papers- SCHS 1166.03.01](#)

Carolina Howard Gilman (1794-1888)

Author, editor, and wife of the Rev. Samuel Gilman, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

[Carolina Howard Gilman Papers- SCHS 1036.00](#)

[Unitarian Church Records-SCHS 395.00](#)

Mary Somers Buist Lamb (1800-1872)

Mary Somers Buist Lamb, a resident of Charleston, South Carolina, was the wife of James Lamb. Their daughter was Constance D. Lamb.

[Mary Lamb Family Papers- SCHS 1057.00](#)

Maria Louisa Poyas Gibbs (1803-1893)

Maria Louisa Poyas was the daughter of John Ernest Poyas (1756-1821). She married Mathurin Guerin Gibbs (1788-1849) in 1824. The Gibbs family resided at Rice Hope Plantation on the western branch of the Cooper River by 1840, but removed to Jericho Plantation in St. James Santee Parish in December 1844.

[Recipe Book - SCHS 34/702](#)

Emma Clare Pringle Alston (1803-1889)

Biographical Note: Mistress of Fairfield Plantation in Georgetown, S.C. and the wife of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney Alston and sister-in-law of Thomas P. Alston (1795-1861).

[Alston Family Papers-SCHS 1002.00](#)

Mary Motte Alston Pringle (1803-1884)

Mary was the youngest of six children born to Col. William Alston (1756-1839) and his second wife Mary Brewton Motte. In 1822 she married William Bull Pringle, a major rice and cotton planter of Georgetown District (S.C.), St. Andrew's Parish (S.C.), and

Charleston (S.C.). She was born, married, and died in the Miles Brewton House in Charleston, S.C., and all of her thirteen children were born there.

[Letter, 1871-SCHS 43/179](#)

[Mary Motte Alston Pringle Papers- SCHS 1285.02.01](#)

[Pringle Family Papers- SCHS 1083.00](#)

Adele Petigru Allston (1810-1896)

Wife of Robert Francis Withers Allston and sister of James Louis Petigru, Georgetown County, South Carolina plantation owner and school proprietor; sister of James Louis Petigru (1789-1863). Adele Petigru Allston was the wife of Robert F.W. Allston (1801-1864), and their children, among others, included Benjamin Allston (1833-1900), Charles Petigru Allston (1848-1920), Adele Allston (d. 1915), who married Arnoldus Vanderhorst (1835-1881), and Jane Louise Allston (1850-1937), who married Charles Albert Hill.

[Allston Family Papers- SCHS 1164.00](#)

[Adele Petigru Alston Papers- SCHS 1164.02.03](#)

Charlotte Anne Allston (d. 1824)

Charlotte Anne Allston was a Georgetown County, South Carolina plantation owner. The wife of Benjamin Allston, Jr. (d. 1809), and the mother of Robert F.W. Allston (1801-1864). Allston managed a great deal of her family's business interests and her papers include letters, receipts, sales accounts and memoranda from factors in Charleston regarding purchase of sundry goods, debt of the estate of Benjamin Allston, land matters, clothing for enslaved persons, accounts of rice, and plantation supplies.

[Charlotte Anne Allston Factors' letters, 1808-1824- SCHS 1164.02.02](#)

Louisa Susannah Cheves McCord (1810-1879)

South Carolina author. She was the daughter of South Carolina plantation owner, judge, financier, and politician Langdon Cheves (1776-1857). In 1840 she married David James McCord, a St. Matthew's Parish, S.C. attorney, legal editor, and South Carolina state representative. They lived at Lang Syne Plantation and later owned a house in Columbia, S.C. In 1861 Louisa McCord became president of the Soldier's Relief Association and the Lady's Clothing Association. At her own expense she armed and clothed the company of her son, Captain Langdon Cheves McCord. After his death at Second Manassas she devoted herself to nursing, feeding, and clothing soldiers in the military hospital housed in the dormitories of the South Carolina College (Columbia, S.C.). After the Civil War she lived in Charleston, S.

[Louisa S. Cheves McCord Papers- SCHS 1103.01](#)

["My Dreams"-SCHS 811.M33 D74 1848](#)

Jane Lynch Pringle (1811-1896)

A native of New York, Jane Lynch married John Julius IZARD Pringle (1808-1864), a plantation owner of Georgetown County, S.C. The Pringles had four children.

[Jane Lynch Pringle Papers- SCHS 1164.03.02](#)

[Allston Family Papers- SCHS 1164.00](#)

[Pringle Family Papers- SCHS 1083.00](#)

Charlotte Huger (d.1836)

Biographical note: daughter of John Huger and Charlotte Motte

[Bacot Family papers- SCHS 1004.00](#)

Margaret Hall Moffett Adger (1820-1915)

Adger was the daughter of Andrew and Anna Moffett and married William Adger (1816-1853), a Charleston, S.C. businessman, in 1840. Her papers mostly consist of letters from Charleston, Sullivan's Island, and the Pendleton area (Ashtabula, Boscobel, Rivoli, Woodburn, and Seneca plantations, and Mountain View, Keowee Chapel, and Cherokee Springs) of South Carolina concerning family matters such as the health of family members, rearing of children, cooking, making of clothes, needlework, courtships, travels, social life, ordering of fabrics, management of servants, financial matters, Catholics in Turkey, and news of deaths, births, and marriages. There are also mentions of universities and college life by Adger's friend Eliza and son Andrew Moffett Adger (1846-1915). Other items include wedding announcements; visiting cards; journals of letters written and received (1879-1881); financial records including receipts (1840-1898) and household accounts; poems; photographs; a record of medication and treatment (1853) for William Adger (who died of smallpox); and printed material pertaining to various religious, social, educational, and charitable organizations.

[Margaret Hall Moffett Adger Papers- SCHS 1312.00](#)

Mary Wilson Ball (1822-1984)

Mary Wilson Ball was a watercolor artist and miniaturist of Charleston, S.C. She was a member of the Carolina Art Association and studied under Alice R. Huger Smith and others. She trained as a topographical draftsman in Atlanta, Ga. and worked with the Army and the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads in Washington, D.C.

[Mary Wilson Ball Papers- SCHS 369.02.01](#)

Harriott Horry Ravenel (1832-1912)

Charleston, S.C. author. The daughter of Edward Cotesworth Rutledge (1798-1860) and Rebecca Motte Lowndes (1810-1893), in 1851 she married Dr. St. Julien Ravenel (1819-1882). Her great grandmother Harriott Pinckney Horry (1749-1830) was the daughter of Eliza Lucas Pinckney (1722-1793) and Charles Pinckney (ca. 1699-1758).

[Harriott Horry Ravenel Family Papers-SCHS 1086.00](#)

[Charleston ladies' reading lists - SCHS 43/184](#)

Louisa McCord Smythe (1845-1928)

Louisa McCord Smythe was the wife of Augustine Thomas Smythe (1842-1914), a Charleston attorney and South Carolina state senator (he added an "e" to his family surname). She was the daughter of David James McCord (1797-1855) and Louisa Susanna Cheves. Mrs. Smythe served as president of the Charleston chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

[Louisa McCord Smythe papers- SCHS 1209.03.02.05](#)

Margaret Simons Middleton (1852-1989)

Charleston, S.C. preservationist and author. [Jane] Margaret Simons Middleton (1891-1980) was the daughter of William Baynard Simons and Laura Adams Hanahan Simons. Her husband was Charles Francis Middleton III (1889-1958). She was an early participant in Charleston's historic preservation movement, and was active in many social organizations. She is perhaps best known for her books on two early South Carolina artists, Henrietta Johnson and Jeremiah Theus.

Margaret Simons Middleton Papers- SCHS 206.00

Eola Willis (1856-1952)

Charleston, S.C. writer, artist, historian, and cultural leader. She studied art, singing, and other subjects in Paris (France) and New York (N.Y.) and established an art studio in Charleston. Willis was active in many patriotic and cultural organizations, and it was through her efforts that an Art Commission was added to Charleston's civic government. She was the daughter of Edward Willis (1834-1910) and Elizabeth Louise Hammond Willis (1835-1917), whose other children included Azalea H. Willis (d. 1930), Louise H. Willis (later Louise Snead), and Theodore H. Willis (d. 1944). She was the author of "The Charleston Stage in the 18th Century" (1925) and numerous articles.

[Eola Willis Papers- SCHS 1174.00](#)

[Footlight Players records-SCHS 1244.00](#)

Josephine Rhett Bacot (1859-1932)

Charleston, South Carolina writer who wrote numerous articles, poems, and stories under the name of Hulda Leigh. She was the granddaughter of Robert Barnwell Rhett (1800-1876), and her parents were Robert Barnwell Rhett II (1828-1905) and Josephine Horton. In 1888 she married Charleston merchant Daniel Huger Bacot (1847-1920). Their children included: Daniel Huger Bacot Walter Rhett Bacot and Barnwell Rhett Bacot.

[Josephine Rhett Bacot papers-SHCS 1004.02.07](#)

[Walter Neale letter, 1806-SCHS 43/0333](#)

Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan (1865-1956)

Biographical Note: Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan was a South Carolina politician, social activist, and writer who spent most of her life in Abbeville and Charleston. She was born in Columbia in 1865 to William Raven Mathewes and Eliza Peronneau Mathewes. In 1883 she sailed to Sweden to live for a year with the family of her mother's former governess, Mrs. Rosalie Roos Olivecrona, who was formerly a teacher at Limestone College (Gaffney, S.C.). This experience fortified a relationship with the Olivecrona family that would last into the 1960s. Clelia married William Campbell McGowan, a successful Abbeville lawyer, in 1885 and the couple had four children: Samuel, William Campbell, Jr., Rosalie Olivecrona, and Mary Miles. After her husband's death Clelia returned to Charleston where she became a distinguished civic leader. She served on the South Carolina Board of Education for seven years, and, after a successful bid for city council in 1923, she became the first woman elected to public office in Charleston. She spent the rest of her days in Charleston writing poetry and serving on various organizational boards, such as the Committee on Better Race Relations, the Charleston Free Library, the Garden Club, and the Poetry Society.

[Clelia P.M. McGowan Papers- SCHS 368.00](#)

Susan Pringle Frost (1873-1960)

Susan Pringle Frost was a court reporter, realtor, pioneer preservationist, and suffragette
[Alston-Pringle-Frost Papers- SCHS 1285.00](#)

Alice Ravenel Huger Smith (1876-1958)

Charleston, S.C. artist and writer. Smith gained fame for her watercolor paintings of South Carolina lowcountry scenes. She was the daughter of Daniel Elliott Huger Smith (1846-1932), a Charleston cotton broker, author, and rice plantation owner whose books "The Dwelling Houses of Charleston" (1917) and "The Life of Charles Fraser" (1924) she co-authored and illustrated. She also illustrated "The Carolina Low-Country" and "A Carolina Rice Plantation of the Fifties" by Herbert Ravenel Sass.

[Alice Ravenel Huger Smith Papers \(1905-1974\)-SCHS 43/0069](#)

[Alice Ravenel Huger Smith Papers, 1914-1952- SCHS 1173.00](#)

Julia Mood Peterkin (1880-1961)

South Carolina writer. Julia Peterkin grew up on Lang Syne Plantation and wrote about the people that lived and worked there.

[Julia Mood Peterkin Papers- SCHS 1271.00](#)

Laura Mary Bragg (1881-1978)



Charleston, S.C. museum director, librarian, and cultural leader. Born in Epping, N.J., she became director of the Charleston Museum in 1920, leaving in 1931 to serve as director of the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield, Mass. After retiring from the Berkshire Museum in 1939 she returned to live in Charleston. A patron of the arts, Bragg was a founder of the Poetry Society of South Carolina and was the first librarian of the Charleston County Library.

[Laura M. Bragg Papers- SCHS 1009.00](#)

Doris Ulmann (1882-1934)

Doris Ulman was an American photographer, best known for her portraits of the people of the South Carolina lowcountry and rural Appalachia. Ulman was a native of New York City. Her interest in photography was at first a hobby, but after 1918 she devoted herself to the art professionally. Doris Ulman came to South Carolina between 1929 and 1934 to photograph people living on Lang Syne plantation near Fort Motte. The result was a collaborative publication with Julia Peterkin entitled *Roll, Jordan, Roll*.

Doris Ulman Photographic Collection- SCHS Visual Materials

Elizabeth O'Neill Verner (1883-1979)

Artist, etcher, and author, of Charleston, S.C.; b. Elizabeth O'Neill; married 1st E. Pettigrew Verner (d. 1925); married 2nd Thomas E. Myers (d. 1935).

[Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Papers- SCHS 1238.00](#)

[Four artists on one block and how they got along- SCHS 43/0227](#)

Petrona Royall McIver (1883-1973)

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. historian.

[Petrona R. McIver Papers- SCHS 1071.01.01](#)

Mary DeBerniere Barnwell (b. 1889)

Charleston, S.C. teacher. She was the daughter of William Hazzard Barnwell (1861-1943) and Louisa Rebecca Lane McCrady (1862-1944). She was educated at Memminger School in Charleston and was a kindergarten teacher. Her brother John McCrady Barnwell (b. 1895) served in France during World War I and afterwards became an architect. Her first cousin, artist and poet Theodore Lynch FitzSimons (1892-1956), was the son of her mother's sister Sabina Lynch McCrady FitzSimons.

[Mary DeBerniere Barnwell Family Papers- SCHS 272.00](#)

Dorothy Heyward (1890-1961)

Biographical Note: Playwright and novelist. The daughter of Herman Luyties Kuhns and Dora Virginia Hartzell, Dorothy Hartzell Kuhns was born in Wooster, Ohio. Dorothy studied playwriting at Harvard University, and as a fellow of George Pierce Baker's Workshop 47 she spent a summer's residency at the MacDowell Colony, an artists' retreat in New Hampshire, where she met South Carolina author DuBose Heyward. They married in September 1923. Their only child was Jenifer DuBose Heyward who became a ballet dancer and made her home in New York, N.Y. Dorothy collaborated with her husband to produce a dramatic version of his novel "Porgy." The play became the libretto for the opera "Porgy & Bess" (first produced in 1935) by DuBose Heyward and George and Ira Gershwin. She also collaborated with her husband to produce "Mamba's Daughters," a play based on DuBose Heyward's novel by the same name. She also wrote and published a number of works including the plays "South Pacific" and "Set My People Free" (1948, the story of the Denmark Vesey slave insurrection), as well as the libretto for the children's opera "Babar the Elephant" .



[Dorothy Heyward Papers- SCHS 180.00](#)

[Dubose Heyward Papers- SCHS 1172.00](#)

[Robert N.S. Whitelaw Papers- SCHS 263.00](#)

Anita Pollitzer (1894-1975)

Suffragist and advocate of the Equal Rights Amendment. Born in Charleston, S.C., she was the daughter of Gustave M. Pollitzer and Clara Guinzburg Pollitzer. Her sisters Mabel and Carrie Pollitzer, both educators, were also active in the women's rights movement. In 1928 Anita Pollitzer married Elie C. Edson, retaining her maiden name.

[Anita Pollitzer Family Papers- SCHS 1210.00](#)

Josephine Pinckney (1895-1957)

Charleston, S.C. author. She gained recognition as a poet with the publication of "Sea-Drinking Cities" in 1927, and turned to prose in 1940 with "Hilton Head," a novel about Dr. Henry Woodward, the first English settler of South Carolina. Active in cultural

affairs, she was one of the founders of the Poetry Society of South Carolina. Her last novel, "Splendid in Ashes," a social comedy of Charleston, was published in 1958.

[Josephine Pinckney Papers- SCHS 1175.00](#)

Harriet Porcher Stoney Simons (1896-1971)

Charleston, S.C. civic leader, political activist, and wife of architect Albert Simons (1890-1980). She was the first president of the Charleston League of Women Voters, organized and headed the South Carolina League of Women Voters, and was involved in many other civic, social, and political organizations including the Red Cross, the Maternal Welfare Bureau, and the Welfare Council of Charleston. She was the daughter of Samuel Gaillard Stoney and Louisa Cheves Smythe Stoney

[Harriet Porcher Stoney Simons papers- SCHS 1253.03.01](#)

[Harriet Porcher Stoney Simons Papers- SCHS 438.00](#)

Agatha Aimar Simmons (1900-1982)

Agatha Aimar Simmons was the daughter of Charleston, S.C. physician Charles Pons Aimar, Jr. (1873-1927) and Leonarda Jaques Aimar (1873-1953). She married T. Ritchie Simmons, a Charleston attorney, in 1929. She was active in many organizations and was a genealogist and local historian. Her pamphlet "Brief History of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church" was published in 1961. Agatha Aimar Simmons and T. Ritchie Simmons had two daughters, Mary Ritchie Simmons Tutterow and Charlotte Simmons McQueeney.

[Agatha Aimar Simmons Papers- SCHS 1284.00](#)

Helen Gardner McCormack (1903-1974)

Director of the Valentine Museum in Richmond, Va. (1930-1940); archivist (1942-1944) and later curator of collections for the South Carolina Historical Society in Charleston, S.C.; and director of the Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, S.C. (1954-1968). She was born in 1903 and died in 1974.

[Helen G. McCormack Papers-SCHS 1069.00](#)

[Helen G. McCormack correspondence with Prentiss Taylor- SCHS 43/2020](#)

Susan Smythe Bennett (d. 1965)

Charleston, S.C. writer and archivist. Born in 1878, she was the daughter of Augustine T. Smythe (1842-1914) and Louisa McCord Smythe (1845-1928). In 1902 she married writer and artist John Bennett (1865-1956), a native of Chillicothe, Ohio who made his home in Charleston, S.C. Susan Smythe Bennett authored numerous articles on the genealogy of South Carolina families. She was active in many civic and cultural organizations and was archivist of the South Carolina Historical Society. She died in 1965.

[Susan Smythe Bennett Papers- SCHS 1176.02.01](#)

[S.S. Bennett article and reminiscences- SCHS 43/213](#)

[John H. Bennett Papers-SCHS 277.00](#)

Anna Wells Rutledge (1907-1996)

Anna Wells Rutledge was an art historian of Charleston, S.C and the author of "Artists in the Life of Charleston".

[Anna Wells Rutledge papers-SCHS 404.00](#)

[Interview with Anna Wells Rutledge-SCHS 43/362](#)

Ethel Jane Bunting (1907-1997)

Born in New Orleans, La., Ethel-Jane Westfeldt Bunting was educated at Tulane University and Oxford. She lived in Charleston, S.C. from 1967 to the time of her death in 1997 and was active in cultural and civic affairs. She married economist Frederick H. Bunting (d. 1982) of Pennsylvania, and traveled widely with him during the time he was employed by the Agency for International Development, the U.S. Foreign Aid program, and the U.S. State Department. During several years in Pakistan, Mrs. Bunting made a study of the culture and historical artifacts of the Lower Sind Valley and Baluchistan, and was commissioned by the Smithsonian Institute to collect materials for their exhibit on Sindhi culture. Her book "Sindhi Tombs and Textiles: The Persistence of Pattern" was published in 1980.

[Ethel-Jane Bunting Papers- SCHS 248.00](#)

Margaretta Pringle Childs (1912-2000)

Charleston, S.C. librarian and archivist. The daughter of Ernest Henry Pringle (1881-1955), she married St. Julien Ravenel Childs (1897-1983) in 1935. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1932 and received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1940. A student of history, Margaretta P. Childs was involved in efforts to preserve historic buildings in Charleston, S.C. She was active in many local and national organizations including the Charleston Interracial Committee (1947-1958).

[Margaretta Pringle Childs papers- SCHS 1225.02.05](#)

Erroll Hay Colcock

Gullah poet and author of *Dusky Land: Gullah Poems and Sketches of Coastal South Carolina* (1942)

[De Patch-wu'k quilt -SCHS 43/0068](#)

Anne King Gregorie (d. 1960)

South Carolina historian, educator, and editor. The daughter of Ferdinand Gregorie (1856-1928) and Anne Palmer Porcher Gregorie (1855-1918), she was born in Savannah, Ga. in 1887. In 1929 she received a doctorate in history from the University of South Carolina, and from 1936 to 1941 she was director of the South Carolina Division of the National Historical Records Survey. Dr. Gregorie died in 1960.

[Anne King Gregorie Papers- SCHS 1254.00](#)

Civic Groups and Clubs

Ladies' Memorial Association

Confederate memorial association of Charleston, South Carolina. Founded in May 1866 as the Ladies' Association of Charleston for Commemorating the Confederate Dead, the organization was formed to "perpetuate the martyrdom of the Confederate dead." The name was later changed to the Ladies' Memorial Association.

[Ladies' Memorial Association records-SCHS 34/0116](#)

Civic Club Records (1910-1942)

Charleston, S.C. civic, social, and political women's organization established in 1900. The club disbanded in 1955.

[Civic Club Records- SCHS 1125.00](#)

Ladies Benevolent Society

Charitable organization founded in 1813 for the relief of the sick poor in Charleston (S.C.) and environs. The Ladies' Benevolent Society claims to be the oldest women's organization in continuous existence in the United States. During the 19th century the Society offered medical services for free blacks and poor whites, and continues to serve the sick and poor of the Charleston area

[Ladies Benevolent Society Records- SCHS 116.00](#)

Century Club Records (1895-1997)

The Century Club of Charleston, S.C. was organized in early 1895 as the Woman's Reading Club, with the purpose of fostering discussions of literature, art, music, history, and current events. The name of the organization was changed to the Century Club in late 1896, following the example of the New Century Club of Philadelphia. Each year a theme was chosen and members presented papers at the club's monthly meetings from November through May. The club's yearbooks, published annually from 1895, include the titles of papers presented at its meetings. The club was active in promoting women's issues in early 20th century Charleston. It was a charter member of the South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, which was organized in 1898, and the Charleston Federation of Women's Clubs, organized the following year. Louisa B. Poppenheim (1868-1957) figures prominently among the early records of the Century Club, having made important contributions to the development of each of these women's organizations.

[Century Club Records - SCHS 278.00](#)

Charleston Federation of Women's Clubs (1956-1995)

The Charleston Federation of Women's Clubs was founded in 1899, one year after the founding of the South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs. It encompassed a number of women's organizations at the state, regional and national levels.

[Charleston Confederation of Women's Clubs- SCHS 161.00](#)