

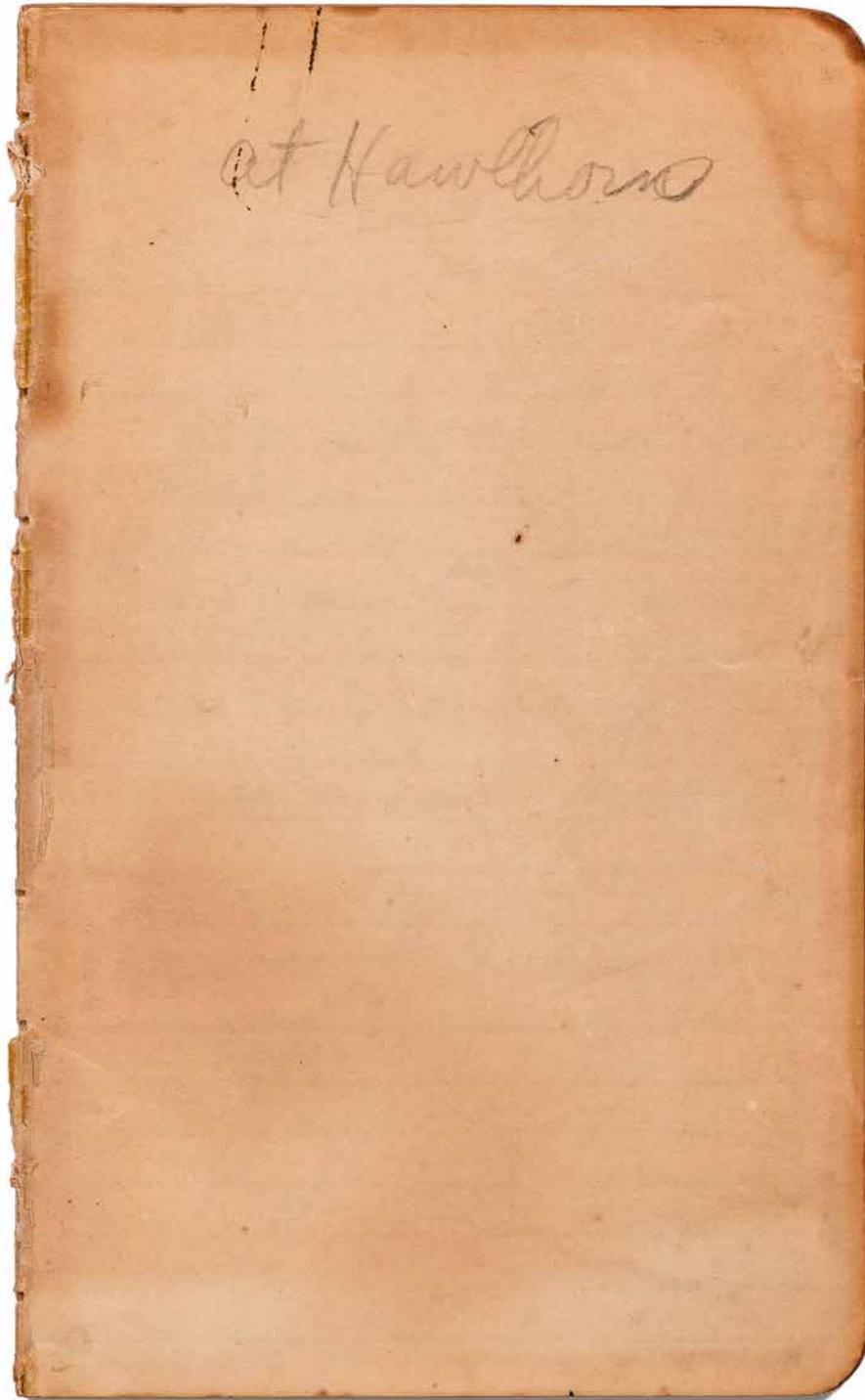


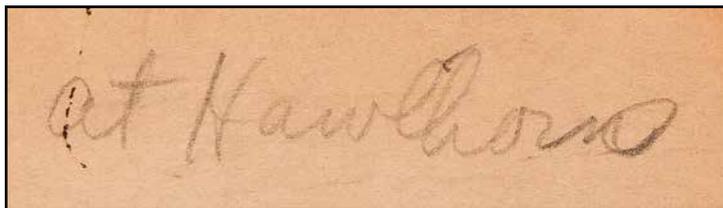
Author Unidentified

[Diary]: Woman Teacher Working at the Hawthorne New York Jewish Reform School for Boys

New York: 1909

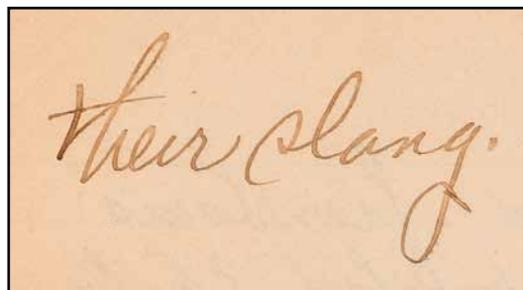
\$1200





Small notebook used as a diary measuring 4" x 6½". Written on 26 pages with a title handwritten in pencil on the endpaper which reads, "At Hawthorne." Disbound and lacking the boards, toning and thus good only.

A diary kept by a woman who was teaching at The Hawthorne, Jewish Reform School for Boys. The entries are dated January 18 through October 28, 1909. Although the writer is not identified, there is evidence that she was related to Louis Roth, who was a member of the New York Public Service Commission. Many of her entries discuss her issues with the school from disputes with male administrators to health problems of her students. An entry dated January 20th reads, "went home disgusted accomplished nothing..." Another from later in January reads, "hygiene problem at the school is very bad. Diseased boys allowed to continue to stay." Other subjects that come up are women's roles and the suffrage movement. In one entry she writes, "...couldn't sleep. One thing went through my head. Must a woman sacrifice everything for the man she loves without receiving anything in return. Decided to go back to college as soon as Bertha [her daughter] graduates." Another entry reads, "read on woman suffrage. Went to bed deciding that in spite of loving, one need not marry. There are many fields for women and with some training in any particular field I feel I could make a success." She talks about giving her boys a "good heart to heart talk" and trying to help "break them of their slang." She also writes about the school as a façade saying, "people come and look around and of course the place is beautiful in itself and these people are so deceived."



According to the Jewish Women's Archive, the Hawthorne School was a "Jewish reformatory for boys that opened in May 1906 in Hawthorne, New York. The school, one of the first such institutions in the country, was built on the "cottage," or group living plan and was widely acclaimed for its emphasis on rehabilitation, rather than punishment, in the treatment of troubled youngsters." Historian Albert Fried writes, "The Jewish Protectors and Aid Society, an uptown-sponsored philanthropy, was launched in 1902 and opened the Hawthorne School in Westchester County...its six cottages held nearly two hundred boys, all of them sent there by New York Children's Court for an indefinite term – until, that is, the School decided to release them....In one year, three thousand Jewish youngsters appeared before Juvenile Court."

An interesting account of a turn-of-the-century female teacher working at a Jewish reform school for boys. [BTC#425414]

and tried to sleep it off but
couldn't.

March 9 Tuesday

Received letters from Louis
Mr Stern & Philip Weiner.

Went home from school
with a sick headache
the weather too bad to walk
went to bed. Couldn't sleep

One thing went through my
head - Must a woman
sacrifice everything for the
man she loves without receiving
anything in return. Decided
to go back to College as soon
as Bertha graduates. Had
a burning desire to specialize
in one thing. &

Wednesday March 10 109

Wrote to Louis. Went to
breakfast but did not get
any. Cook was angry. The
cook has her own way

Crisis.

Went to bed about 11 P M
Saturday March 13

Stayed at Hawthorne Sara
Giporkes came up took
a walk to Sherman Park
and caught cold suffered
from tonsillitis discussed
with Sara. Should an
ambitious woman marry?

Different types of men
and women and those that
will make each other
happy. What is happiness
but a state of mind.

Went to N of N on F 20 train
sorry to go because Sara
wanted to stay at Pierces
but weather would not
permit.

Went to Dr Friedhouse
Met Louis walked home
with him.

April 28/09

Gave my boy a good heart to heart talk they seemed to have been effected by it. On some of their faces I could read that they would try.

I wrote a letter this morning at 6.30 a.m

The water supply has been out of order for the last few days in this place, and as a result the sanitary conditions are rank;

Miss Savine had a quarrel with Mrs Faber & Miss Cohen on account

clean.

July 12th
Miss Samuels
and I had a talk
about the work and
found it absolutely
hollow on account of
having an effecient
head.

~~Cottages~~ ~~that~~ need
the ~~best~~ cottage fathers
have boys think of
the training these boys
get not any moral
go out in gangs hard
to break them of

Sept 23/09

A very foggy day but
cleared up in the afternoon
Visitors up here. A great
fuss was made, such
a fuss, the boys were
made to put on their
new suits and their
shoes were made to
march the band played
and they certainly did
show off. Oh what
a shame this place
is only for show
The people come and
look around and of
course the place is
beautiful in itself
and these people are
so deceived!

Oct 28 week of
^{nurses} Boy in my class
^{Lovey} took sick, Had very
high fever no one
went to see him the
nurse said she had
her duties of home
to attend to that is why
she did not go to see
The doctor was sent for
He came diagnosed the
case as tonsillitis the
boy has ~~W~~ B. Losses
blood @weats coughs
Nurse told Mr Klein
Mr Klein told nurse
The her knows better