

A Guide to the Nancy Graham Rogers Collection, 1910-1975

Nancy Graham Rogers Collection 1910-1975
1910-1975



A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library M 058, VC 0044

Thomas Balch Library

2006

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History

Processed by: Teckla H. Cox

Title Statement

A Guide to the Nancy Graham Rogers Collection, 1910-1975

Subtitle: Nancy Graham Rogers Collection

Collection: M 058, VC 0044

Author: Teckla H. Cox

Publication Statement

Date: © 2006 By Thomas Balch Library. All rights reserved.

Publisher: Thomas Balch Library

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Elizabeth E. Preston, 14 September 2012

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

M 058, VC 0044

Language

English

Abstract

The manuscript materials consist of personal and business correspondence of Nancy Graham Rogers, including letters from her fiancé, Albert C. Johnson. There are also letters Rogers inherited from her mother, Anna, including one from her father to her grandmother asking for Anna's hand in marriage. There are business receipts, correspondence, tax information, and material regarding the estates of relatives for whom Rogers served as executor, including Anne Snowden Wildman Dyer and Christine Wildman. The collection also includes scrapbooks, Nancy's mother's wedding book, and a small diary Rogers kept from 1932 to 1935. An account book marked "Turkeys and Chickens 1915" was used as a scrapbook, probably by Anna Rogers, and contains clippings and expenses. A journal also used as a scrapbook, probably by Anna Rogers, contains recipes, family expenses for 1914, and clippings. There are two scrapbooks compiled by Mary Oden Rogers containing clippings and pictures. Some loose material in the scrapbooks was removed and placed in folders. Separation sheets detailing where these materials were placed were put in the scrapbooks.

Creator

Elizabeth Seccombe Smith, Lewis Leigh

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Use Restrictions

No physical characteristics affect use of this material. Visual materials may require special handling.

Acquisition Information

Elizabeth Seccombe Smith, Eugene, OR; Lewis Leigh, Leesburg, VA

Processing Information

Teckla H. Cox, 14 September 2012

Preferred Citation

Nancy Graham Rogers Collection, 1910-1975 (M 058), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

2006.0145; 2000.0002

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Leesburg Garden Club Collection, 1920- (M 044).

Bibliography

Loudoun County Cemetery Database. <http://www.leesburgva.gov/index.aspx>

Nancy Graham Rogers Collection, 1910-1975 (M 058), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, Virginia.

Loudoun Times-Mirror

Other Findina Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Biographical Information

The Ferguson family lived in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, but owned Belmont, a farm near Leesburg, Virginia, that they used as a summer residence. Their daughter, Anna Louise Ferguson (1883-1973) married William Thomas Clagett (W.T.C.) Rogers (1875-1930) of Leesburg in the chapel at Belmont on 7 June 1910. W.T.C. Rogers had several siblings, including Mary Oden Rogers (1868-1905) and Christina Rogers Wildman (1873-1943). Mary died before her brother's marriage. She drowned at a sanatorium in New York where she was being treated for an unspecified illness. Although she never married she was engaged at the time of her death. Christina married and had two daughters, Anne (called Anna) Snowden Wildman Dyer (1895-1973) and Christine Wildman (1898-1958).

After their marriage, W.T.C. and Anna Rogers lived at Belmont for several years then settled in the town of Leesburg. They had two children, Nancy Graham Rogers (14 October 1912-27 January 2000) and William Thomas Clagett Rogers, Jr. (1914-1985). Nancy Graham Rogers graduated from Agnes Scott College in 1934 and taught science for a short time at Aldie High School. She eventually became a virologist working in medical research for the United States government at Walter Reed Medical Center. The U.S. War Department awarded her the Exceptional Civilian Service Medal in 1946 for her wartime work developing a typhus vaccine. In addition to her work in virology, Rogers was an award-winning photographer and had an interest in botany, speleology, and the study of bats. Life Magazine published a photograph of her working with bats in a Virginia cave in their 10 September 1956 issue. Her love of photography and botany produced an extensive slide collection of wildflower photographs from all over the world. Rogers was a member of the Leesburg Garden Club and left her collection of daffodils to the club. She was also an active member of St. James Episcopal Church. Although Rogers never married, her diary indicates she had an active social life in high school and college and was once engaged to a doctor, Albert C. Johnson (fl. 1930s). She kept his letters to her from 1937 to 1939, though there is no explanation of why they did not marry. Nancy Rogers died 27 January 2000 in Leesburg and is buried in Union Cemetery in Leesburg.

Scope and Content

The manuscript materials consist of personal and business correspondence of Nancy Graham Rogers, including letters from her fiancé, Albert C. Johnson. There are also letters Rogers inherited from her mother, Anna, including one from her father to her grandmother asking for Anna's hand in marriage. There are business receipts, correspondence, tax information, and material regarding the estates of relatives for whom Rogers served as executor, including Anne Snowden Wildman Dyer and Christine Wildman. The collection also includes scrapbooks, Nancy's mother's wedding book, and a small diary Rogers kept from 1932 to 1935. An account book marked "Turkeys and Chickens 1915" was used as a scrapbook, probably by Anna Rogers, and contains clippings and expenses. A journal also used as a scrapbook, probably by Anna Rogers, contains recipes, family expenses for 1914, and clippings. There are two scrapbooks compiled by Mary Oden Rogers containing clippings and pictures. Some loose material in the scrapbooks was removed and placed in folders. Separation sheets detailing where these materials were placed were put in the scrapbooks.

The visual materials include family snapshots including photographs documenting trips, family outings, homes, and friends; a large number of color slides of wildflowers taken by Rogers; and a large photograph album that belonged to Mary Oden Rogers containing pictures of a summer in Maine.

Arrangement

Folder

Contents List

Container M 058

Box 1

Folder 1: Letter from Albert C. Johnson, undated

Folder 2: Letters from Johnson, 1937-1938

Folder 3: Letters from Johnson, May 1938

Folder 4: Letters from Johnson, May 1938

Folder 5: Letter from Johnson, May 1938

Folder 6: Letter from Johnson (includes photograph of Johnson on right in bathing suit), May 27, 1938

Folder 7: Letters from Johnson, May-June 1938

Folder 8: Letters from Johnson, June-July, 1938

Folder 9: Letters from Johnson, July-August 1938

Folder 10: Letters from Johnson, August-September 1938

Folder 11: Letters from Johnson, September 1938

Folder 12: Letters from Johnson, September-October 1938

Folder 13: Letters from Johnson, October-November 1938

Folder 14: Letters from Johnson, November 1938

Folder 15: Letters from Johnson, November-December 1938

Folder 16: Letters from Johnson, September 1939

Folder 17: Personal correspondence, 1938

Folder 18: Personal correspondence, 1945, 1975-1976

Folder 19: Personal correspondence, no date

Folder 20: Invitations, 1938, 1988, 1996

Folder 21: Employment Correspondence, 1938-1939

Folder 22: Five year diary, 1932-1935

Folder 23: University of Iowa application, 1938

Folder 24: Receipts, 1937-1938, 1943

Box 2

Folder 1: Anna Ferguson Rogers correspondence, 1909-1969

Folder 2: Anna and W.T.C. Rogers, receipts, 1920, 1924-1927

Folder 3: Anna and W.T.C. Rogers, business affairs, 1924, 1935, 1940

Folder 4: Anna and W.T.C. Rogers, taxes, 1915

Folder 5: Anna and W.T.C. Rogers, taxes, 1918

Folder 6: Ledger used for recipes (Anna Ferguson Rogers), undated

Folder 7: "Turkeys & Chickens 1915" scrapbook (Anna Ferguson Rogers), undated

Folder 8: "Turkeys & Chickens 1915," loose material, undated

Folder 9: League of Women Voters cookbook, 1921

Folder 10: Address book used as cookbook (Anna Ferguson Rogers), undated

Folder 11: Anna Ferguson Rogers suggested obituary, 1965, 1968

Folder 12: Savings account books: Anna Rogers, Anne Wildman Dyer, 1950-1969

Folder 13: Notes for Anne Wildman Dyer funeral, 1973

Folder 14: Estate of Anne Wildman Dyer, 1975

Folder 15: Partition of land of Anne Wildman Dyer, 1975

Folder 16: Estate of Nancy Ferguson, 1936-1942

Folder 17: William (Bill) Rogers papers, 1936, 1951, 1981

Folder 18: Christine Wildman, business papers, 1958

Box 3

Folder 1: "Boxwood," pamphlet from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, 1950

Folder 2: Civil Service card, calling cards, calling card printing die, undated

Folder 3: Awards: clippings about Rogers' Exceptional Civilian Service Award; photography award coin, 1946; 1962

Folder 4: Garden Club of Virginia booklets, 1952, 1964

Folder 5: Flight Plan to Australia, 1967

Folder 6: Leesburg addresses, ca. 1961

Folder 7: Newspaper clippings

Folder 8: Postcard, Christ Church, Alexandria, VA, undated

Folder 9: Story by Mary Hamilton, undated

Folder 10: Textiles: tennis scores recorded on handkerchief scrap;

Loudoun Museum sampler kit, 1922; 1994

Folder 11: Valentine poem, no author, 1904

Folder 12: Loose material from "S.E. Ledger" (OMB 015), undated

Folder 13: Loose material from "S.E. Ledger" (OMB 015), undated

Folder 14: Loose material from "S.E. Ledger" (OMB 015), undated

Folder 15: Loose material from "The House the Jack Built," the wedding book of Anna Ferguson Rogers (OMB 015), undated

Folder 16: Rogers' genealogical information

Folder 17: Photocopies of Wildman family records

Box 4

Anna Ferguson Rogers' wedding book, "The House that Jack Built," 1910

Photograph Album (Mary Oden Rogers), 1901

Scrapbook (Mary Oden Rogers), undated

Scrapbook (Mary Oden Rogers), 1899

S.E. Ledger: Belmont Farm ledger partially used as cookbook, undated

Container VC 0044

Box: 1

Folder 1: Christmas and Easter cards (Anna Ferguson Rogers)

Folder 2: Photographs, possibly Ferguson horses

Folder 3: Photographs of Nancy and her brother

Folder 4: From small album (#1): Leesburg High School

Folder 5: From small album (#2): Leesburg High School

Folder 6: Photographs, Nancy at Agnes Scot College, ca. 1932 - 1935

Folder 7: Photographs (4 are of tennis at Greystone near Waterford, 1930s)

Folder 8: Photographs of Dr. Albert Johnson's colleagues at Ithaca, ca. 1937

Folder 9: Miscellaneous photographs

Folder 10: Unidentified photographs

Folder 11: Small album of photographs of a picnic, ca. 1940s

Folder 12: Photographs, all labeled "NR New Guinea," 1962

Folder 13: Photographs of a bear, undated

Folder 14: Large photographs of scenery and of horses, undated

Folder 15: Photographs of Nancy's workplace, 1940s

Folder 16: 4 studio photographs of Nancy Rogers, undated

Folder 17: Miscellaneous photographs of Nancy, 1940s and 1950s

Folder 18: Illustrations

Folder 19: Postcards of Loudoun County buildings

Folder 20: Location notations of color slides of western trip and trip to Japan (see VC boxes 4 and 5 for the slides themselves)

Folder 21: Photocopies of photographs of Nancy Rogers

Folder 22: Loose visual material from front of Mary Oden Rogers' photograph album (OMB 015)

Folder 23: Loose visual material from throughout Mary Oden Rogers' photograph album (OMB 015)

Folder 24: Loose visual material from back of Mary Oden Rogers' photograph album (OMB 015)

Box: 2

Approximately 480 color slides, unmarked.

Box: 3

Approximately 150 color slides. Trip to the Baton Rouge, Louisiana, demolition of the Leesburg Inn in 1973, ruins of the Broad Run Bridge at Route 7; the remainder are unmarked.

Box: 4

Approximately 325 color slides. Trip to the western United States. Box 1, folder 20 contains handwritten notations of specific locations for these slides.

Box: 5

Approximately 480 color slides. Trips to western United States, Japan, and Pebble Beach, California.

Box: 6

Approximately 480 color slides of wildflowers, mostly unlabeled.

Box: 7

Approximately 200 color slides wildflowers, mostly unlabeled.

