

# WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts

## ARCHIVES

Marion Torrey  
Collection

1997.142

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.  
October 2001

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### **Collection Information**

Abstract : Marion Torrey was a Worcester native, one of the first students at Bancroft School

and graduate of Vassar College. For thirty years she owned and operated a private school for retarded children. Miss Torrey died in 1995 at the age of 103.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Linwood Erskine in 1997, and of Louise Erskine in August 2001.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsh, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Torrey, Marion, 1892-1995.

Torrey, Belle.

Torrey, Marion, 1892-1995 – Diaries.

Teachers of handicapped children – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Diaries. lcsh

### **Historical/Biographical Notes**

Marion Torrey was born in Worcester in 1892, daughter of Lewis and Belle Torrey, and lived in the city for her entire life. She was one of the first students to attend Bancroft School when it opened in 1902. She was a graduate of Vassar College. During World War I Miss Torrey was an occupational therapist at the Red Cross hospital at Fort Dix, N.J. She owned and operated a private school for retarded children from the early 1930s until 1963, when responsibility for educating retarded children was assumed by the Worcester School Department. Marion Torrey died in 1995 at the age of 103.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection includes diaries written by Marion Torrey between 1897 and 1993, a photograph of an unidentified woman (possibly Marion Torrey), a pamphlet comprising short stories written by Marion Torrey, a Christmas card (ca. 1980s), pamphlets relating to yarns and weaving, and a pledge for a church donation, signed by Belle Torrey, mother of Marion Torrey.

### **Series Descriptions**

Series 1: Diaries. (59 items)

Series 2: Photographs. (1 item)

Series 3: Pamphlets. (6 item)

Series 4: Ephemera. (2 items)

Marion Torrey Collection  
1997.142

Series 1, Diaries

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1997.142.1.1	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1907. (Probably while a student at Bancroft School)
1	BV	1997.142.1.2-.3	Diary of Marion Torrey, ca. 1910-1915. (Apparently while a student at Vassar College.) 2 items.
1	2	1997.142.1.4	Diary of Marion Torrey, ca. 1946-1947.
1	BV	1997.142.1.5	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1953.
1	BV	1997.142.1.6	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1963.
1	3	1997.142.1.7	Diary of Marion Torrey, January-February 1979; with letter (draft) to "Miss Fitman" inserted.
1	4	1997.142.1.8	Diary of Marion Torrey, December 1992 – June 1993.
1	5	1997.142.1.9	Diary of Marion Torrey, August-November 1993. (Final entries written by nurses.)
1	BV	1997.142.1.10	Diary of Belle Torrey (Marion's mother), 1896-1899.
1	BV	1997.142.1.11	Diary of Catharine C. Clarke, 1916-1919.
2	9	1997.142.1.12	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1926. (loose pages)
2	10	1997.142.1.13	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1927.
2	11	1997.142.1.14	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1932.
2	12	1997.142.1.15	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1933.
2	13	1997.142.1.16	Diary, unknown author, 1933.

Series 1, continued

2	13	1997.142.1.17	Diary of Marion Torrey, 1936.
2	14	1997.142.1.18	Diary, unknown author, 1937.

2	15	1997.142.1.19 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1937.
2	16	1997.142.1.20 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1938.
2	17	1997.142.1.21 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1939.
2	18	1997.142.1.22 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1940.
2	19	1997.142.1.23 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1941.
2	20	1997.142.1.24 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1942. (pages loose)
2	BV	1997.142.1.25 Five-year diary of Marion Torrey, 1943-1947.
2	BV	1997.142.1.26 Five-year diary of Marion Torrey, 1953-1957.
2	BV	1997.142.1.27 Diary of Francis Torrey, 1955.
2	BV	1997.142.1.28 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1958.
3	BV	1997.142.1.29 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1960.
3	BV	1997.142.1.30 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1961.
3	BV	1997.142.1.31 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1962.
3	BV	1997.142.1.32 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1964.
3	BV	1997.142.1.33 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1965.
3	BV	1997.142.1.34 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1967.
3	BV	1997.142.1.35 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1968.
3	BV	1997.142.1.36 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1969.
3	BV	1997.142.1.37 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1970. Series 1, continued
3	BV	1997.142.1.38 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1971.
3	BV	1997.142.1.39 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1972.
3	BV	1997.142.1.40 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1973.

- 3 BV 1997.142.1.41 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1974.
- 4 BV 1997.142.1.42 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1975.
- 4 21 1997.142.1.43 Diary of Marion Torrey, January 1976-September 30, 1976.
- 4 BV 1997.142.1.44 Diary of Marion Torrey, 1977.
- 4 22 1997.142.1.45 Diary of Marion Torrey, January - July 1978.
- 4 23 1997.142.1.46 Diary of Marion Torrey, July - December 1978.
- 4 24 1997.142.1.47 Diary of Marion Torrey, February 18 to November 24, 1979.
- 4 25 1997.142.1.48 Diary of Marion Torrey, November 24, 1979 to September 7, 1980.
- 4 26 1997.142.1.49 Diary of Marion Torrey, September 8, 1980 to July 13, 1981.
- 4 27 1997.142.1.50 Diary of Marion Torrey, July 15, 1981 to June 7, 1982.
- 4 28 1997.142.1.51 Diary of Marion Torrey, June 7, 1982 to April 8, 1983.
- 4 29 1997.142.1.52 Diary of Marion Torrey, April 9, 1983 to February 8, 1984.
- 4 30 1997.142.1.53 Diary of Marion Torrey, February 9, 1984 to October 30, 1984.

Series 1, continued

- 5 31 1997.142.1.54 Diary of Marion Torrey, November 1, 1984 to August 24, 1985.
- 5 32 1997.142.1.55 Diary of Marion Torrey, January 14, 1986 to October 29, 1986.
- 5 33 1997.142.1.56 Diary of Marion Torrey, October 1, 1990 to July 27, 1991.
- 5 34 1997.142.1.57 Diary of Marion Torrey, August 1, 1991 to May 30, 1992.
- 5 35 1997.142.1.58 Diary of Marion Torrey, June 1, 1992 to November 30,

1992.

5      BV            1997.142.1.59 Five-year diary, undated, author unknown.



Marion Torrey Collection  
1997.142  
Series 2, Photographs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	6	1997.142.2.1	Unidentified young woman : silver gelatin print, 5 x 7 in. / S.l., s.n., ca. 1915. (Possibly Marion Torrey)

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Marion Torrey Collection  
1997.142  
Series 3, Pamphlets

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	7	1997.142.3.1	<i>We are people too!</i> / Marion Torrey, 1983. (Several short stories about cats written for children.)
5	36	1997.142.3.2-.6	Pamphlets relating to weaving, yarns, embroidery, etc., including catalogs, patterns, directions, etc. (5 items)

Marion Torrey Collection  
1997.142  
Series 4, Ephemera

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	8	1997.142.4.1	Church pledge signed by Belle M. Torrey, January 25, 1898, with record of payment on reverse.
1	8	1997.142.4.2	Hand-drawn Christmas card, from Marion to Katherine (Erskine?), ca. 1983.