

**Title:** Mathews, Stella S. Papers

**Call Number:** Mss-0898

**Inclusive Dates:** 1918 – 1950

**Bulk:** 1.4 cu. ft. total

**Location:** BV, Sh. 328 (1.0 cu. ft.)  
RC19, Sh. 004 (0.4 cu. ft.)  
OS SM “M” (1 item)

**Historical Note:** Stella Mathews was a nationally-renowned nurse. She was born in Albion, Illinois, in 1868 and graduated from Milwaukee’s Columbia Hospital School of Nursing in 1904. Among her post-graduation assignments was a four-year stint as superintendent of nurses at the Milwaukee Children’s Hospital. During World War I, she served as chief nurse for Base Hospital 22 in France. After the war, she worked with the Red Cross, coordinating relief work in Poland and Greece. From 1923 until her retirement in the 1930s, she worked in Hawaii. In 1939, the International Red Cross awarded Stella the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest award for nursing. After retirement, she settled in California and passed away in 1949.

**Scope and Content:** The records consist of reports, clippings, photos, and scrapbooks that detail her work with Base Hospital 22, her relief work in Poland and Greece, and her work in Hawaii.

**Administrative Note:** The collection was reprocessed on February 19, 2004 by Kevin Abing. Material was added to the collection on August 9, 2004 and processed by Kevin Abing.

**See Also:** Unpublished manuscript – biography

| Contents   | Box # | Folder # |
|--|-------|----------|
| Biographical Information   | 1     | 1        |
| American Red Cross, Commission to Poland, Monthly Reports, Dec. 1920 – May 1921            | 1     | 2        |
| American Red Cross, Commission to Poland, Monthly Reports, June – Nov. 1921                | 1     | 3        |
| American Red Cross, Commission to Poland, Monthly Reports, Dec. 1921 – May 1922            | 1     | 4        |
| American Red Cross, Commission to Poland, Quarterly/Annual Reports, June 1921 – April 1922 | 1     | 5        |
| Miscellaneous Material   | 1     | 6        |
| - 1917-1918 Report, Nursing Division, Base Hospital #22, A. E. F.                          |       |          |
| - 1919 letter to Miss Clara D. Noyes   |       |          |
| - 1923 address before nurses in Hawaii re: work in Poland & Greece                         |       |          |
| - Clippings  |       |          |
| - “A Unified Public Health Nursing Service in Honolulu,” by Stella Mathews                 |       |          |

|   |                 |       |
|---|-----------------|-------|
| - "Public Health Nursing in Honolulu," by Stella Mathews & Amy MacOwan  |                 |       |
| - "The Palama Settlement and Public Health Nursing in Honolulu," by Stella Mathews  |                 |       |
| Miscellaneous Photos  | 1               | 7     |
| #1: Bound Reports on Work in Poland, 1920-1922  | 1               | Loose |
| #2: Scrapbook re: Work in Hawaii (photos, clippings, reports, etc.), ca. 1927-1933  | 1               | Loose |
| #3: Scrapbook re: Florence Nightingale Award/Obituaries, 1939-1949  | 1               | Loose |
| #4: Photo Album: American Red Cross-Poland-Posen & Warsaw Schools of Nursing, ca. 1920-1922                                   | 1               | Loose |
| #5: Photo Album: American Red Cross, Health Centers & Welfare Work in Various Cities of Poland, 1920-1921                     | 1               | Loose |
| #6: Scrapbook: Newspaper Clippings re: Stella Mathews, 1922-1950  | 1               | Loose |
| #7: Scrapbook: U.S. Army Service Record-Chief Nurse, Base Hospital No.22 (and Red Cross Work in Poland and Greece), 1918-1923 | RC19, SHELF 4   |       |
| #8: Scrapbook: Government Citations/Letters from Army Officers & Red Cross Officials, 1919-1939                               | RC19, SHELF 4   |       |
| <b>Oversize Items</b>   | <b>Location</b> |       |
| Award Certificate, Diplome de la Medaille Florence Nightingale (Reproduction), 1939   | OS SM "M"       |       |