

Guide to the Lois Fosbaugh papers, circa 1870-2003

Summary Information

Collection No.:	MS 2025-112
Title:	Lois Fosbaugh papers
Inclusive Dates:	circa 1870-2003; predominant circa 1870-1952
Author:	Nancy Martin
Repository:	Peters Township Public Library 616 East McMurray Road McMurray, PA 15317
Creator:	Lois Houston Fosbaugh
Extent:	1 linear foot
Language of materials:	All materials are in English.
Abstract:	Records consist of the family photograph album of Peters Township resident Sarah Jane May Walker, elementary and Peters Township High School photographs from the 1940s and early 1950s, and assorted textual documents relating to activities at Peters Township High School.

Biography/History

Lois Mae Houston was born in Peters Township in 1933 and lived in the township almost all her life. Lois attended elementary school at the McMurray School and graduated from Peters Township High School in 1951. She married her high school sweetheart Ray Fosbaugh (1933-2020) in 1955 and together they had two daughters, Laurel and Carin.

Collection Scope and Content Note

Records consist of a photograph album documenting four generations of the family of Peters Township resident Sarah Jane “Jennie” May Walker (1852-1925), the contents of which date from circa 1870-circa 1920. Records also include photographs of students at the Wright School, circa 1915 and at the McMurray School during the 1940s. A program from the dedication of the new Peters Township High School in 1930, a program from a 1944 honor roll service at the high school, yearbook and class photos taken at Peters Township High School between 1949 and 1952, newspaper clippings relating to PTHS graduates and the 1951 prom queen, two 1951 issues of the PTHS student newspaper, the *Shawnee*, and a 2003 PTHS Alumni Directory of students who graduated between 1926 and 1952 are also included.

Arrangement

The papers are arranged in 4 series:

- Series I. Sarah Jane May Walker family photograph album, circa 1870-circa 1920
- Series II. Elementary school photographs, circa 1915-1940s
- Series III. Peters Township High School yearbook and class photographs, 1949-1952
- Series IV. Peters Township High School papers, 1930-2003

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions:

The original newspaper articles from the 1950s are fragile and have been photocopied. Please use the photocopies rather than the originals.

Acquisition Information:

Gift of Lois Fosbaugh, April 2025.

Custodial History:

James “Jimmie” Orr gave two McMurray School photographs in which he appears to Lois who then donated them to the Archives. Malinda “Jane” Walker Wolf, the granddaughter of Sarah Jane Walker gave her grandmother’s photograph album to Lois’s father Robert who passed it on to Lois.

Accruals note:

No further accruals are expected.

Preferred Citation:

Peters Township Public Library, MS 2025-112 Lois Fosbaugh papers

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Nancy Martin in May 2025. In the absence of a usable original order, the archivist imposed the arrangement of the papers during processing.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

Copyright restrictions may apply. For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact Peters Township Public Library.

Rights Statement for this Archival Description:

Except where otherwise noted, the guide to the Lois Fosbaugh papers by the Peters Township Public Library Archives is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0)

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

Contents List

Series I.	Sarah Jane May Walker family photograph album, circa 1870-circa 1920
------------------	---

Series Extent: 1 album

Series Biography/History: Sarah Jane May, known as “Jennie”, (1852-1925) was the eldest of six children born to Malinda (1832-1894) and David May (1812-1887). Her siblings were David “Alexander”, (born 1853), Samuel (born 1857), John (born 1859), Kate (born 1864), and Minnie (born 1865). The May family was raised in Peters Township, PA.

In 1874, Sarah Jane married David Moore Walker (1845-1899). In 1882, the couple had a daughter they named Malinda K. Walker. Malinda had a daughter of her own in 1904 and named her Malinda Jane Walker. She went by “Jane”.

Series Scope and Content Note: Series consists of a large velvet-covered photograph album containing photographs of four generations of the Sarah Jane May Walker family dating from around 1870 until around 1920.

The album includes images of Sarah Jane’s mother, her siblings and nephew, her husband David, his aunts, and Sarah Jane and David’s daughter and granddaughter.

The album includes both tintypes and paper studio cards. The majority of photographs in the album are formal studio portraits and many of the people who appear in the photographs are identified. A calling card, a greeting card and some loose photographs that were located in the back of the album are also included in the series.

Note: An item list of the names of those who appear in the photographs has been created. Please ask the Archivist to see a copy of the list.

Box 1	Sarah Jane May Walker family photograph album
--------------	---

Series II. Elementary school photographs, circa 1915-1940s

Series Extent: 1 folder

Series Scope and Content Note: Series consists of class photographs of elementary school students taken at the Wright School, circa 1915 and at the McMurray School in the 1940s. Identifying information for each photograph can be found on the back of each photograph.

Box 2	
Folder 1	Elementary school photographs

Series III. Peters Township High School yearbook and class photographs, 1949-1952

Series Extent: 1 folder

Series Scope and Content Note: Series consists of photographs taken for the 1951 Peters Township (PTHS) yearbook, the *Ember*, in which Lois Houston appears, as well as Lois's junior class photograph from 1949-1950, and a composite photo of PTHS's 1952 senior class in which Lois's future husband, Ray Fosbaugh appears. Identifying information for each photograph appears on the back of each photograph.

Box 2	
Folder 2	Peters Township High School yearbook and class photographs

Series IV. Peters Township High School papers, 1930-2003

Series Extent: 1 folder

Series Scope and Content Note: Series consists of textual documents accumulated by Lois Fosbaugh relating to Peters Township High School. Documents include a program from the dedication of the new Peters Township High School in 1930, a program from a 1944 honor roll service at the high school, newspaper clippings relating to PTHS graduates and Lois’s crowning as PTHS prom queen in 1951, two 1951 issues of the PTHS student newspaper, the *Shawnee*, and a 2003 PTHS Alumni Directory of students who graduated between 1926 and 1952.

Box 2	
Folder 3	Peters Township High School papers