



Guide to the Adelaide Johnson Papers, 1848-1987 and undated

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	6
Printed Materials	6
Photographs	7
Letters	9
Exhibits	10

Summary

Collection Title:

Adelaide Johnson papers, 1848-1987 and undated

Creator:

Johnson, Adelaide, 1859-1955

Source:

Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture

Abstract:

Adelaide Johnson, 1859-1955, was a suffragist, artist, and sculptor. Her original name was Sarah Adeline Johnson; she changed her name to Adelaide in 1878. Collection incorporates primarily Adelaide Johnson's working materials related to her sculpture of Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton that is located at the United States Capitol building, with focus on Susan B. Anthony. There are cabinet cards of Johnson's plaster casts, cabinet cards of Anthony, Stanton, and Anthony and Stanton together, several signed, along with albumen, gelatin developing-out paper, and matte collodion printing-out paper prints of Anthony; two silhouettes of Mott; a few letters to Johnson; biographical information about her; and related published materials. There are also exhibit labels for the first exhibition to be held at Elizabeth Cady Stanton's House after it was acquired by the Women's Rights National Park at Seneca Falls, curated by Lisa Unger Baskin in 1986 or 1987, and featuring the Johnson materials. The exhibit was also displayed at the Sophia Smith Collection for a Berkshire Conference on History of Women.

Extent:

0.4 Linear Feet

Language:

Materials in English

Collection ID:

RL.11025

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m13d0b>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Adelaide Johnson papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

Collection incorporates primarily Adelaide Johnson's working materials related to her sculpture of Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton that is located at the United States Capitol building, with focus on Susan B. Anthony. There are cabinet cards of Johnson's plaster casts, cabinet cards of Anthony, Stanton, and Anthony and Stanton together, several signed, along with albumen, gelatin developing-out paper, and matte collodion printing-out paper prints of Anthony; two silhouettes of Mott; a few letters to Johnson; biographical information about her; and related published materials. There are also exhibit labels for the first exhibition to be held at Elizabeth Cady Stanton's House after it was acquired by the Women's Rights National Park at Seneca Falls, curated by Lisa Unger Baskin in 1986 or 1987, and featuring the Johnson materials. The exhibit was also displayed at the Sophia Smith Collection for a Berkshire Conference in on History of Women.

Biographical/Historical

Adelaide Johnson, 1859-1955, was a suffragist, artist, and sculptor. Her original name was Sarah Adeline Johnson; she changed her name to Adelaide in 1878.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Organized into the following series: Printed materials, Photographs, Letters, and Exhibits.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Processed by: Alice L. Poffinberger, May, 2015.

Accessions described in this finding aid: 2015-0050-LUBMSS587, 2023-0214.

Description updated by Alice L. Poffinberger, March, 2019, and February, 2024.

Acquisition Information

The Adelaide Johnson papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in April 2015 and in 2024.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Suffragists -- United States.
- Cabinet photographs

- Suffragists -- Pictorial works
- Albumen prints
- Gelatin silver prints
- Johnson, Adelaide, 1859-1955
- Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906
- Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell) (Statues)
- Stanton, Elizabeth Cady
- Stanton, Elizabeth Cady (Statues)
- Mott, Lucretia
- Mott, Lucretia (Statues)
- Lisa Unger Baskin Collection (David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library)
- Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture
- Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906 -- Photographs
- Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902 -- Photographs

Collection Inventory

Printed Materials, 1891-1945 and undated

Physical Description: 3 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes printed materials gathered by Johnson in the course of her suffragist activity and artistic pursuits, including her own exhibitions as well as the sculpture of suffragists Mott, Stanton, and Anthony. There are programs, speeches, postcards, etchings, calendars and other published materials.

Johnson biographical material, 1909-1945 and undated

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Contains multiple copies of several printed items about Johnson or that mention her, along with a published undated photograph of her. Titles include: Sculpture Exhibition of portraits of eminent people by Adelaide Johnson At her studio and galleries... 8-10 January 1909; American Lyceum Club..., Adelaide Johnson, Representative, N.Y., 1904; Adelaide Johnson, Sculptress, 1945. There are also notes written by her that refer to several items in this collection.

Speeches, pamphlets, postcards, etchings, and silhouettes, 1912-1921

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes printed items from Johnson's personal and working files of the period, including a brochure on Baroness Bertha von Suttner; a postcard featuring a portrait of Susan B. Anthony; a printed copy of Sara Bard Field's speech presenting Johnson's busts of Mott, Stanton, and Anthony to Congress; eight postcards of Johnson's plaster casts for the busts; and two silhouettes of Lucretia Mott. There are also published portraits and etchings of Susan B. Anthony, and copies of the program for Anthony's eightieth birthday party.

Suffragist and women's rights calendars,
1891-1918 and undated

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

There are five calendars: Women's Literary Club, Dunkirk, N.Y. The women's calendar 1891 (Buffalo, N.Y.: Peter Paul and Brother, [1890?]); Catharine M. Fleming. The Anthony home calendar : with selections from the letters and speeches of Miss Anthony. Illustrated by Frances B. Johnson. (Washington, D.C.: n.p., 1900); Catharine M. Fleming. The Susan B. Anthony home calendar for 1902 : with extracts from the letters and speeches of Miss Anthony. Portraits by Frances B. Johnson. (Washington, D.C.: n.p., 1901); Grace Hoffman White, compl. The Susan B. Anthony calendar 1918 ; quotations from her life and speeches. (New York, N.Y.: Barse & Hopkins, 1917); and Jane A. Stewart, arr. Birthday calendar (Perpetual) of suffrage women. (Philadelphia, Pa.: Current Syndicate, n.d.). The November page in the Stewart calendar contains a handwritten note by Johnson.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Photographs, 1848-1905 and undated

Physical Description: 5 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes photographs Johnson used for reference to create her sculpture of Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton that is located at the United States Capitol building, with focus on Susan B. Anthony. There are cabinet cards of her plaster casts, cabinet cards of Anthony and Anthony and Stanton, several signed, along with albumen, gelatin developing-out paper, and

matte collodion printing-out paper prints of Anthony. There are two additional photographs, of Elizabeth Miller Jarvis and John A. Logan.

C. M. Bell cabinet cards for Johnson's bust of Susan B. Anthony, 1891?

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

There are eight cabinet cards showing 4 different views of Johnson's plaster bust of Susan B. Anthony. They are undated, but Johnson's handwritten note on the back of one suggests the date as 1891. The C. M. Bell studio was in Washington, D.C.

Susan B. Anthony photographs, 1848-1905 and undated

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Contains 19 portraits of Susan B. Anthony, including 4x6.5-inch cabinet cards, along with albumen, gelatin deveoping-out paper, and matte collodion printing-out paper prints ranging in size from 3.5x5.5-inches to 4x6.5-inches. Fifteen feature profile views, and three with her Facing forward, and there is a 3/4 view. Several of the images are signed and dated or otherwise inscribed by her or are identified on the negative by the photographer. Photography studios represented include Phillips (Philadelphia), C. M. Bell (Washington, D.C.), J.H. Kent (Rochester, N.Y.), F. Gutekunst (Philadelphia), Veeder (Albany, N.Y.), Mrs. L. Condon (Atlanta, Ga.), and Woodworth (Rochester, N.Y.).

Elizabeth Cady Stanton photograph, 1890s?

Scope and Contents

One cabinet card of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, signed, dated in the 1890s(?). Three-quarter image. Studio is H. Rocher of Chicago.

Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton photographs, 1892

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

There are four photogaphs showing Stanton and Anthony reviewing documents together. Includes two 4x6-inch cabinet cards and one 7.5x9-inch cabinet card (along with a smaller, clearer copy of this photograph); two of the photographs were signed and dated by both women. The studio for all four images was J. H. Kent, in Rochester N.Y.

Susan B. Anthony and others, 1893 and undated

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes two 3.5x5.5-inch cabinet cards. One undated photograph shows Susan B. Anthony (in profile) with her niece, Emma Sweet (3/4 view). The other is a seated full-length photograph of Susan B. Anthony (in profile) and Emily Gross (3/4 view), seated; both women signed and dated the item. The first photograph was taken at the Rice Studio in Washington, D.C. The second photograph was taken at the Max Platz Studio in Chicago.

Photographs of others, undated

Box 1

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes two images possibly unrelated to other materials in the collection. There is an undated photograph of Elizabeth Miller Jarvis that was removed from a published piece, and an undated cabinet card by Baldwin and Ames Studio, Chicago, featuring a sculpture (probably Johnson's) of Union General John A. Logan.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Letters, 1912-1939

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes seven letters written to Johnson while she resided in New York City, and in Rome, Italy. Includes a 1912 letter of introduction to her in Rome for a Mrs. Reynolds; two 1918 letters from a loving friend, "Little Mother," in England, one discussing the life of memories "that cannot be effaced" and news of the war from both the British and American perspective, followed by another letter celebrating the war's end; a 1919 letter to Johnson in Rome informing her there is no room in New York City to sublet, despite her excellent record as a tenant; a 1920 letter regarding Johnson's subscription to the New York Evening Journal; William Parker's letter of introduction for Johnson in her capacity as a Trustee of the Bacon Society of American, to the Bacon Society in London, England. Also includes a 1939 clipping from the New York Sunday Times that misidentified an image of Susan B. Anthony.

Letters, 1912-1939

Box 1

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Exhibits, 1986 or 1987

Physical Description: 1 folders

Scope and Contents

There are twelve labels for the first exhibition to be held at Elizabeth Cady Stanton's House after it was acquired by the Women's Rights National Park at Seneca Falls, curated by Lisa Unger Baskin in 1986 or 1987, and featuring the Johnson materials. The exhibit was also displayed at the Sophia Smith Collection for a Berkshire Conference in on History of Women.

Exhibits, 1986 or 1987

Box 1

[Return to Table of Contents](#)