

## Commemorating Women's History Month at Penn

By 1930, the women at the University of Pennsylvania were competing in an ever-growing variety of sports, coached by a growing staff of instructors: basketball, fencing, hockey, riflery and swimming, as well as the minor sports of archery, baseball, horseback riding, tennis and track. In 1925, the women's tennis courts were replaced by Bennett Hall as the main building for Penn's College for Women, and on the third floor of this new building was a gymnasium for women.

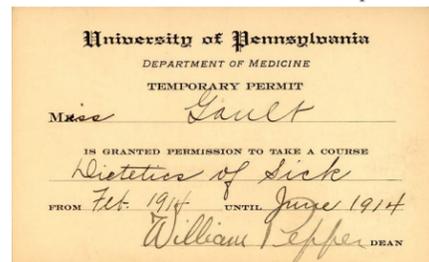
In 1952, some 203 years after Benjamin Franklin organized the first Trustees and 25 years after the Trustees were divided into three classes—Life, Term and Alumni Trustees—a woman was elected one of the Term Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1976, 100 years after women first enrolled in the College as “special students,” the University had become fully co-educational.

In 1983, the first Penn woman recipient of a Rhodes Scholarship was named.

In 1993, Claire Fagin was appointed to a one-year term as interim president and chief executive, the first woman to serve as Penn's chief executive.

Judith Seitz Rodin became the first Penn alumna, C'66, to serve as Penn's president, 1994-2004, and the first woman to serve as president of an Ivy League institution.



In 1914, the University of Pennsylvania's department of medicine granted Miss Gault permission to take a course, “Dietetics of Sickness,” from February-June 1914. This admission ticket for one of the first lectures for women was signed by Dean William Pepper, son of Penn's 11th Provost, (1881-1894) William Pepper.

Five women students in togas in front of the stainless steel Peace Symbol sculpture at Van Pelt-Dietrich Library, on March 17, 1970, during a Penn student protest promoting the Women's Liberation Movement.



Women's archery practice session in 1938; Virginia Wingert removing arrows from target.



Betty Funston, BFA in education, 1931, captain of the University of Pennsylvania's Freshman Girl Sharpshooters, a.k.a. the Rifle Team, 1927-1928, practicing before a match.



Girls diving into swimming pool, appeared as cover of the sports section of the 1951 *Women's Record* (the Penn women's yearbook).

Women and coaches on the Schuylkill River, with the Philadelphia Museum of Art in the background, in 1935 on the first day women were allowed to row.



Women fencers at an Eastern Pennsylvania Division Tournament, in Bennett Hall in April 1928.



See the University of Pennsylvania Archives (<http://www.archives.upenn.edu/>) for more history, including *Women at Penn: Timeline of Pioneers and Achievements*, *Distinguished Early Graduates*, *Faculty and Benefactors*, *Women's Athletics at Penn*, *Quotations from Women at Penn* and *Women's Oral History Project*.

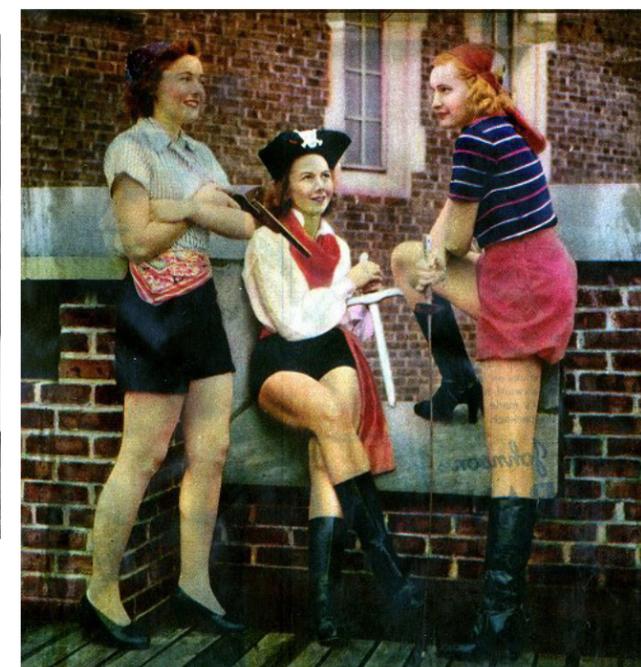


Ivy Day, May 9, 1942, planting ceremonies, senior class women at Bennett Hall Triangle (left to right): Betty Bennett, Helen Morris, Marjorie Dackerman, Mildred Campbell, Doris H. Stevens (class president), Barbara Wischan (retiring president of Women's Student Government Association), Doris Favor, Patricia Selig and Dorothy Worthington.



Penn Relays, April 1980, high school competitors running on Franklin Field as part of the women's relay portion of the annual competition.

Women students having imprints made of their feet, on February 17, 1927, in Bennett Hall gymnasium as part of physical education, “In order that defects may be detected and corrected.”



Ready for the Pirate's Ball, Penn women in pirate costumes, November 5, 1939 (left to right): Beverly Coffman, M. Bernice Leftwich and Elizabeth Simmons Hill.

Women's bowling team, March 29, 1945, (left to right): Catherine Eni, Emily Cerceo, Virginia Hertweck, Jane Miller and Nancy Winfrey.



Frances Bilas and Elizabeth Jennings, two of the women programmers, in front of the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (known as ENIAC) circa 1946. ENIAC was developed at Penn's Moore School, 1943-1945.

