

Guide to MS-267:
Alpha Tau Omega (ATΩ) Collection



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections and College Archives

Victoria Ramsay, Class of 2023, and Pohanka intern
June 2021

MS-267: Alpha Tau Omega (ATΩ) Collection

Processed by Victoria Ramsay, Class of 2023, Pohanka intern

June 2021

Size

2 of boxes, 1 1/3 cubic feet

Location

Special Collections

Dates

Inclusive: 1910 - 1993

Bulk: 1920 - 1950

Provenance

The collection of ATO artifacts was removed from MS-265: The Zinn Family Collection, donated in October 2019 by Joanne Lewis, a member of the Zinn family—all Gettysburg alums.

Historical Note

Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) was founded on September 11, 1865, being the first college fraternity organized after the Civil War, but was not established at Gettysburg College until 1882. The fraternity continues to function on campus under the Pennsylvania Alpha Upsilon chapter.¹ Dr. John B. Zinn, Gettysburg Class of 1909 and chemistry professor, was the treasurer of the chapter in the 1930s and 1940s, providing the majority of the files in the collection as he led the remodeling of the ATO fraternity house.

Scope and Content Note

The collection covers the financial and recreational dealings of the Pennsylvania Alpha Upsilon chapter of Alpha Tau Omega, including their treasurer John B. Zinn's correspondence with various businesses, blueprints, and monetary records as the ATO house was remodeled following the fire which destroyed it in 1914. Along with these documents are publications by ATO brothers and mentions of the chapter in local newspapers, ATO handbooks and songbooks from the early 1900s, and pictures of the ATO house and former brothers across the years.

Series Description

This collection is divided into four Series. **Series 1:** ATO Finances, **Series 2:** ATO History, **Series 3:** ATO Recreation, **Series 4:** Treasurer's Files.

¹ Samuel Hefelbower. *The History of Gettysburg College*. York, PA: Maple Press Company, 1932, 380-2.

Subjects

Alpha Tau Omega—ATO—fraternity—Gettysburg College—Zinn—college songs—campus publications—
Gettysburg local businesses

Box List

Box 1

Series 1

- 1-0 Finding Aid and Research Materials [general title for initial folder of each collection – folder 0.]
- 1-1 ATO Finances 1929
- 1-2 ATO Finances 1939-40
- 1-3 ATO Finances 1940-42
- 1-4 ATO Finances 1945-50

-Ledger

-Gettysburg National Bank Book

Series 2

- 1-5 Meeting Notes 1939-40
- 1-6 ATO House
- 1-7 Photographs
- 1-8 ATO Handbooks

Series 3

- 1-9 ATO Songbooks
- 1-10 ATO Events
- 1-11 ATO Publications
- 1-12 ATO Misc.

Box 2

Series 4

- 2-1 Treasurer's Files – A-B
- 2-2 Treasurer's Files – C-F
- 2-3 Treasurer's Files – G
- 2-4 Treasurer's Files – H-L
- 2-5 Treasurer's Files – M-P
- 2-6 Treasurer's Files – R
- 2-7 Treasurer's Files – S-Z

Sources

Hefelbower, Samuel. *The History of Gettysburg College*. York, PA: Maple Press Company.

Related Collections

Zinn Family Collection

Additional Information

<https://engage.gettysburg.edu/ato/home/>

<https://andrewdalton2019.archive.sites.gettysburg.edu/buildinghistory/items/show/43>

Contact Information

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