Adaline Lindsley papers

Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation, River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester

   Rush Rhees Library
   Second Floor, Room 225
   Rochester, NY 14627-0055
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Summary Information

Repository: Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation, River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester
Creator: Lindsley, Adaline, 1820-1847
Title: Adaline Lindsley papers
ID: D.310
Date [inclusive]: 1840-1843
Physical Description: 1 box
Language of the Material: English

Preferred Citation

(Name of item, if applicable), Adaline Lindsley Papers, 1840-1843. Dept. of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation, River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester.

Biographical/Historical note

Adaline Lindsley was born in Middlesex, New York on January 20, 1820. Daughter of middle class farmer Benjamin Lindsley and his third wife, Rebecca Curtis Ladd Lindsley, Adaline was well educated and spent much of her time reading, writing, visiting local lectures and exhibitions, and entertaining her neighbors.

In September 1845, Adaline married Reverend Joseph Cross, a charismatic itinerant minister of the Methodist-Episcopal Church. She accompanied her husband and his nine-year-old daughter on missionary appointments to New York City, New Orleans, and, finally, to Lexington, Kentucky. In August 1847, Adaline gave birth to a daughter, Leila Thalia. Sadly, within months both children died from an infectious fever. Adaline was overcome with grief and she succumbed to tuberculosis on December 25, 1847, at the age of twenty-seven.
Scope and Contents note

Adaline's diary, kept from August 1840 - March 1843, when she was in her early twenties, reveals an intelligent and lively young woman, whose ambitions were challenged by her era's gender conventions, as well as the debilitating effects of tuberculosis. The diary not only captures the hopes and faith of Adaline, the intimacies of the Lindsley family, and community life in her Yates County, New York village in the early 1840s, it also documents a unique period of growth and transition in ante-bellum America.

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

The Adaline Lindsley Papers is open for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Rare Collections & Preservation Department prior to visiting. Upon arrival, researchers will also be asked to fill out a registration form and provide photo identification.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Adaline Lindsley's 1840-1843 diary was purchased at auction in September 2001.

Restrictions on Use

In consultation with a curator, reproductions may be made upon request. Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from a curator. Researchers are responsible for determining any copyright questions.
Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Please also see, "To Live All In Uncertainty" The Middlesex Diary of Adaline Lindsley, 1840-1843. See online catalog for call number and details.

Controlled Access Headings

- Women
- New York (State)--Yates County
- Diaries
- Lindsley, Adaline, 1820-1847

Collection Inventory

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<th>Title/Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Diary, August 1840-March 1843</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript, 144 pages.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transcription of Adaline Lindsley's 1840-1843 diary</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completed by undergraduate intern Kristi L. Martin in 2003, Typescript, 113 pages.</td>
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<td>Video, Kristi Martin interview for Channel 13 about Adaline Lindsley's diary, April 22, 2004</td>
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