

Manuscripts Section
Wright State University Archives
Fred F. Marshall Papers

MS-53

Processed by: Susan E. Smith

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Introduction

The papers of Fred F. Marshall cover the years 1912-1974. They were given to Wright State University Archives in February of 1973 by his niece, Mrs. Wanda Scroggy.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 9

Approximate number of items: 2,775

No restrictions have been placed on literary or publishing rights. Single photocopies of unpublished writings may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

Biographical Sketch

Fred Franklin Marshall was born in Cedarville, Ohio in 1891. He graduated from Cedarville High School, then attended both Cedarville College and Ohio State University, where he specialized in engineering and journalism. For a period of eight months after leaving the university, he worked as a train dispatcher for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. During this time, he studied industrial photography.

After World War I was declared, Marshall was inducted into the Armed Services and was placed into the photo section of the Signal Corps. For three months he attended the Columbia University of Cinematography, where he engaged in an intensive study of photography for military usages. First, he was stationed at the Pathe Brothers factory in Paris, France. Next, he was sent to Hague, Holland in October of 1918 for the purpose of setting up photographic, cartographic, and photostatic laboratory equipment. In 1919 he was discharged from the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant.

He then obtained a position in the Engineering Division of the Air Corps at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio. Soon he was working in the Technical Data Branch, where he participated in the compilation of the first aeronautical dictionary for use in military service. He was employed at McCook Field for four years.

In 1926 he married Faith Susan Marshall from Spencer, Kentucky. While employed at McCook Field, Marshall was the editor of a trade paper, known as Slipstream. When the publishers of the only other commercially published aviation paper of the world raised objections, Slipstream was discontinued. In 1923 Marshall resigned his position to inaugurate the Slipstream Publishing Company. He carried on the publication of the Slipstream Monthly until 1928, at which time he sold his interest to Simmons Publishing Company, New York City. Marshall was employed by Simmons Publishing Company as an Assistant Editor. The name of the magazine was changed to Airway Age.

Marshall then worked for Aero Supply Manufacturing Company in Long Island, New York until 1931; at that time the company was discontinued. Then he returned to Dayton and served as the Dayton representative for Pump Engineering Service Company (PESCO) of Cleveland, Ohio until 1943. At this time he retired from business due to ill health and his involvement in the Renegotiation Act of 1943. After recovery, he served as representative for a number of aircraft manufacturers until 1955.

During these years, Marshall wrote many feature stories and articles for the Cedarville Herald and the Dayton Daily News.

In 1962 he was named Chairman of the Board of Nominations for the Aviation Hall of Fame. He resigned as Chairman in 1963 but continued his membership. He became a member of the Greene County Historical Society and belonged to the Old Mill organization.

Involved in conservation activities, Marshall wrote many articles dealing with areas surrounding Dayton - Yellow Springs, Clifton Gorge, John Bryan Park, etc. In the early 1970's he built a log cabin, constructing it by the same methods used by pioneers. He also compiled the Wright Brothers Chronology 1903-1908. In 1970 he was honored at a luncheon by the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce for outstanding contributions to the research of aviation history.

His wife Faith died on September 25, 1972 after suffering a lengthy illness. They had been married 46 years. Fred Marshall died in December of 1974.

Scope and Content Note

The Fred F. Marshall papers consist of a variety of materials. They include general correspondence, scrapbooks, rough and final drafts of feature stories as well as their general lay-outs, magazines, newspapers, records, photographs, negatives, books, pamphlets, address books, yearbooks, and broadsides. The earliest document dates 1912 and the latest 1974.

The researcher should be aware of the following before using the collection:

1. Most of the rough drafts for the feature stories do not have page numbers. Thus, the researcher will have some difficulty in reading and following the continuity of the stories. The processor has left the unnumbered pages in their original order when donated. Any pages with numbers have been arranged to their correct numerical order.

2. There are missing issues of Slipstream. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base has bound Volumes 1-13 at the Technical Library on Area B. The Air Force Museum also has a number of issues. Both places are located on Springfield Pike in Dayton, Ohio.

3. Correspondence is divided into each series, instead of placed all together in one section. The reasoning behind this is that Fred Marshall saved an enormous amount of correspondence, each dealing with different aspects in his life. Thus, general correspondence covers his family and personal life, business correspondence is placed in his business dealings with Slipstream and PESCO, the feature stories contain the correspondence correlating to each story, and the aviation correspondence is filed with his endeavors in aviation. In this way, the researcher has everything "at his fingertips" concerning one of the aspects of Fred Marshall's life.

4. Due to deterioration of most of the newspapers, all articles have been photocopied. Some articles were merely clippings, so no dates were available.

Series Description

This collection divides naturally into seven series.

Series I: Boxes 1 and 2 General Correspondence

Contains general correspondence dealing with family and personal matters dating from 1940 to 1974. Also contains photographs and negatives of family members and home life. Arranged chronologically by date.

Series II: Boxes 3,4,5,6, and 7 Feature Stories

Contains correspondence, rough drafts, final drafts, photographs, negatives, records, scrapbooks, broadsides, magazines, posters, and a map. At first it is arranged chronologically by date. Then, as the feature stories have no dates, each file contains one feature story. The stories are divided into fiction, Indian stories, conservation activities, individual men of the Dayton area, and a variety of poems. Each file containing one story is arranged with correspondence in the beginning, then rough drafts, and final drafts in the end.

Series III: Boxes 8 and 9 World War I

Contains correspondence, newsletters, tickets, floor plans, maps, brochures, photographs, negatives, postcards, and magazines. Everything deals with Fred Marshall's activities in the war, serving as a combat photographer.

Series IV: Boxes 10 and 11 Slipstream

Contains correspondence, telegrams, cards, membership applications for Slipstream, broadsides, volumes of Slipstream, and issues. The volumes are catalogued and shelved with the aviation books in the researcher room, #216.

Series V: Boxes 12 and 13 PESCO

Contains correspondence, photographs, certificates, blue books, address books, yearbooks, a wallet, receipts, and cards all dealing with Fred Marshall's work at the Pump Engineering Services Company. Complete information concerning the trial of Marshall in the Renegotiation Act with exhibits and trial outcome is included.

Series VI: Box 14 Aviation Correspondence

Contains correspondence, photographs, and magazines covering Fred Marshall's interest in aviation with the Wright Brothers Chronology, the Aviation Hall of Fame, and McCook Field. Material arranged chronologically.

Series VII: Box 15

Wright Brothers Chronology

Contains rough and final drafts, lay-outs, final story in the Sunday Magazine, photographs, and the copyright claim of the Chronology.

Wright State University
 Fred F. Marshall Manuscript Files
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Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
1	1	33	Family Correspondence 1940's
	2	28	Family Correspondence 1950's
	3	37	Family Correspondence 1961-1962
	4	31	Family Correspondence 1962-1963
	5	30	Family Correspondence 1963-1967
	6	28	Family Correspondence 1967-1969
	7	41	Family Correspondence 1970-1972
	8	44	Family Correspondence 1972-1975
	9	25	Family Correspondence no dates
	10	27	Family Correspondence no dates
	11	44	Photocopies - general events in his life no dates
2	1	22	Photographs and Negatives of Fred Marshall
		22	Photographs and negatives of Faith Marshall
		45	Photographs and negatives of Fred and Faith
		23	Photographs and negatives of their home
		37	Photographs and negatives of log cabin
		35	Miscellaneous photographs and negatives
		9	Photographs - Land of Windmills and Wooden Shoes

Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
2	1	13	Photographs - The Old Grist Mill Story
3	3	20	Photographs - Clifton Gorge
		22	Photographs - Hal Reid, Ohio's Tree Monarchs
		16	Photographs - Scenery used in his stories
4	1	6	1912 Jokes and 1916 poem titled Homecoming
		64	Photocopies of feature stories - 1920's
		37	Photocopies, written sheets, correspondence dealing with the Boyland Trail series in the 1930's
		29	Photocopies - Boyland Trail series - 1940's
		56	Scrapbooks, photographer poems - 1950's
		18	Pioneer Industry Story - 1959
	7		Memoirs of an Old Clock, told by the Old Crew Clock
	8		Deep Night Fantasies
	9		Sleepy Tom
	10		Gran'ther Stubbs
	11		Needles Sisters
	12		Potash Kettle, The Patriarch of Whortle Creek
	13		Land of Windmills and Wooden Shoes
	14		Chapter 1 - Rockville Story
	15		Civil War Trophy Flag - rough drafts of speech to the Greene County Historical Society on Oct. 5, 1961 - 1 member pin
	16		The Story of the Early Tavern
	17		The Story of Old Grist Mills
	18		Photocopies - Indian stories and Mounds

Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
	19		Lost Indian Mines of Greene County
5	1		Tecumseh Story
	2		Darnell's Leap - correspondence and final draft
	3		Darnell's Leap - rough drafts
	4		The Odyssey of Massies Creek Covenanters Parts 1-22, photocopies
	5		The Village Brook
	6		Ohio's Tree Monarchs Story
	7		Sassafras Tree Story
	8		Little Miami River of 116 Years Ago
	9		Antioch's Glen Helen
	10		Blue Hole
	11		Clifton Gorge
	12		Ohio Hill Country
	13		Yellow Springs
	14		John Bryan
	15		James Kyle
	16		John Patterson
	17		Hal Reid
	18		When Fanny Rode to Mill With Me, The Seeing Eye Dog, When I Come Up From Cynthia, The Loyal Fan
6	1		Uncle Gid Swears Off Hunting, Poems, Cartoons, McMillan Story
	2		Jimtown Fair, Drummer Boy, Who Poisoned My Dog The Stone House, The Day Ran Its Course, The Ice Family, Wrestling the Coal Stove, Twice a Year

Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
6	4		Awful Weather, Johnny Appleseed, Melons
	5		Items written by Fred - photocopies
	6		Articles about Fred - photocopies
	7	2	Records - Where the Old Miami Sings Its Song
	8	1	Scrapbook - includes articles about dogs
	9	1	Scrapbook - articles written by and about Fred
7	1	53	Photographs of Fred in WW I
	2	30	Photographs taken by Fred - WW I
	3	25	Photographs taken by Fred - WW I
	4	44	Photographs taken by Fred - WW I
	5	41	WW I Aviation Photos
	6	41	WW I - Holland
	7	28	Bastille Day in France - 1918
	8	44	Postcards - WW I
	9	36	Unidentified WW I scenery - Photos
	10	63	Negatives
	11	103	Negatives
8	1	26	Correspondence - WW I
	2	30	Photocopies of War Activities May-July 1919
	3	6	Newsletter, the Hatchet - July 1919--Aug 1919
	4	17	Miscellaneous items - WW I
	5	28	Correspondence, telegrams, May-June 1928
	6	26	Correspondence, telegrams, June 1928
	7	25	Correspondence, telegrams, June 1928
	8	25	Correspondence, telegrams, June 1928

Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
	9	24	Correspondence, telegrams, July, 1928
	10	33	Correspondence, telegrams, July 1928
	11	4	Transaction of Sale, Aug. 1929
9	1	2	Yearbooks, 1939,1948
	2	12	Rough drafts of testimony for the Renegotiation Act of 1943 by Fred Marshall- May 22, 1971
	3	25	Renegotiation Act of 1943 - July 24, 1935 - Dec. 13, 1937
	4	28	Renegotiation Act of 1943 - Jan. 25, 1938 - Dec. 23, 1939
	5	18	Commission Reports - 1940, omitted May, November
	6	22	Commission Reports - 1941, omitted Jan., April, July
	7	44	Commission Reports - 1942, omitted Aug.-Dec.
	8	26	Beginning of trial - Oct. 9, 1944
	9	26	Exhibits used in trial
	10	28	Exhibits used in trial
	11	25	Trial, Jan. 24, 1945 - April 4, 1945
	12	25	Trial, April 5, 1945 - Dec. 11, 1945
	13	21	Correspondence - Feb. 13, 1958 - Sept. 14, 1964
	14	22	Correspondence - June 1, 1966 - Nov. 27, 1968
	15	28	Correspondence - 1969
	16	32	Correspondence - 1970
	17	24	Correspondence - 1971
10	1	31	Correspondence - 1972
	2	28	Correspondence - 1973 and 1974

Box Number	File Number	Number of Items	Contents
		33	Letters written by and to Fred - no dates
			Miscellaneous notes written by Fred
		17	Photocopies of Fred's part in aviation - 1 photograph
		42	Pamphlets, magazines, materials used by Fred in writing aviation articles
10	7	2	Photographs - McCook Field Alumni, no date 1931 McCook Field employees
	8		Handwritten notes in variety of notebooks
	9		Rough draft to John Conley
	10		Rough drafts
	11		First draft
	12		Second draft
	13		Lay-out
	14	18	Photographs
	15		Copyright Claim, Congressional Record information notes relating to Chronology
	16		Three chapters - From Kitty Hawk to Royal Triumph, The European Triumph of the Wright Brothers, A Brief History of Flight
	17		One chapter - Factors Leading to the Wright Brothers European Flying Exploits of 1908-1909
	18		Story - Wright Brothers of Dayton, Ohio Solve Mystery of Winged Flight
	19		Miscellaneous Material

Oversize items:

1. Broadside - Ohio's Tree Monarchs
2. Magazine article, June 23, 1928 - The Life Story of Wallace Reid
3. Sunday Magazine, Aug. 26, 1962 - The Father of Labor Day
4. One posters - To a Seeing Eye Dog (Loc 2, Folder 4)
5. One map drawing of Clifton Gorge Plot willed to John Patterson
6. Two broadsides: A. Slipstream B. Slipstream Aviation Magazine
7. Three volumes Slipstream: A. Jan. 1923 - Sept. 1924
B. Oct. 1924 - Dec. 1925 (Fred writes story of Slipstream on inside leaflets) C. Jan. 1927 - June 1928
8. Unidentified photograph of dirigible
9. Sunday Magazine, Oct. 11, 1970 - Letter to the Editor
10. Three issues Sunday Magazine: A. Aug. 24, 1969
B. Aug. 31, 1969 C. Sept. 7, 1969