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FORT HILL WOMAN'S CLUB PAPERS

The collection of the Fort Hill Woman's Club, of Lynchburg, Virginia, includes yearbooks, treasurer's books, a history of the Club, including the deed to Fort Early, minutes, correspondence and reports.

FOLDER 1 Constitution, Minutes (1942-1948)

FOLDER 2 Constitution, List of Presidents

FOLDER 3 History, Organization, Deed

FOLDER 4 Treasurer's Books (1936-1947)

FOLDER 5 Reports and Correspondence

FOLDER 6 Yearbooks (1949-1964)

FOLDER 7 Newspaper clippings

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FORT HILL WOMAN'S CLUB

The Fort Hill Woman's Club, in Lynchburg, Virginia, was organized 21 February 1912 in the home of Mrs. H. T. NICHOLAS, first President of the Club. The original purpose of the Club was to provide a social organization for the women of the Fort Hill section of Lynchburg. The members adopted as a motto a quotation from Isaiah 41:6, "And they helped everyone their neighbor and each one said to his brother, 'Be of good courage.'" The first philanthropic work undertaken by the Club was to provide aid for the county demonstration work.

In 1920, the Fort Hill Woman's Club, in cooperation with Old Dominion Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, set about to build a clubhouse in the Confederate fort known as Fort Early. The building, designed by architect Stanhope S. Johnson, was completed in 1923 through the efforts of the membership. Jones Memorial Library assisted with the financing of the construction of the south wing and established the Fort Hill branch of the Library. The first meeting of the Fort Hill Woman's Club in its new clubhouse was held on 10 October 1923.

In 1928, the property of the Fort Hill Club, "consisting of nearly 100 acres of land and other effects, with the exception of the club building," was deeded to the City of Lynchburg for a Confederate memorial. Under the terms of the agreement, the building was to remain the property of the Fort Hill Woman's Club and the Old Dominion Chapter, U.D.C. Should the two organizations agree to discontinue use of the building, it would become the property of the City.

The Fort Hill branch of Jones Memorial Library, housed in the clubhouse, was discontinued in the 1950's. As of this writing, the Club retains ownership of the clubhouse building.

[Fort Hill Woman's Club Papers, Mss., MS1110, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA; *Lynchburg News*, 11 October 1923, p. 9 col. 5.]