

## Pauline Jordan Rankin Papers

1913-1991, undated

### Collection Summary

<b>Reference Code:</b>	MRQ, US.
<b>Repository:</b>	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Call Number:</b>	MSS 105
<b>Creator:</b>	Rankin, Pauline Jordan
<b>Title:</b>	Pauline Jordan (Rankin) Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1913-1991, undated
<b>Size:</b>	0.5 linear feet (1 Box)
<b>Language(s):</b>	The majority of collection materials are in English. Some are in French and Romanian.
<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>This collection contains the papers of Pauline Jordan Rankin, Red Cross nurse during World War I, Near East Relief Worker after the war, and Prisoner of War in Japan during World War II.</i>

### Biographical Sketch

Pauline Jordan was born in Maine on August 20, 1892, to Angie Washburn. When her mother died, she moved to Haverhill to live with her aunt, Nettie W. Small. She graduated from Haverhill High School in 1907 and Columbia University School of Nursing in 1915, then immediately joined the American Red Cross.

She was deployed to Europe during World War I, beginning with the French theater, where she studied at the Institute of Radium under Marie Curie. In 1916, Rankin was sent to Bucharest, Romania, where she was taken prisoner by the Germans. She escaped to the Russian border.

After the World War I, Pauline worked in Armenia for Near East Relief; she organized an industrial plant, and ran a hospital and orphanage in Alexandropol, which treated patients blinded by trachoma. She met Karl L. Rankin, an official of the United States Department of State, while working for Near East Relief and they married in 1925.

The Rankins were stationed in Manila, Philippines, when the Japanese invaded in December 1941. They were taken prisoner and forced to participate in the Bataan Death March. After three years of imprisonment, they released as part of the Gripsholm Exchange. President Truman appointed Karl Rankin as ambassador to China after World War II.

The Rankins retired to Maine, and Pauline died on November 12, 1976.

## Arrangement

Series 1. General, 1913-1991, undated

Series 2. American Red Cross, 1914-1919, undated

Series 3. Near East Relief, 1921-1926, undated

## Scope and Content Note

This collection is made up of three series. Series 1 includes general documents that cover Pauline Jordan Rankin's life, such as newspaper clippings, certificates, and a passport. Series 2 includes Pauline Jordan's time working as an American Red Cross nurse. Series 3 includes Rankin's time with Near East Relief.

## Administrative Information

<b>Preferred Citation:</b>	[Item Identification], Collection Title, MSS 105, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Custodial History:</b>	The material was acquired from Ruth T. Rankin, who married Karl Rankin after Pauline died.
<b>Acquisition Information:</b>	Gift of Ruth T. Rankin, 1994.
<b>Processing Information:</b>	Processed by Elizabeth Smith, 2025.
<b>Access Rights:</b>	Collection is open for research.
<b>Phys. Access Restrictions:</b>	None.
<b>Tech. Access Restrictions:</b>	None.
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.
<b>Related Collections:</b>	MSS 103 World War I Local Servicepeople news clippings
<b>Separated Material:</b>	Published materials were catalogued separately.
<b>Conservation Notes:</b>	Photographs were sleeved to protect them. Paper clips and staples were removed.
<b>Subjects:</b>	Rankin, Pauline Jordan Rankin, Karl Lott Brailovskaya, Nina Red Cross and Red Crescent World War, 1914-1918 World War, 1939-1945 Near East Relief (Organization) Gripsholm Exchange

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: General, 1913-1991, undated

This series contains scrapbooks, official government documents, photographs, and newspaper clippings that cover Pauline Jordan Rankin's whole life.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Accession, 1994	1	1
Photographs – young, undated	1	2
Official documents, 1913-1977, undated	1	3
Newspaper clippings, 1917-1991, undated	1	4
Photograph, 1958	1	5
Scrapbook, undated	1	6
Scrapbook, undated	1	7

### Series 2: American Red Cross, 1914-1919, undated

This series consists of documents, correspondence, and photographs from Rankin's time with the Red Cross throughout World War I.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Documentation from Red Cross and governments, 1914-1919	1	8
Correspondence, 1914-1919, undated	1	9
Autograph book, 1917	1	10
Photographs WWI, undated	1	11
Flag and Red Cross armband, undated	1	12

### Series 3: Near East Relief, 1921-1926, undated

This series consists of documents and correspondence during Rankin's work with Near East Relief.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence during Near East Relief, 1921-1926	1	13
Documentation from Near East Relief, 1921-1925	1	14
Reports and course plans, 1925-1927, undated	1	15
Sevesky Barracks, Nina Brailovskaya, 1923	1	16