

**American Friends Service Committee Records**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2008**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm96077406>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008126>

Prepared by Joseph Sullivan

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Revised 2010 April

## Collection Summary

**Title:** American Friends Service Committee Records

**Span Dates:** 1933-1988

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1933-1938)

**ID No.:** MSS77406

**Creator:** American Friends Service Committee

**Extent:** 20 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** .2 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm96077406>

**Summary:** Journal, correspondence and other papers relating to the experiences of American Service Committee volunteers at a mining camp in Letcher County, Ky., endeavoring to improve social conditions there and in the town of Hemphill.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Abraham, Herbert. Herbert Abraham papers.

Abraham, Jo. Jo Abraham papers.

### Organizations

American Friends Service Committee.

### Subjects

Coal mines and mining--Kentucky--Hemphill.

Coal mines and mining--Kentucky--Letcher County.

Social problems--Kentucky--Hemphill.

Social problems--Kentucky--Letcher County.

## Provenance

The records of the American Friends Service Committee were given to the Library of Congress by Herbert and Jo Abraham in 1988.

## Processing History

The records of the American Friends Service Committee were arranged and described in 1997. The register was revised in 2008.

## Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the American Friends Service Committee Records.

## **Copyright Status**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the American Friends Service Committee is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## **Access and Restrictions**

The records of the American Friends Service Committee are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, American Friends Service Committee Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The records of the American Friends Service Committee span the years 1933-1988, but are concentrated in the period 1933-1938 and consist of correspondence, an article, a diary/journal, photographs, and related documentation. The most significant item is a typescript diary with appended reports written by Herbert and Jo Abraham from daily records kept by their nine-member team of Home Service section volunteer workers serving a mining community in Letcher County, Kentucky, from June to August 1933. The American Friends Service Committee, organized by the Quakers, promotes peace and reconciliation and the relief of human suffering through its social service and relief programs. In 1933, the organization targeted rural coal mining districts as areas of special concern. The diary details the efforts of these Home Service volunteers to improve social conditions in Hemphill, Kentucky.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1	Article, "A Venture in 'Being Good Neighbors'" by Jo Wilder Abraham, 1934
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1933-1938, 1986-1988
BOX 1	"Diary of the American Friends Service Committee Work Camp in Letcher County, Kentucky, June 26-August 23, 1933," with appended reports and correspondence, 1933-1934
BOX 1	Typescript, undated
BOX 1	Photocopy of revised transcript, 1986
BOX 1	Preface, table of contents, corrections, and references, 1986
BOX 1	List of documents, 1986
BOX 1	Photocopies of photographs of mining community and volunteer camp workers, 1933
BOX 1	Report on Home Service Workers' Conference and program of activities, 1933