



## Gratz Insider, Summer 2015 - Story Continuation

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### Library Lore

Recently, Nitzberg received a request from the library at Franklin & Marshall College to borrow a set of Yiddish books from Gratz. This request immediately activated her cranial storehouse of Gratz Family lore.

Nitzberg explains that in the late 18th century, when Franklin & Marshall College was still known as Franklin College, it was attended by Richea Gratz. Although Franklin "College" may have actually been more of an academic high school for teens at that time, Richea Gratz is still recognized as the first female Jewish college student in the United States. She was also a member of the distinguished Philadelphia Gratz Family (sister to Simon, Hyman, Rebecca and others), for whom Gratz College is named. (<http://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/gratz-richea>)

Connecting this history to Franklin & Marshall's recent request for Yiddish books, Nitzberg says, "Richea's Yiddish-speaking father would likely have been able to read the books that are now on their way to Richea's *alma mater*."