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GILL, Lee Andrew

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The papers of Lee Andrew Gill, M.D. (1878-1981), medical doctor, civic, fraternal, and religious lay leader, document the life and times of a Howard University medical school alumnus whose life spanned more than 100 years. The papers date from ca. 1878 to 1981, and document the everyday struggles and triumphs of a much honored black physician during and after the period of segregation in the District of Columbia. Correspondence, writings, photographs, publications, and information on local churches and civic, social, fraternal, and medical groups are featured in the collection which totals two linear feet.

Some of the collection highlights are an 1837 diary of Eliza Armstrong and correspondence from then Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt (1901) and Edith Roosevelt, and Eleanor Roosevelt (1938). (Dr. Gill's mother cooked for the Theodore Roosevelts in the summertime.) Additionally, there is a small notebook filled with painstaking notes detailing Dr. Gill's treatments of his patients and their small payments (1911). Also found are medical school notebooks and examinations, and numerous handwritten talks given at churches and other venues on religious, moral, and medical topics.

Generous in his giving, Dr. Gill donated his medical and engineering skills as well as his money to a wide assortment of organizations. These included black churches, schools and other institutions, including both his alma maters of Hampton Institute and Howard University. Further emphasizing his wide ranging interests, the collection also contains programs, brochures, pamphlets and other written materials. The bulk of the collection was acquired from Dr. Gill's daughter, Mrs. Vivian Gill Lee Douglas in 1991. Other materials were added in 1998.
## Biographical Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1878 July 21</td>
<td>Born to F. James Gill and M. Millie (Norman) in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attended Stevens Elementary School, first black elementary school in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Entered Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute. Worked his way through as a janitor; played football and was a member of the Hampton Players.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Awarded diploma for the three-year trade course in engineering and steam fitting, with honors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Married Margery Rencher, who later died in 1931. Three children born from this union: Vivian Frances, Lee Douglas, Lee Rencher, and Sheffield Oliver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accepted position as wireman in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>Earned degree from Howard University medical school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Retired from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing after 44 years in the electrical department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Completed a postgraduate course at the George Washington medical school at age 78.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Retired from medical practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Died at age 103 of congestive heart failure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series Description

Series A  **Personal Papers**
Box 195-1 to Box 195-2
These papers include a notebook of patient to treatments and payments, notification of medical appointments, certificates, licenses and permits, academic records, and professional affiliation records. There is also a series of letters, spanning more than two decades, documenting his promotions from laborer to wireman at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, as well as financial records, an 1837 autograph book, and Howard University and Hampton school curricular materials, notes, and examinations.

Series B  **Correspondence**
Box 195-3
Includes White House correspondence as well as personal and professional letters, memoranda, and postal and greeting cards.

Series C  **Writings by Lee Andrew Gill**
Box 195-3
This series contains manuscripts, some handwritten, of talks given before various church, civic, and fraternal groups.

Series D  **Photographs**
Box 195-3
Included here are photographs of family and friends.

Series E  **Organizational and Institutional Affiliations**
Box 195-4
This series contains newsletters, programs, brochures, reports and other information about Dr. Gill's numerous affiliations.

Series F  **Printed Material and Oversize**
Box 195-4
Programs include a 1916 Fisk Jubilee Singers program, invitations to local events, and programs highlighting arts performances. Printed Materials dating from ca. 1898 include journals, newsletters, advertisements, brochures and booklets. Oversize items of Howard University Medical School notebooks, collards, photographs, and certificates.
## Container List

### Series A  
**Personal Papers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>195-1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|      | Biographical Articles Notebook of patient treatments, payments, 1911  
|      | Savings passbook, 1901 Miscellaneous tax, real estate, and other receipts  
|      | and financial records, permits, licenses, biographical materials, 1894 -  
|      | ca.1976 Letters of appointment and promotion, 1911-1925  
|      | 2      |
|      | Church, civic, and Hampton alumni and Howard University programs and  
|      | invitations, 1901-ca.1967 Medical association membership cards  
|      | Engineering drawings and notes Stationery  
|      | 3      |
|      | George Washington University Medical School Correspondence and Curricular  
|      | Materials, 1952-1955  
|      | 4      |
|      | Patient Records, 1910-1963  
|      | 5      |
|      | Handwritten Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute Notebook, 1899  
|      | 6      |
|      | Eliza Armstrong Autograph Book, 1837  
|      | 7      |
|      | Medical forms, prescription blanks  
|      | 8      |
|      | Clippings  
|      | 9      |
|      | "In Memoriam" Funeral Book for Dr. Lee A. Gill, 1981  
|      | 10     |
|      | Howard University Medical School Notes and Exams, ca.1905-1909  
|      | 11     |
|      | Howard University Medical School Notes and Exams, ca.1906-1907  

### Series B  
**Correspondence**

| 195-2| 6      |
|      | A-Z  
|      | Anderson, Charles E., 1931  
|      | Bannister, Ella E., 1966  
|      | Booker, Henry J., 1942  
|      | Brown, Walter R.  
|      | Conaway, Minnie T., to Minnie Butler, 1949  
|      | Davis, Edward P., 1918  
|      | Dillard, A. Fleet, 1945  
|      | Fisher, Irving, 1927  
|      | Fowler, W.C., M.D.1919, 1922  
|      | Fowler, W.C., M.D. 1923  
|      | Fraction, W.W., 1904  
|      | Gill, Sheffield to Mrs. Margery Gill, 1931  
|      | Gill, Lee, to Edward S. Copper, ca. 1971
Container List

**Series B**   **Correspondence** continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>195-2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Z</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Gill, Margery, n.d.
- Gill, Margery, 1912
- Gill, Lee A., to Vivian Gill, 1942
- To Gill from ? , postcard, 1900
- Hewitt, A.C., 1923
- Holland, Jerome H., 1968
- Holomon, Jacob Jr., 1975
- Johnson, Campbell, 1924
- Johnson, Mordecai W., 1958
- Knight, Alphonso W., 1982
- Martin, Franklin, 1918
- Montgomery, J.O., ca. 1982
- Moore, Jerry A., Rev., 1955
- Motley, Elder Mary Mae
- Moton, Robert R., 1933
- Porter, Winder L., M.D., 1967
- Peebles, Araminta, 1949, ca. 1954, and 1959
- Robb, Carter
- Tancil, A.W., 1909
- Scott, Emmett J., 1923.
- Simpson's Dairy, 1929
- Thomas, Wm. H., Rev., 1935
- Warfield, W.A., 1913
- Woodward, Wm. C., M.D., 1913

7  White House Correspondence

- Carter, President Jimmy, 1980
- Ford, President and Mrs. Gerald P. Ford, 1976
- Loeb (?), William, on behalf of Mrs. Roosevelt, 1901
- Roosevelt, Edith, 1894
- Roosevelt, Edith K., July 15, 19?
- Roosevelt, Theodore, 1901

8  Postcards/Greeting Cards An assortment of postcards and greeting cards, ca. 1929-1970

9  Postcards/An assortment of postcards, many to his mother Mrs. Millie Butler, and greeting cards, ca.1948-1951
Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series C</th>
<th>Writings by Lee Gill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 195-2</td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Talk to unidentified group at its fifty-first (anniversary?) handwritten, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Talk honoring Hampton Institute and its graduates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delivered in Washington, D.C. Handwritten, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Talk on the first anniversary of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of &quot;Toussants(?).&quot; Handwritten, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Talk to Pathfinders Club on its thirty-fifth anniversary includes list of deceased members, 1945.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Talk on the occasion of the cornerstone laying of Monrovia Baptist Church (Maryland?). Handwritten, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Church and Christians exert the best influence on youth,&quot; n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poem dedicated to Dr. Gill, Pathfinders president emeritus, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Notes on an envelope regarding marriage, ca. 1937.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Notebook with Bible lessons. Handwritten, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Untitled manuscript, handwritten on the Bible, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Influence of the Mother Upon the Child,&quot; n.d.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series D</th>
<th>Family Photographs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>195-3 1</td>
<td>Untitled manuscript, handwritten on the Bible, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Influence of the Mother Upon the Child,&quot; n.d.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 195-3 2 | Lee Gill at Hampton reunion, n.d. |
|  | Lee Gill, in uniform (?), n.d. |
|  | Lee Gill, n.d. |
|  | Vivian Gill Lee with Dr. Jonathan C. Gibbs, Sr. |
|  | Lee Gill at 101 years of age Mary Gill, n.d. |
|  | Children of Lee Gill's sister-in-law in Abington, Virginia, n.d. |
### Container List

#### Series D  **Family Photographs** continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 195-3 | | 2 Margery Emma Rencher Gill, n.d.  
| | | Lee Rencher Gill, son of Lee Gill at Stevens School, n.d.  
| | | Sheffield Gill, son of Lee Gill, ca. 19 years old.  
| | | Aretha Jones, a cousin in New York, n.d.  
| | | Margery Rencher Gill's niece by marriage at age 20, n.d.  
| | | Safronia May Harris, age 2. n.d.  
| | | Lee Gill, with Lee Rencher, Mrs. Pierre (widow of Dr. Pierre), and others, ca. 1960s  
| | | Lee Gill on board cruise ship, n.d.  
| | | Lee Gill, Howard University medical students and professor, ca. 1908  
| | 3 | Identified Photographs of Friends  
| | | Essie Jackson Rodriguez and children Gloria and Ray  
| | | Dr. Samuel Pierre and Howard University Medical school classmates, n.d.  
| | | Alexander (no last name), age 2 years and ?, n.d.  
| | | Samie and Mary Pierre, 1910  
| | | Charles Isham (?), 1901  
| | | "Billy" Baynes, n.d.  
| | | Frederick A. Mullen, n.d.  
| | | Dr. C.A.A. Gordon, n.d.  
| | 4 | Unidentified Women  
| | 5 | Unidentified Men  
| | 6 | Unidentified Infants and Children  
| | 7 | Unidentified Groups  
| | 8 | Washington, D.C. Buildings: Morse's Pharmacy (interior); and 2221 G Street, N.W.  
| | 9 | Hampton Institute

#### Series E  **Organizational and Institutional Affiliations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 195-3 | 10 | First Baptist Church (27th and Dunbarton Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. (1910-1917)  
| | | Miscellaneous programs  
| | | Prayer Meeting Topics, 1915  
| | | Letter from Rev. E.E. Ricks, First Baptist Church, to Dr. Gill, 1912  
| | 11 | Howard University (1907-1978)  
| | | Journals and programs include the Installation of Wilbur Patterson Thirkield, D.D., LL.D. as president of Howard University, 1907  
| | | Inaugural Address of Dr. W.P. Thirkield on "The Meaning of Mission of Education," 1907
Series E  Organizational and Institutional Affiliations
Box  Folder
195-3  12 Nineteenth Street Baptist Church (1946-1966)
       Publication: "Chronicle of the Selection, Election and Installation of
       Reverend Jerry A. Moore, 1946 Order of Service programs - January and
       November 1947, 1961, 1963, July and October 1966 Programs for special
       events, notices, dedicatory poem, color photograph of church
       Funeral program for Dr. Nannie Helen Burroughs, 1961
13 Howard University Medical Alumni Association (1962-1971)
       Publication. MedicAnnales, with supplement. May 1962
       Howard University Medical Alumni Association constitution, n.d.
       Office of Continuing Medical Education, 1971 Newsletter, July 1963
14 Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia
       Bulletin, rosters, schedule, programs, 1949-1968
15 National Medical Association (ca. 1950-1976)
       Certificate of Award to Dr. Gill, 1955
       Reprint of Journal of the National Medical Association article on Dr.
       Gill, 1976
       Articles, programs, bulletins, constitution and by-laws
16 Prince Hall Masons
       Certificate of Master Masonry for Dr. Gill, 1954
       Letter from the Right Worthy Grand Council appointing Dr. Gill a local
       medical examiner, 1929 Investigation Blank and Application for
       Membership By-Laws of Redemption Lodge No. 24 F. & A.M. of
       Washington, D.C., 1972
17 Washington Educational Touring Club
       Itinerary, 1947
       Membership card, 1949
       Program. Thirteenth Annual Reception, 1948

Series F  Printed Material and Oversize
195-4  1 Official Inaugural Program (William H. Taft), 1909
       Fisk Jubilee Singers at Metropolitan AME Church, 1916
       Various civic, social, fraternal, and religious programs
2  Programs (Performing Arts, ca.1966-1970)
       Theater, opera, musicals, symphony programs
3  Several addresses, including "The Colored American Working Man of the New
    Time," by Rev. A.D. Mayo, 1898. Also found are pamphlets, booklets,
    tracts, and an oral history of historic Stevens Elementary School,
    Washington, D.C., 1984, and other printed material
Container List

Series F  Printed Material and Oversize continued
Box        Folder
195-4      4 Engineering publications and notes, electrical drawings, newsletters, and an 1895 journal
           5 District of Columbia medical and surgical license (1909) and Virginia examining board certification for same (1922).
Elder Men's Immediate Relief Association report, 1902-1904
Elder Men's badges