In 1933, the German algebraist, Emmy Noether, joined the Department of Mathematics at Bryn Mawr College just outside of Philadelphia. Bryn Mawr, a women’s college, had been founded not quite fifty years earlier in 1885. In fact, the higher education of women in the United States was barely older than that. What developments had taken place by the 1930s to allow arguably the world’s then greatest female mathematician to take up a research and teaching position in the United States? This talk will explore the contours of an answer to this question. (Received December 31, 2014)