



Guide to the Independent Aid, Inc. Records, 1934-1954

This collection guide was produced in .

This PDF version was created on **April 3, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University

Durham 27708-0185

919-660-5822

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Administrative Information	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6
Administrative Records, 1934-1954	6

Summary

Collection Title:

Independent Aid, Inc. records, 1934-1954

Creator:

Independent Aid, Inc.

Abstract:

Independent Aid, Inc. was the first charitable foundation established by Doris Duke, daughter of businessman and philanthropist James Buchanan (J.B.) Duke. It was incorporated in Delaware in October, 1934. Although Miss Duke had limited direct involvement with Independent Aid, its disbursements reflected her persistent interests in the welfare of women and children, education, social work and mental health, and early family planning efforts. The foundation's daily operations were administered largely by Marian Paschal, who served as Secretary until her death in 1946, and by her successor, Georgea T. Furst. Independent Aid, Inc. became the Doris Duke Foundation in 1951. The collection spans the years 1934 to 1954, beginning with the establishment of Independent Aid, Inc. and including administrative entries through the first years of the Doris Duke Foundation. Journals, cashbooks, ledgers, and minute books comprise the majority of the collection; these detail contributions to the foundation as well as disbursements. The remaining materials include correspondence, the foundation's original by-laws, federal tax forms, financial records and lists of stock holdings, and memoranda documenting daily operations.

Extent:

6.4 Linear Feet
314 Items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language:

English

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.01439

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/uaindaid/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Independent Aid, Inc. Records, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Historical Archives, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

The Independent Aid, Inc. Records (formerly IA.9A) are part of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Historical Archives which were donated to the Duke University. David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The collection covers the operations of Independent Aid, Inc. from its establishment in 1934 through 1951, when it became the Doris Duke Foundation. Fourteen journals, cashbooks, ledgers, and minute books comprise the majority of the collection and detail contributions to the foundation as well as disbursements. One journal, one cashbook, and one ledger extend through 1954. The remaining materials include correspondence, the foundation's original by-laws, federal tax forms, financial records and lists of stock holdings, and memoranda documenting daily operations. Of particular note are reports made to Marian Paschal, Secretary of Independent Aid, Inc. until her death in 1946, detailing the circumstances of aid recipients and thank you notes to Miss Paschal.

Biographical/Historical

Independent Aid, Inc. was the first charitable foundation established by Doris Duke, daughter of businessman and philanthropist James Buchanan (J.B.) Duke. It was incorporated in Delaware in October, 1934, shortly after Miss Duke turned 21 years of age. The foundation's daily operations were administered largely by Marian Paschal, who served as Secretary until her death in 1946, and by her successor, Georgea T. Furst. Although Miss Duke had limited direct involvement with Independent Aid, its disbursements reflected her persistent interests in the welfare of women and children, social work and mental health, and early family planning efforts; recipients included the Center for Self-Supporting Women and Students of New York City, the Mental Hygiene Association, and the Child Adoption and Placement Bureau among many others. Additionally, many individuals received funds either to sustain them through financial difficulties or as educational loans and scholarships. In October, 1951,

the officers of Independent Aid, Inc. voted to change its name to the Doris Duke Foundation.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University

Durham 27708-0185

919-660-5822

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection.

All or portions of this collection may be housed off-site in Duke University's Library Service Center. The library may require up to 48 hours to retrieve these materials for research use.

Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

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.

Acquisition Information

The Independent Aid, Inc. Records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a donation from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation in June 2009.

Processing Information

Processed by Kate Jordan, January 2011

Encoded by Kate Jordan, January 2011

Accession UA2009-0030 is described in this finding aid.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Charitable foundations
- Duke, Doris
- Independent Aid, Inc.
- Independent Aid, Inc.
- Doris Duke Foundation
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Collection Inventory

Administrative Records, 1934-1954

Correspondence and memoranda relating to contributions made by Independent Aid, Inc. File includes thank you notes to Miss Paschal. 1934-1945

Box 1 > Folder 1

Correspondence, memoranda, and related materials concerning the daily operations of Independent Aid, Inc. Materials also include tax bulletins, minutes, and Annual Reports on IA from State of Delaware. 1946-1952

Box 1 > Folder 2

Cash statements of Independent Aid, Inc. Also includes balance sheets, work sheets, and contributions to organizations. 1935-1946

Box 1 > Folder 3

By-laws, Independent Aid, Inc. 1934

Box 1 > Folder 4

List, contributions of Independent Aid, Inc. 1937-1950	Box 1 > Folder 5
Cashbook, No. 4. 1950-1954	Oversize-box 2
Journal, No. 4. 1950-1954	Oversize-box 2
Ledger, No. 4. 1950-1953	Oversize-box 2
Cashbook, 1934-1939	Oversize-box 3
Cashbook, No. 2, 1940-May 1945	Oversize-box 3
Cashbook, No. 3, June 1945-1949	Oversize-box 3
Journal, 1934-January 1940	Oversize-box 3
Journal, No. 2, January 1940-June 1945	Oversize-box 3
Journal, No. 3, June 1945-1949	Oversize-box 3
Ledger, 1934-1939	Oversize-box 3
Ledger, No. 2, 1940-May 1945	Oversize-box 3
Ledger, No. 3, June 1945-1949	Oversize-box 3
Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of Independent Aid. Includes Certificate of Incorporation, 1934-1941 (1 of 2)	Box 4
Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of Independent Aid. Includes Certificate of Incorporation, 1934-1941 (2 of 2)	Box 4
Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of Independent Aid, 1941-1951 (1 of 2)	Box 5
Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of Independent Aid, 1941-1951 (2 of 2)	Box 5

[Return to Table of Contents](#)