

C Martin, Maude Williams (1879-1953), Papers, 1896-1989
3909 3 linear feet

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of Maude Williams Martin, a collector of Missouri folk songs and ballads, and a writer of short stories and poetry, include correspondence, school lecture notes and papers, poems, short stories, essays, travel material; and her husband Charles F. Martin's school lecture notes and papers. Also included is material regarding the Missouri Folk-Lore Society; an article by Susan L. Pentlin about Mrs. Martin; a published book of Martin's poems entitled, *Selected Poems*; other publications associated with poetry; and works by her father James Williams, her son Frank E. Martin, and her husband.

DONOR INFORMATION

The Maude Williams Martin Papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Susan L. Pentlin on June 23, 1992 (Accession No. 5193). Additions were made on August 6, 1992 (Accession No. 5207) and on September 29, 1992 (Accession No. 5224).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Maude Williams Martin was born on March 10, 1879, at Midway Place, a farm near Cameron, Missouri. Martin acquired a primary education at nearby Fountain School. She later taught there, after passing the county teaching certification, to earn enough money to further her education.

In 1902 Martin entered the University of Missouri at Columbia as an English and foreign language major. Her involvement in the English Club on campus provided her an opportunity to collect literary works exhibiting Missourian character. The background received in this club enabled her to continue an interest in folk songs and poetry. Martin graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1906.

At what is now Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Martin accepted a position as Instructor in English and Foreign Languages in 1906. She met her future husband when he took a place in the English Department in 1908. Charles F. Martin received a bachelor's degree in English from William Jewell College in 1904 and an M.A. degree at Brown University in 1905, also in English. He spent one year working on a doctorate degree at the University of Chicago before he decided to teach full-time at Joliet, Illinois, Township High School. After several years of courtship, Maude and Charles Martin were married in 1911 and she subsequently resigned from her position as instructor. Charles and Maude Williams Martin had two children: Frank E., who became a member of the Physics Department at Central Missouri State University, and Helen L., who died in her childhood.

Throughout her life, Maude Williams Martin continued her interest in Missouri folk songs, literature, and poetry. Martin assisted H.M. Belden of the University of Missouri English Department and the Missouri Folk-Lore Society in compiling *Ballads and Songs*, a collection of Missouri folk songs published in 1940. Martin also wrote and published numerous poems, short stories, and essays during her life. Shortly before her death in 1953, she assembled a select group of poems to be published entitled *Selected Poems*. Her husband and son published the

collection essentially in its same version in 1982.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The Maude Williams Martin Papers consist of correspondence; school lecture notes, papers, and teaching material from both Maude and Charles Martin; poems, essays, and short stories in manuscript form; an original and published version of, and publication information regarding, *Selected Poems*; publications that consist of volumes by her father, husband, son, and others including articles, periodicals and advertising circulars; and travel material that includes personal diaries, guidebooks, brochures, postcards, and picture books from Europe and the United States. The Maude Williams Martin Papers are arranged into six series: **Personal**, **Educational**, **Writings**, **Publications**, **Travel**, and **Charles F. Martin**.

The **Personal** series contains correspondence (1896-1911, 1942, 1953) predominately from relatives, most notably Martin's cousin B.F. Williams, her mother Emily Stevenson Williams, and Charles F. Martin. The letters primarily concern her everyday life before she was married. The correspondence from B.F. Williams, a graduate of Harvard University, describes his teaching at Valparaiso University in Indiana and his literary circles in Chicago. Charles F. Martin's correspondence provides information about his and Maude's relationship prior to their marriage. There is one letter from 1942 from a friend and letters to Charles F. Martin on the death of his wife. Also included in the Personal series are two photographs--one of Maude Williams Martin and one of Charles F. Martin--and a spring scrapbook dated 1908. The Personal series is organized alphabetically by type of material and the correspondence is arranged chronologically.

The **Educational** series contains Mrs. Martin's school lecture notes, essays, teaching material, and Missouri Folk-Lore Society material. The series is arranged chronologically and then alphabetically by type of material. The notes are from art and English Literature history courses and the essays concern classical architecture and literature. The files containing teaching material consist of notes, poems, student papers, and a reader from the time Martin taught at Fountain School before she attended college. The Missouri Folk-Lore Society material is one folder consisting of notes, poems, reprint articles, and a memorandum from H.M. Belden, all dating c. 1905-1909.

The **Writings** series is arranged alphabetically by type of material that includes Martin's essays, short stories, poems, and the work, *Selected Poems*. This material exhibits her thoughts and literary style through her written works as suggested by Susan L. Pentlin's article about Martin in 1989. Included in the Writings series are Martin's notes, publishers' critiques, the introductory material, copyright information, and original version of *Selected Poems*.

The **Publications** series is comprised of advertising circulars, articles, baccalaureate addresses, periodicals, volumes, and a yearbook. This series is arranged alphabetically by author or title, when no author is given. Among these publications are collections of poems in which Martin was published, poetry critiques, Susan L. Pentlin's article about Mrs. Martin, and works by Martin's father James Williams, cousin B.F. Williams, husband Charles F. Martin, and son Frank E. Martin.

Two diaries dating 1906 and 1937 regarding Martin's visits to Europe are present in the **Travel** series. Other material includes guidebooks, brochures, postcards, and pictorial books that highlight the places in Europe and the United States visited by Mrs. Martin during her

lifetime. The Travel series is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

The **Charles F. Martin** series contains lecture notes and essays from when he attended Brown University (1904-1906), the University of Chicago (1905-1906), and his teaching material (c. 1907-1908) before he met Maude Williams Martin. The Charles F. Martin series is organized chronologically, then alphabetically by type of material and course title for those items belonging to the same year. English, Philosophy, and Psychology notes and essays are prevalent in this series.

FOLDER LIST

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- f. 1 Correspondence, 1896-1897
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- f. 3 Correspondence, 1900-1901
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- f. 16 Correspondence, 1909 September
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- f. 18-20 Correspondence, 1910
- f. 21-22 Correspondence, 1911 January-April
- f. 23 Correspondence, 1942
- f. 24 Correspondence, to Charles F. Martin re. Maude Williams Martin's death, 1953
- f. 25 Correspondence, n.d.
- f. 26 Photographs, Maude Williams, c. 1900; Charles F. Martin, 1915
- f. 27 Scrapbook, "Signs of Spring," 1908

Educational Series

- f. 28 Teaching notes, c. 1900
- f. 29 Teaching flash cards, c. 1900-1901
- f. 30 Teaching reader, student papers, poem, 1900-1901
- f. 31 Notebook, History of the English Language, 1903
- f. 32 Essays, A-B, c. 1905
- f. 33 Essays, C, c. 1905
- f. 34 Essays, G, c. 1905
- f. 35 Essays, M-R, c. 1905
- f. 36 Essays, Sh, c. 1905
- f. 37 Essays, Si-St, c. 1905
- f. 38 Essays, T, c. 1905
- f. 39 Notebook, Specimens of English, c. 1905
- f. 40 Notes, miscellaneous fragments, c. 1905

Educational Series (con'd)

- f. 41-42 Notes, essays, art history, c. 1905
- f. 43-44 Notes, art history, c. 1905-1906
- f. 45 Notes, art history, c. 1906
- f. 46 Missouri Folk-Lore Society, notes, poems, reprint articles, and memorandum, 1905-1909

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- f. 47 Essays, c. 1935
- f. 48 Miscellaneous notes, c.1935
- f. 49 Outlines for short stories, c. 1935
- f. 50 Poems, A-Z, c. 1935
- f. 51 Publishers correspondence, critiques, 1930-1939
- f. 52 *Selected Poems*, original version, 1952
- f. 53 *Selected Poems*, introductory material, 1982
- f. 54 *Selected Poems*, copyright correspondence, 1982-1983
- f. 55 *Selected Poems*, published version, 1982
- f. 56 Short stories, B-E, c. 1935
- f. 57 Short stories, F-I, c. 1935
- f. 58 Short stories, J-L, c. 1935
- f. 59 Short stories, P, c. 1935
- f. 60 Short stories, R-T, c. 1935
- f. 61 Short stories, untitled, c. 1935

Publications Series

- f. 62 "Art, Books, and Crafts Club," yearbook, 1951-1952
- f. 63 Belden, H.M., *Ballads and Songs*, 1940
- f. 64 Barnett, Robert C., *Random Readings*, 1944
- f. 65 Edwards, Ward H., *The Bible as English Literature, Prophecy: Hosea*, 1908
- Elliot, Charles W., *The Happy Life*, 1896
- f. 66 "First Year German; "Modern Language Text-books;"
- "When Daddy Was a Boy," advertising circulars, c. 1910
- Hess, John A., *Some Games for French Clubs*, c. 1910
- f. 67 Martin, C.[harles]F., *Cosmicalities*, 1985
- f. 68 Martin, Frank E., *Poems*, 1989
- f. 69 "McReynolds Suggests Alumni Give Serious Consideration to Constructive Work Done by Survey Commission," *The Missouri Alumnus*, Columbia, Nov. 1929
- Merton, Robert K., "Some Thoughts on the Professions in America Society: Address Before the Graduate Convocation, Brown University," 1960
- Myers, Stella Evelyn, *A Bibliography of Greek Social Life For Use in High Schools*, 1907
- f. 70 *The Paebar Anthology of Verse*, 1939

Publications Series (con'd)

- f. 71 "Pentlin's Article Appears in Special Folklore Journal," *The Daily Star Journal*,
Warrensburg, Missouri, 27 November 1989
Pentlin, Susan L., "Maude Williams Martin: Early Ballad Collector in Missouri,"
1986-1987
Pentlin, Susan L., "The Study of German at the Warrensburg Normal School," July
1989
- f. 72 *The Poetry Digest: Annual Anthology of Verse for 1939*
- f. 73 *Poetry World*, Nov. 1935-Feb. 1936
- f. 74 "Thackery and Dickens: Comparisons in Literature, Their Lives, and Their Art Of-
fer Some Strange Contrasts," *Kansas City Star*, 18 July 1911
Trent, Lucia and Ralph Cheyney, "Verse Markets and Marketing Advice," c. 1935
- f. 75 Williams, B.F., "On Giving Advice, Baccalaureate Address to the Class of 1910,"
Valparaiso University, Indiana, 1910
Williams, James, *75 Years on the Border*, 1912
- f. 76 *Wings: A Quarterly of Verse*, Autumn 1947
Writer's Yearbook, 1939
Untermeyer, Louis and Carter Davidson, "The Definition of Poetry," c. 1935

Travel Series

- f. 77 Diary, France, 1906
- f. 78 Diary, Europe, 1937
- f. 79 Guidebook, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1924
- f. 80 Guidebook, Holyroodhouse, Great Britain, 1906
- f. 81 Guidebook, Kenilworth Castle, Great Britain, 1906
- f. 82 Guidebook, Louvre Museum, France, c. 1906
- f. 83 Guidebook, Missouri State Capitol, 1929
- f. 84 Guidebook, postcards, Mount Vernon, Virginia, 1926, 1928
- f. 85 Guidebook, San Francisco, 1924
- f. 86 Guidebook, Tower of London, Great Britain, 1907
- f. 87 Guidebook, Windsor Castle, Great Britain, 1937
- f. 88 Guidebook, Yellowstone National Park, 1928
- f. 89 Guidebook, York, Great Britain, 1907
- f. 90 Guidebook, Zion, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon National Parks, 1928
- f. 91 Passenger lists, travel company brochures, menus, Europe, c. 1937
- f. 92 Picture book, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1948
- f. 93 Picture book, *150 Views of the English Lake District*, c. 1906
- f. 94 Picture book, Paris, France, c. 1937
- f. 95 Picture book, Venice, Italy, c. 1937
- f. 96 Picture book, Versailles, France, c. 1906
- f. 97 Postcards, Knoxville, Tennessee; New York, New York; L&N Railroad, c. 1930

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- f. 98 Postcards, Scotland, c. 1937
- f. 99 Postcards, Stratford, Kenilworth Castle, Henry VIII's wives, Great Britain, c. 1906
- f. 100 Travel brochures, Bern, Switzerland, Heidelberg, Germany, c. 1937
- f. 101 Travel brochure, California, Oregon, Washington, 1935
- f. 102 Travel brochures, England, c. 1937
- f. 103 Travel brochure, France, c. 1937
- f. 104 Travel brochure, Ireland, c. 1937
- f. 105 Travel brochures, Italy, 1937
- f. 106 Travel brochures, Scotland, c. 1937

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- f. 107 Essay, Philosophy 14, 1904
- f. 108 Essay, Psychology 20, 1904
- f. 109-110 Notes, English Literature, 1904-1905
- f. 111 Notebook, Advanced psychology, c. 1905
- f. 112 Notebook, English 21, 27, 1905
- f. 113 Essays, English 27, 1905
- f. 114 Notebook, English 27, 1905
- f. 115 Essay, English 32, 1905
- f. 116 Essay, English 33, 1905
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- f. 122 Essay, Philosophy 28, 1905
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