

Caroline (Cara) Gascoigne 1888-1984

Caroline (Cara) Eleanor Gascoigne was born in July 1888 in Devon. Her father was the Vicar of Chittlehamholt. Cara was educated at Queen Anne's, Caversham and completed her course at Dartford in 1909. Her first post was at Calder School for Girls, in Seascale. Cumbria and by 1911 she was teaching in Tunbridge Wells, perhaps at the GPDST school which existed there at the time. Cara joined the staff at Sweetbriar College, Virginia in September 1912.

Cara Gascoigne arrived at the College in 1912 to start an unusually well-directed program of physical education wrote Martha Lou Stohlman '34 in her book, *The Story of Sweet Briar College*.

In 1914, Cara attempted to introduce club lacrosse at Sweet Briar but the game did not *catch on*. Cara remained at Sweet Briar for 11 years, until 1923. During her tenure the students played Virginia's first women's intercollegiate field hockey game in 1919, as well as the first intercollegiate basketball game in 1920. Significantly, the hockey game was the first women's intercollegiate contest of any kind in the state of Virginia.

Cara returned to England and taught for the rest of her career at Queen Anne's, Caversham. She trained many England lacrosse players. These players included Dartford old students Eleanor Gibb, who was selected for the 1934 tour to the USA, Betty Lee Evans and Anne Neve.

See <https://sbc.edu/news/ahead-of-the-game-sweet-briar-lacrosse/>

BÖU Magazine 1985.

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