

Women's Humane Society/Women's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

- First animal shelter in the country
- Founded by Caroline Earle White, April 1869
- Began in order to improve the mistreatment of horses and dogs
- Opened a small shelter in 1912 for cats, with the countries first animal adoption program

Primary Sources

Women's Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals records 1870-1972

Records of the Women's SPCA, which was formed in 1869 as an auxiliary to the men's organization and was incorporated in 1870. Originally the WSPCA's purpose was to provide for the inspection of and care of horses. Papers include including photographs, correspondence, annual reports, minutes, their publication ("The Guardian"), newspaper clippings, business records, and other printed matter.

Collection #3156

Constitution and by-laws of "The Women's Branch" of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: organized April 14, 1869

Bound with: Annual report of the Women's Branch of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Call number: UPA/Ph HV 4764.P52 P46

...annual report of the Women's Branch of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, for the year ending...

HSP has 1st (1870)-19th (1888)

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Horses

15 photoprints, published 1928-1936

Images of horses, most of which are shown at work farming, pulling carts, or performing other labor. Depicts watering stations established by the Women's Pennsylvania S.P.C.A. Also shows horses in pasture at Ryers Infirmary for Dumb Animals. Includes view of the C.V. Whitney string of thoroughbreds.

by Philadelphia Record

Call number: V7:1181-1185



Animal Treatment

26 photoprints, published 1932-1944
by the Philadelphia Record
Call number: V7: 654/2784/3147/3207/5138

The Guardian

by Women's Humane Society
Spring 1989 publication
Call number: UPA/Ph HV 4766.P52 W662'

Golden rules for the treatment of horses and other animals

by Women's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, published 1882
Call number: Wj*.8315

Pages from a scrapbook highlighting Caroline Earle White and other women involved with the WPSPCA

Digital Library item #4827
Collection: [WPSPCA Collection](#) [3156]
Box Number: Box 6
Date of View: circa 1936
View Format: Manuscript, Photograph

Other related images available via HSP's
Digital Library.

