



Bryn Mawr College was founded by Joseph Wright Taylor, a Quaker physician from Burlington, New Jersey. He chose the site, a hill on the Main Line eleven miles west of Philadelphia, and under his supervision two buildings were begun. Designed by Addison Hutton, one was for classes and administrative offices and one a residence hall. Taylor died in 1880, endowing the College in his will: "I have been impressed with the need of such a place for the advanced education of our young female Friends, and to have all the advantages of a College education which are so freely offered to young men."



James E. Rhoads, first president of Bryn Mawr and a member of the Society of Friends with wide-ranging concerns, was one of the trustees responsible for the original planning for the College.

Philips Photographers



The College opened September 23, 1885. After the opening ceremonies, students and some of their professors were photographed on the side steps of Taylor Hall by George Vaux, distinguished Quaker lawyer, mineralogist, photographer, and friend of the College.

George Vaux

Jessie Redmon Fauset (BMC 1901 -) — Cornell '04



Enid Cook (The first Black student to graduate from Bryn

Mawr) — '31



Sister Alfred Marie Russell '34

with Pres. Harris Wofford at the 1975 Black Alum. Reunion.



Gloria Millicent White (The first residential Black undergraduate)— ‘48



Evelyn Jones Rich '54



Perry House – circa 1972

Undergraduate Residence and Black Cultural Center



2015 - Enid Cook Center Honors Bryn Mawr's First African American Residential Undergraduate



Mzimeli Moikemisetsi Morris - 2008

“The goal of this institution is to challenge women intellectually and socially. It is Bryn Mawr’s responsibility to provide access to an education that is progressive; that not only gets us in the room together . . . But also helps us interact and learn from one another. Bryn Mawr is definitely a work in progress and I feel that with more involvement among students, faculty, staff, and administrators, Bryn Mawr can meet its potential as a truly diverse institution.”

RESOURCES:

- *A Point of Difference: Diversity at Bryn Mawr College*. Lauren Footman '14 and Alexis De La Rosa '15.
<http://greenfield.brynmawr.edu/exhibits/show/a-point-of-difference/diversity>
- *Black at Bryn Mawr Walking Tour* – a collaborative public history project designed by Bryn Mawr College students Emma Kioko '15 and Grace Pusey '15, guided and supported by Dr. Monica Mercado and Dr. Sharon Ullman
<https://tourbuilder.withgoogle.com/builder#play/ahJzfmnd3ZWltdG91cmJ1aWxkZXJyEQsSBFRvdXIYgICA3L6t-AgM>

RESOURCES:

- *In black & white: The history of African-American women at Bryn Mawr traces a journey from exclusion to a celebration of diversity*, by Florence Goff. Bryn Mawr Alumnae Bulletin: August 2015, v. 97, no.1
- *Black at Bryn Mawr* (a blog supported by Dr. Monica L. Mercado, Director of The Albert M. Greenfield Digital Center for the History of Women's Education)
<http://blackatbrynmawr.blogs.brynmawr.edu>

RESOURCES

- The Albert M. Greenfield Digital Center for the HISTORY of WOMEN'S EDUCATION. <http://greenfield.brynmawr.edu>

A brief history of *The Summer School for Women Workers.*