

Bedford College Archives

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The Culture Team



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

RHUL Archives and Special Collections



RHUL Archives

- Bedford College (BC)
- Royal Holloway College (RHC)
- Royal Holloway and Bedford New College (RHBNC)
- Personal Papers (PP) – former staff
- Special Collections
 - Roy Waters Theatre Collection
 - Gay Sweatshop Theatre Company
 - Alfred Sherman
 - Ridolfi letters
- Rare books



Bedford College Archive

1849 to 1985

Includes:

- Charters, deeds, statutes
- Minutes
- Reid Trust
- Academic departments
- Registry
- Records of Principal's office
- Secretary's papers
- Photographs
- Reminiscences



Elizabeth Jesser Reid Personal Correspondence

Ref: BC RF/103

1836-1865

Includes letters from Eliza Bostock and
Henry Crabb Robinson

Topics include:

- Mutual friends and society figures
- Literature
- Women's rights
- Women's education

EJR letters online transcription project

RF103/12/2
Sweet Meloni, Rom².
Tuesday morning
Twenty first March 1845.
My dear Mrs Reid.
I was coming over to see you this
morning (having almost hunted down
the whole press of Roman Ladies / but
they tell me you will not be up, before
we are some miles on the road. Therefore
I send this small representation to wish
you health and happiness until we
meet again, and then, and always
afterwards; and to assure you that I
am true, with sincerity.
Faithfully Yours
Elizabeth Jesser Reid
Mrs Reid

Student Magazines

- Bedford College Magazine (1886-1921)
- Bedford College Union Magazine (1921-1941)
- Bedford News (1946-1961)
- The Unicorn (1946-1965)
- Inner Circular (1962-1982)
- The Absorber (1980-1985)



Student Records

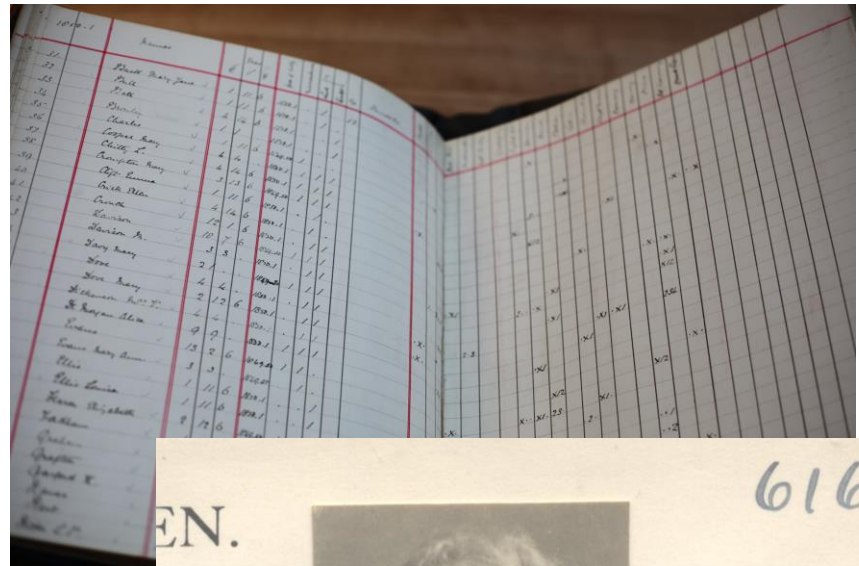
Registers and lists of students
1849 – 1907

(Ref: BC AR 201/1/1-8)

Registers of Students on
Courses 1856-1872

(Ref: BC AR 202/1/1)

Student files - 1890 onwards
(Ref: BC AR/200)



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NOTES AND
EXAMINATION RECORD.

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Photographs

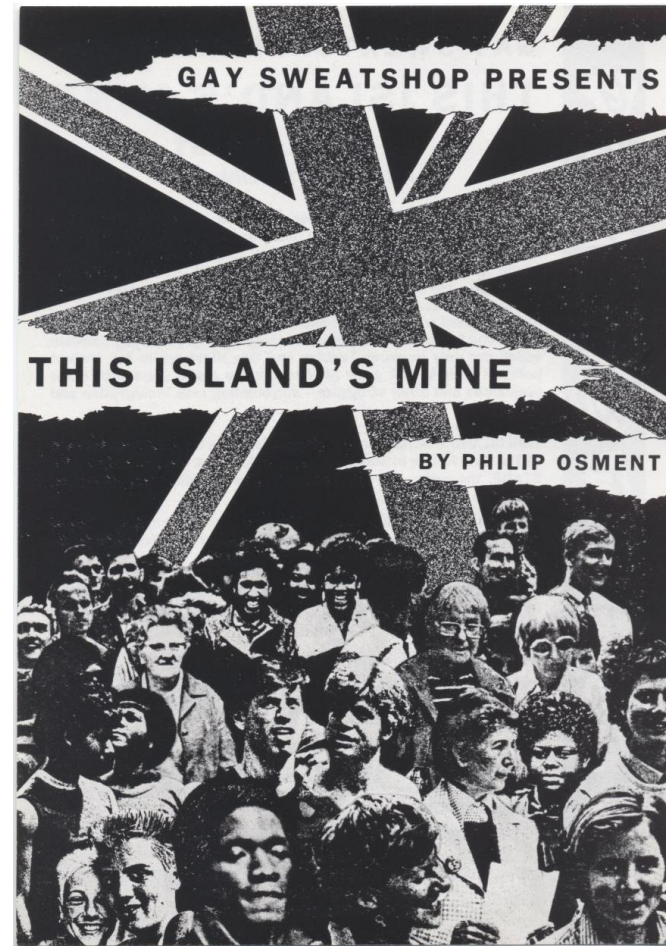


Bedford College Hockey XI 1922-1923 (Ref: BC PH 6/1/2/8)

Special Collections



Maud Allen, 1910
(Ref: RW 14/1/1/6/8)



Gay Sweatshop *This Island's Mine*
flyer (Ref: GS 3/20/1)

Rare books

Includes donations to Bedford College by students, staff and others:

- Publii Virgilii Maronis Mantuani opera, 1502 (ref: 873.01 VER)
- Shakespeare Second Folio, 1632 (Ref: 824 L Folio)
- Charles Dickens *Little Dorritt* serial version, 1857 (Ref: 827 DIC)
- Edward Topsell, *History of Four-footed Beasts and Serpents*, 1658 (ref: 591 TOP)
- Christiana Herringham, *India and Burma: Photographs* (Ref: 915.4 IND Folio)



The image features a repeating orange geometric pattern on a dark blue background. The pattern consists of interlocking diamond shapes, each containing a stylized four-pointed star or floral motif. The text is centered in the dark blue band.

How do we use the Bedford College archive?

Teaching

Archive sessions embedded in modules in subjects such:

- History
- English
- Languages
- Geography
- Performance and Digital Arts

Volunteering opportunities available offering training and skills necessary for heritage careers



Research

- Both internal and external
- MRes student researching the attendance of governors to meetings at female colleges inc. Bedford and RHC
- School of Business and Management – interest in past organisation, using BC and RHC as examples
- Possible research project looking at arrangement of collections and cataloguing



Doctoral placement student exhibition



Digital exhibition



Promotion and engagement

- Exhibitions
- Social media content
- Blogs – some written by volunteers
- Newsletter articles
- Student Union events
- Loans
- Wider civic engagement activity, such as:
 - Heritage Open Day
 - School group visits



Further work on the Bedford College Archive

- Catalogue more recent material and individual deposits
- Collect further material on BC
- Digitisation
- Continue EJR transcription project
- Collect oral history testimony
- Explore BC collection and develop future research proposals around it
- Preservation and conservation



The archive is open for visitors

- Open for individual appointments (Tues & Thurs 10-4)
- Students, staff and external researchers
- To make an appointment email archives@rhul.ac.uk



Accessing the Archives and Rare Books

www.royalholloway.ac.uk/archives

archives@rhul.ac.uk

01784 443814



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