

MARY DEAN WILLIAMS PAPERS, 1850-1986

Collection #
M 0460
OM 0181

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Processed by
Paul Brockman
July 1989
Charles Latham
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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 manuscript box, 1 oversize folder
COLLECTION DATES:	Inclusive 1850-1986; bulk 1922-1986
PROVENANCE:	Mary Dean Williams, Indianapolis IN, 6 June 1986
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
RELATED HOLDINGS:	None
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1986.0392

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mary Dean Williams (ca 1902 - ca 1990) was born Mary Dean Whitmer in Geneva, Shelby County, Indiana. She graduated from business college and was employed in several office jobs in Indianapolis; after her marriage in 1925 to businessman Russell Williams, she was a homemaker and mother as well.

In 1943 Williams stayed in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with her brother Charles Whitmer while his wife was fatally ill. In her later years, 1975-1986, she methodically wrote an account of her life experiences, as well as a careful inventory of her family heirlooms.

Source: Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection, filling one small manuscript box and one oversize folder, contains correspondence, photocopies of memoirs, a scrapbook, and a birth certificate. It is arranged by category, and chronologically within category.

Folder 1 contains the Shelby County birth certificate, in German, of Maria Louisa Witmer, as well as a scrapbook of clippings of a newspaper series on Indianapolis's "first century, 1836-1936."

In Folder 2 are photocopied excerpts from the diaries and letters of Williams and her female relatives, 1901-1928.

Folders 3-6 contain correspondence 1922-1943 between Williams and members of her family.

In Folders 7-8 are photocopies of the memoirs Williams wrote at the end of her life, and in Folders 9-10 photocopies of the inventory of heirlooms, with comments, which she wrote at the same time.

FOLDER LISTING

FOLDER	CONTENTS
1	(OM 0181) Birth certificate 1850; Indianapolis scrapbook 1936
2	Diary and letter excerpts 1901-1928
3	Whitmer-Williams letters 1922-1928
4	Letters from MDW-- 1925
5	Letters from MDW-- 1926-1927
6	Correspondence 1942-1943
7	Memoirs 1975-1986-- pp. 1-93
8	Memoirs 1975-1986-- pp. 94-187
9	Heirloom inventory 1975-1986-- pp. 1-110
10	Heirloom inventory 1975-1986-- pp. 111-210

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's [online catalog](#)
2. Click on the "Local Catalog" icon.
3. Search for the collection by its call number, using the letter or letters designation and **four** digits (e.g., M 0715, SC 2234).
4. When you find the collection, go to the "Holdings" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.

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