

**Anna Jean Snowden Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2022**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2021086448>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms022010>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2022

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Anna Jean Snowden Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1910-1949

**Bulk Dates:** 1912-1925

**ID No.:** MSS86448

**Creator:** Snowden, Anna Jean, approximately 1895-

**Extent:** 700 items

**Extent:** 3 containers

**Extent:** 1.0 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086448>

**Summary:** African American educator and Howard University graduate. Clippings, correspondence, diaries and journals, notes, photographs, and school papers relating to Snowden's personal life and professional career.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Anna Jean Snowden were purchased by the Library of Congress in 2021.

## Processing History

The papers of Anna Jean Snowden were arranged and described by Joanne Archer in 2022.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Anna Jean Snowden is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Anne Jean Snowden are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Anna Jean Snowden Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Anna Jean Snowden was born circa September 3, 1895, to Walter Snowden and Josephine M. Snowden in Lexington, Kentucky. She had one older sister, Lillian Snowden Bazley (1892-1936). She attended Chandler Normal School in Lexington, a historical African American public school devoted to educating future teachers. Snowden and her family spent time in Dayton, Ohio, and New York City after she finished high school. She attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., graduating with a two-year degree in kindergarten education in 1914 and continuing on to receive a bachelor's degree in education in 1916.

Snowden taught from 1917 to 1919 at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. She spent time at Georgia State College in 1919 and spent the summer of 1920 studying at Columbia University. Throughout the 1920s Snowden stayed with her sister in

Richmond, Virginia. She may have returned to Dayton, Ohio, in the 1930s but it is unclear where she lived or whether she continued teaching after the 1920s.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Anna Jean Snowden (circa 1895-) span the years 1910-1949, with the bulk of material dating from 1912 to 1925. The collection documents Snowden's education at Howard University and the early years of her teaching career at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. It also documents the lives of Snowden's circle of family and friends who made up an emerging African American middle and professional class during the early twentieth century.

The collection provides insight into Snowden's life as a student at Howard University through her journals and letters. Her journals, written in 1913 and 1914, document the daily life and thoughts of a young woman away at college as well as documenting the places and people she visited, including a summer spent in New York City in 1914. While there are some letters in the collection written by Anna Snowden, the bulk of the collection consists of letters written to her by friends and family, including her mother Josephine Snowden and sister Lillian Snowden Bazley. Other correspondents include the composer, William L. Dawson, who was at the Tuskegee Institute at the same time as Snowden, and Wilberforce University history professor George F. David II. Many of Snowden's friends were African American professionals such as teachers, pharmacists, doctors, and lawyers and their letters provide perspectives on their lives and experiences.

## Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged alphabetically by material type and chronologically therein.

## 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

Bazley, Lillian Snowden, 1892-1936--Correspondence.  
David, George F. (George Franklin), II 1890-1963--Correspondence.  
Dawson, William L. (William Levi), 1899-1990--Correspondence.  
Snowden family.  
Snowden, Anna Jean, approximately 1895-  
Snowden, Josephine, approximately 1875- --Correspondence.

### Organizations

Howard University--Students.  
Tuskegee Institute--Faculty.

### Subjects

African American professional employees--History--20th century.  
African American universities and colleges--Alabama--Tuskegee.  
African American universities and colleges--Washington (D.C.)  
African Americans--Education--Alabama--Tuskegee.  
African Americans--Education--Washington (D.C.)  
African Americans--Social conditions--20th century.  
Middle class African Americans--History--20th century.

### Places

New York (N.Y.)--Social life and customs.  
United States--Social conditions--20th century.

### Occupations

Educators.

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1	Clippings
BOX 1	1917, undated
BOX 1	1940s, undated
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1910-1939 (24 folders)
BOX 1	Undated
BOX 1	Brown, Barr (?) to Snowden, Anna Jean
BOX 1	David, George to Snowden, Anna Jean
BOX 2	Maud to Snowden, Anna Jean
BOX 2	Snowden, Anna Jean to family and friends
BOX 2	Snowden, Josephine (mother) to Snowden, Anna Jean and Lillian
BOX 2	Snowden, Lillian (sister) to Snowden, Anna Jean
BOX 2	Incomplete letters and fragments
BOX 2	Various correspondents
BOX 2	Diaries and journals
BOX 2	1913-1914
BOX 2	circa 1936-1940s
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1915, 1936, undated
BOX 2	Notes, undated
BOX 2	Photographs, 1938, undated
BOX 3	School papers
BOX 3	1912-1920, undated
BOX 3	Undated