

Collection #
M 0405

**PAULINE B. (PAULINE BRYANT) EANS
PAPERS, 1926–1981 (BULK 1970S)**

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Processed by:
Wilma L. Gibbs
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 3 photograph folders, 1 color photograph folder, 1 OVA photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: Inclusive 1926-1981; Bulk 1970s

PROVENANCE: Robienetta Driver, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Gwendolyn A. Thurman, Indianapolis, Indiana, 23 June 1983

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1986.0401

NOTES: The Pauline B. Eans Collection was donated during the Black Women in the Middle West Project. The Black Women in the Middle West Project was a collecting effort to gather primary source materials of African-American women in Illinois and Indiana. The project, spearheaded by Darlene Clark Hine and Patrick Bidelman at Purdue University, was conducted in three phases from 1977-1985. Project records are located at five repositories within the two states including the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) [also houses the project's administrative records], Calumet Regional Archives, and the Northern Indiana Historical Society in Indiana and the Chicago Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society in Illinois. (Although the implementation phase of the project was from 1984-1985, several of the collections were donated to IHS in 1986). Additional information about the project is contained in *The Black Women in the Middle West Project: A Comprehensive Resource Guide, Illinois and Indiana* (E185.6 .B53 1986), edited by Hine and Bidelman, et. al. and Wilma L. Gibbs's article, "In Retrospect: The Black Women in the Middle Project at the Indiana Historical Society," *Indiana's African-American Heritage: Essays from Black History News & Notes* (E185.93 .I4 B52 1993).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Pauline Bryant Eans (21 March 1905--15 January 1981), the daughter of Samuel and Eugenia Thrasher Bryant, was born in Richards Chapel, Georgia. After attending public school in her native city, she went to Atlanta to attend Grady Hospital of Nursing and on to Clark College where she received a BA degree. She did graduate work at the University of Michigan, completing a Masters in Public Health Education and she began a doctoral program at New York University. The mother of two daughters, Robienetta Eans Driver and Gwendolyn Eans Thurman, she was married to Reverend Robert Henry Lee Eans.

During her early career, Pauline Eans was on faculty at Alabama A&M College and Lincoln University (Missouri). In 1955, she joined the Wishard Hospital School of Nursing faculty in Indianapolis, retiring in 1977.

While in Indianapolis she was active in several community organizations. She was founder of the Northwest Civic Association and was appointed to the Greater Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Corporation by Mayor Richard Lugar. She was also a member of Barnes United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, Sigma Gamma Rho sorority, Sigma Theta Tau nursing sorority, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Council of Negro Women and the American Nurses Association.

Sources: Materials in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Pauline B. Eans Collection consists of one box of material, mostly documenting the career of a teacher of nursing education. Eans completed early nursing training at the Grady Memorial Hospital and Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia. There are photographs (folder 2) and a 1926 memory book that commemorate her time at Grady and Clark. While a graduate student in public health education at the University of Michigan in 1945, Eans completed a summer field study at the Hartford (Connecticut) Tuberculosis and Public Health Society, Inc. As a health education assistant, she was assigned to the North End Health Club. Notes about her field work, along with correspondence and a summary and schedule are contained in folder 3. Folders 4 and 5 contain the rest of her correspondence, including several acknowledgments of her 1977 retirement from the Wishard Hospital School of Nursing. Many well-wishers were students, friends, former coworkers, and community leaders including Tom Binford (businessman), Mayor William Hudnut, III, Frank Johnson (director of Marion County Health and Hospital Corporation), and Senator Richard Lugar.

Eans's community efforts and her work as a nurse did not go unnoticed; commendations are in folder 7. There are also photographs of her and/or others at work and with family and friends (folders 8 and 9). Eans was a founder of the Northwest Civic Association, Incorporated; material about the organization is contained in folder 10. She was a member of Sigma Gamma Rho, a sorority founded at Butler University in 1922. A program booklet celebrating the 50th anniversary of the organization is in folder 11.

An undated list of sources (pamphlets, reports, posters, visual education materials, etc.) of free and inexpensive teaching materials is contained in folder 13. The list includes several organizations such as the American Heart Association, American Library Association, American Medical Association, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. While on staff at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, Eans completed a five-year study of the institution's health services, a copy is contained in folder 14.

Eans died in 1981. Newspaper obituaries, a funeral program and a condolence letter to her daughter, Robienetta Driver, from Richard Lugar are in folder 15.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

College memory book, 1926

Grady Memorial Hospital and Clark College

Correspondence--1945 Field Study

Correspondence, 1952-1974, n.d.

Correspondence, 1977 (retirement letters)

Correspondence, 1977 (retirement cards)

Certificates

Pauline Eans friends and family

Pauline Eans, and/or co-workers, et. al

Pauline Eans, and/or co-workers, et. al.

Anatomy Class with Pauline Eans and Students

Northwest Civic Association, Incorporated

Sigma Gamma Rho

Programs

Bibliography of educational materials

Lincoln University health services study

Obituaries, Condolences

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 2

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 3

Visual Collection: Color
Photographs, Folder 1

Visual Collection: OVA
Photographs, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Box 1, Folder 12