

A black student from New England entered Bryn Mawr and stayed only one week. At the time of the Reunion of Black Alumnae in 1975 it was reported that she had requested that her name not appear on lists of alumnae.

1927

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting for April 27, 1927 record that: "It was voted to authorize the President to reply to inquiries that colored students will be admitted to the College only as non-residential students."

The first black student who would graduate from Bryn Mawr, Enid Cook A.B. 1931, entered and lived at the home of Dr. Cadbury her first year. After that she lived with black families in the village of Bryn Mawr.

1930

The second black student who would graduate from Bryn Mawr entered, Lillian Russell, A.B. 1934. Boston area alumnae first tried to discourage her choice of Bryn Mawr because they felt it was not "the best place for a coloured girl..." not "the happiest place for her to be for her own sake." When she still wanted to go, they gave her an Alumnae Regional Scholarship but were unsuccessful in having the residency restriction waved. She spent her first weeks living with President Park and after that lived with black families in Bryn Mawr. She majored in Chemistry and Philosophy and went on to earn an M.A. in Organic Chemistry at Howard University.

1931

In the January Alumnae Bulletin Helen Bell of the Class of 1931 wrote a column called the "Undergraduate Point of View." She reported that "the College has put to the students the question of whether or not this is the time for the negro students to become residents of the halls. At College Council, all who spoke seemed to approve the change. However, the Council is not representative of the actual feeling of the college on this subject and it is a matter which needs more general discussion among students before any action may be taken."

Two "open letters" were printed in the April Alumnae Bulletin, one from a 1922 alumna saying that she understands that "the question of taking colored students into the dormitories has arisen" and expressing her vigorous opposition. She writes that her stance is not based on "blind prejudice against the colored race" and that she feels that "we have shirked, so far, in dealing squarely with the negro problem in America. It is something that