

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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Peggy Wooden[?]

[Photo Album]: African-American Woman's College Years and Employment at a New York Settlement House for Colored People

New York: 1912-1915

\$7500

Oblong octavo. Flexible gray-green burlap boards. Spine lacking, remnants of an embossed paper seal on front board, very good. The album contains 136 gelatin silver photographs of various sizes ranging from a few tiny gem sized images, with most ranging between 3½" x 2¼" and 4½" x 3". Several are briefly captioned in pencil; many are dated. The photographs document the early adult life of an African-American woman (whose name seems to be Peggy Wooden, from textual evidence) who lived in New York.



The woman appears to have served as a governess, while probably simultaneously attending and graduating from Hunter College, and then working as a social worker at Lincoln House, the Colored People's Branch of the Henry Street Settlement. The album contains photos of the woman, her father, and, presumably, her siblings. It also contains a number of photographs of a young white girl named Annie, her family, and their summer experiences on Great Lakes excursions and camping at Camp Joyland, Victor Herbert's summer home on Lake Placid. Other photographs show the woman and her white classmates at Hunter College (where she is invariably the only African-American), and other locations in Manhattan and New York. There are seven group photographs from 1915 and 1916 of a number of African-American children served by the Lincoln House whom she refers to as "My Kids" and "My Class. Near the end are several of her family, including a couple of a toddler captioned "My boy."

The Settlement Movement began in the late 1880s as young middle-class reformers 'settled' in cooperatives, often large buildings, in urban slums in the hope that they could 'improve' their lowly paid and poorly educated neighbors by sharing their knowledge and cultural values. The houses provided child care, kindergarten, supervised playgrounds, and classes in art, crafts, and music. Many operated in close collaboration with trade unions and ethnic organizations.

In any event a fascinating album documenting the experience of a young and educated African-American woman in New York City. [BTC#402269](#)



Apr 1913



SUMMER 1912



1913



1 2
Aug. 1912





1914

1914



1914



Lincoln House Same

1915



Went

Apr. 1913



Central Park - near Glorik House

First Days

1913



Y. W. C. A. Branch 1915



Prayers for Jobs Jan. 1916



Alad 1915-



Marie 1916



1915



N. O. B. S. 1914

Hubert



1914