

# Inventory of the Obelia "Bee" Graves Papers 1936-1945

Obelia "Bee" Graves Papers 1936-1945  
1936-1945



WILLIAM  
& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

A Collection in the Special Collections Research Center Mss. Acc. 2008.123  
Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary  
2010

## History

**Processed By** Special Collections Staff.

## Title Statement

Inventory of the Obelia "Bee" Graves Papers 1936-1945

**Subtitle:** Graves, Obelia "Bee", Papers

**Collection:** Mss. Acc. 2008.123

## Publication Statement

**Date:** © 2010 By the College of William and Mary. All rights reserved.

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Finding aid created by Jeffreen M. Hayes, 2008

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

**2013-11-21** Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Overview of the Collection

### Identification:

01/Mss. Acc. 2008.123

### Language of Materials

The papers are in: English

**Abstract:**

This collection contains letters to Obelia "Bee" Graves, from her family and friends, while she attended Winston-Salem Teachers College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The institution is presently known as Winston-Salem State University. Winston-Salem Teachers College was the first historically black college to grant bachelors degrees in elementary school education. The collection also includes college documents from her time at college such as report cards and her admission acceptance. The collection also contains letters from two soldiers to Bee Graves' sister, Cleonis. The soldiers served during World War II in the Philippines.

**Creator:**

Graves, Obelia "Bee" arrangement

**Quantity:**

0.50

**Repository:**

Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Conditions Governing Access**

Collection is open to all researchers.

**Conditions Governing Use**

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Special Collections Research Center, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

**Acquisition Information**

The materials were acquired by Special Collections Research Center on 11/25/2008.

**Preferred Citation**

Obelia "Bee" Graves Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

## Additional Information

### Biographical Note

Obelia "Bee" Graves attended Winston-Salem Teachers College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the first historically black college to grant bachelor degrees in elementary school education. Her family lived in Blance, North Carolina.

Her parents were Vester and Sallie Graves. Further information about this individual or organization may be available in the [Special Collections Research Center Wiki](#)

## Scope and Contents

This collection contains letters to Obelia "Bee" Graves, from her family and friends, while she attended Winston-Salem Teachers College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The institution is presently known as Winston-Salem State University. Winston-Salem Teachers College was the first historically black college to grant bachelors degrees in elementary school education. The collection also includes college documents from her time at college such as report cards and her admission acceptance. The collection also contains letters from two soldiers to Bee Graves' sister, Cleonis. The soldiers served during World War II in the Philippines.

## Index Terms

This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

**Genre/Form of Material:**

Correspondence

## **Personal Name:**

Education--North Carolina.

## **Topical Term:**

African Americans

Women college students

World War, 1939-1945--Pacific Front

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### **Letters from Family, 1937-1939,**

#### **Letters from Vester Graves (Father), 1937-1938,**

**Folder 1**

##### **Scope and Content**

3 letters

#### **Letters from Sallie Graves (Mother), 1937-1939,**

**Folder 2**

##### **Scope and Content**

4 letters

#### **Letters from Cleonis Graves (Sister), 1937,**

**Folder 3**

##### **Scope and Content**

2 letters

#### **Letters from Melba Graves (Sister), 1937-1938,**

**Folder 4**

##### **Scope and Content**

4 letters

#### **Letter from Ella Graves (Sister), 1938,**

**Folder 5**

#### **Letter from Lois Long (Cousin), 1937,**

**Folder 6**

#### **Letters from Auntie Madie, 1937,**

**Folder 7**

#### **Letters from Uncle Henry, 1937, 1939,**

**Folder 8**

### **Letters from Friends, 1936-1939,**

#### **Postcards from Friends, 1936-1939,**

**Folder 9**

#### **Letters from Female Friends, 1936,**

**Folder 10**

## **Letters from Elbert Swann, 1936-1938,**

**Folder** 11

### **Scope and Content**

1 of 2 folders; Elbert Swann appeared to have a crush on Bee Graves. He wrote ten letters to her, the most from one person in the collection.

## **Letters from Elbert Swann, undated,**

**Folder** 12

### **Scope and Content**

2 of 2 folders; Elbert Swann appeared to have a crush on Bee Graves. He wrote ten letters to her, the most from one person in the collection.

## **Letters from Louise Moore, 1937,**

**Folder** 13

## **Letters from Helen B., 1939,**

**Folder** 14

## **Letter from Walter (Boyfriend), 1938,**

**Folder** 15

## **Letters from C.L.B., Jr., 1936,**

**Folder** 16

## **Letters from J.B. Saunders, 1936, 1938,**

**Folder** 17

## **Letters from Male Friends, 1939,**

**Folder** 18

### **Scope and Content**

These are friends from New York City.

## **Miscellaneous,**

### **Scope and Content**

Includes letters to Bee Graves's sister, Cleonis Graves, college documents, photographs

## **Letters from soldiers to Cleonis Graves (Sister), 1945,**

**Folder** 19

### **Scope and Content**

This folder contains letters from two soldiers to Bee Graves' sister, Cleonis. The soldiers served during World War II in the Philippines.

## **Miscellaneous Items,**

**Folder** 20

### **Scope and Content**

This folder contains portrait photographs of unidentified people and letters.

## **College Documents, 1936-1940,**

**Folder** 21

### **Scope and Content**

This folder contains documents relating to Bee Graves' tenure at Teachers College: room and board receipts, a report card, and insurance receipts. This is 1 of 2 folders.

## **College Documents, 1936-1940,**

**Folder** 22

### **Scope and Content**

This folder contains an acceptance letter, a letter to Bee Graves' parents about Bee's progress and report cards. This is 2 of 2 folders.

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