

MORAVIAN MUSIC FOUNDATION

Finding aid for

Lititz Manuscript Books Collection

Inclusive dates: 1750-1860

Bulk dates: 1800-1850

Finding Aid created by Nola Reed Knouse, March 6, 2019

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Creator: Lititz Congregation, Lititz, Pennsylvania

Extent: 6 boxes, 8.5 linear feet

Abstract: The Lititz Manuscript Books Collection contains 26 bound volumes of manuscript music with 488 works, with provenance and contents linked to the Moravian Girls' School in Lititz, Pennsylvania.

Call number: LMB – Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Language: About half of the material has no linguistic content. Of the other half, half is in English, one-third in German, and the remainder appear to be instrumental renditions of vocal works with no text included.

Acquisition Information: These materials are in the custody of the Moravian Music Foundation from the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. They were transferred to the Moravian Archives from the Lititz Congregation, Lititz, Pennsylvania.

Access Restrictions: The record group is open to research. Use restricted by the terms of the Moravian Music Foundation Research Policies.

Copyright: Copyright is with the Moravian Music Foundation

Cite as: [item], Lititz Manuscript Books Collection, Moravian Music Foundation.

History: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was founded in 1741 by Moravian settlers, including the remnants of a failed settlement in Georgia (begun 1735), and served as a home base for missionaries and traveling preachers whose duties carried them to native Americans and European settlers in New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, the Caribbean, and South America. In 1742 a small number of Lutherans in Warwick Township, Pennsylvania, requested spiritual guidance and support from the Moravians. By 1749 this spiritual community in Warwick was able to form its own congregation, building a *Gemeinhaus*, which served as a meeting place, school, and pastor's residence.

Many began to feel the need for more spiritual care than could be provided under the current organization, and a new settlement was proposed. In 1755 Matthaues Gottfried Hehl was appointed to oversee the establishment of this settlement, just west of the Warwick *Gemeinhaus*, which was named Lititz. In 1759 the Lititz and Warwick congregations united and became the Lititz Congregation.

Worship services structured life in Lititz, as in all other Moravian settlement congregations in the eighteenth century. Devotional meetings for small groups or the whole community occurred several times daily. In smaller assemblies hymns might be sung without accompaniment. Three services involved music in special ways. Sunday morning preaching services included liturgies according to the Lutheran liturgical year, usually along with one or two anthems and congregational hymns.

The girls' school (formerly the Lititz Seminary, now known as Linden Hall) in Lititz was begun before the Lititz Congregation was formally established, with education for boys and girls beginning in 1746. By 1758, some 70 to 77 children were enrolled. In May 1769 the cornerstone for the new building for the girls' school was laid; this building (Stengel Hall) still houses the administrative offices for Linden Hall. The school welcomed non-Moravian boarding students beginning in 1794.

Scope and Content: The collection consists of 26 bound manuscript books of music, containing about 488 pieces of music. Very few are by Moravian composers; composers most widely represented include John William Rauch, Franz Joseph Haydn, and Johann Baptist Vanhal. Slightly more than half of the pieces have no linguistic content.

The original ownership and their contents of these books are described in depth in *Reflections on Moravian Music: A Study of Two Collections of Manuscript Books in Pennsylvania ca. 1800*, by Pauline M. Fox (Ph.D. Dissertation, New York University, 1997).

Title:

- Lititz Manuscript Books Collection

Corporate Names:

- Lititz Congregation (Lititz, Pennsylvania)

- Moravian Music Foundation

Subjects:

- Chorales -- Musical settings
- Choruses, secular, with piano
- Christmas music
- Concertos (Piano)
- Easter music
- Good Friday music
- Holy Saturday music
- Holy Week music
- Hymns
- Lenten music
- Music Copybooks
- Opera—Excerpts
- Organ music
- Palm Sunday music
- Piano music (4 hands)
- Quicksteps Scores
- Sacred songs with piano
- Songs with piano
- Variations
- Violin music (violins (2))
- Vocal duets with piano
- Waltzes

Related Materials:

Researchers interested in this archive may also wish to consult the following resources:

The Music of the Moravian Church in America, edited by Nola Reed Knouse. Rochester, New York, The University of Rochester Press, © 2008.

Catalog of the Lititz Congregation Collection, edited by Robert Steelman. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, The University of North Carolina Press, © 1981.

Johannes Herbst: The Lititz Anthems, volume I, edited by Jeffrey Gemmell. Musical Treasures from Moravian Archives, Steglein Press © 2018.

Reflections on Moravian Music: A Study of Two Collections of Manuscript Books in Pennsylvania ca. 1800, by Pauline M. Fox. Ph.D. Dissertation, New York University, 1997.

GemeinKat, online catalog of the Moravian Music Foundation.

<https://moravianmusic.on.worldcat.org/discovery>

Search for the collection by title: ti=Lititz Manuscript Books Collection. Closely related in provenance and contents are the Bethlehem Manuscript Books; search by title: ti=Bethlehem Manuscript Books Collection.

Other materials in the Archives and Foundation holdings may relate to the topics in this archive. See the archivist for further research assistance.