MS-135, Alice Griffith Carr Papers

Collection Number: MS-135

Title: Alice Griffith Carr Papers

Dates: 1869-1968

Creator: Carr, Alice G., 1887-1968

Summary/Abstract: Born and raised in Yellow Springs, Carr had a long, distinguished career working in Europe for the Red Cross and the Near East Foundation as a nurse and public health administrator. Her papers include extensive correspondence, journal articles, reports, working papers, clippings, genealogical materials, and photographs.

Quantity/Physical Description: 4 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

MS-135, Alice Griffith Carr Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Acquisition: The papers of Alice Griffith Carr were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in October 1982. They were donated by Dr. Carr's grandnieces and grandnephew, Corrine Odiorne Pelzl, Eve Odiorne Sullivan, and Ken Odiorne.

Separated Material:

Related Material:

MS-117 Derostus F. Ladley Papers

MS-121 American Red Cross, Dayton Area Chapter Records

MS-137 Totten Family Papers

MS-138 Oscar D. Ladley Papers

MS-139 Jerusha Hall Peacock Papers

MS-140 Oscar Edwin Carr Papers

MS-155 Ladley / Carr / Totten / Harris / Odiorne Families Photographs

MS-161 Louise Odiorne Papers

Processing Information: The finding aid format was updated in June 2014. The photographs were rehoused in June, 2014.

Processed by: Dorothy Smith, January 1984

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 6 series as follows:

Series 1: Correspondence

Series 2: Red Cross Materials

Series 3: Near East Foundation Materials Series 4: Miscellaneous Personal Papers Series 5: Lizzie B. Schilling Estate Papers

Series 6: Photographs

Biographical Note:

Alice Griffith Carr was born in Yellow Springs, Ohio in 1887, the youngest daughter of William and Mary Ladley Carr. Her maternal grandfather, Rev. D.F. Ladley, was among the founders of Antioch College, and her father was the founder and proprietor of W.W. Carr Nurseries, a well-known Yellow Springs firm.

Alice graduated from Antioch in 1904, and after teaching high school in West Mansfield, Ohio and working as a beautician in Georgia, she enrolled in the Johns Hopkins Nurses Training School in Baltimore, graduating in 1914. Carr then joined the first contingent of American Red Cross nurses to see service in World War I. She sailed for France in June, 1917 and was attached to a base hospital near Verdun for two years. It was the beginning of her long and distinguished career in nursing and public health in Europe and Asia, and except for a few brief furloughs home, she remained abroad until 1941.

Carr stayed on with the Red Cross after her release from the base hospital and served in Poland, Lithuania, Serbia, Smyrna, Czechoslovakia, and Syria during the early 1920s. In 1923 while stationed in Greece, she joined the staff of the Near East Foundation, an American philanthropic organization working to aid nearly a million Greek refugees who had been driven from Turkey after the World War. She spent the next 22 years working for the Near East Foundation, and in the 1930s, served as the foundation's Director of Public Health in Greece.

During her tenure in Greece, Carr received international attention for her skillful organizing and tireless work fighting typhus, malaria, and tuberculosis, establishing child welfare and medical service centers, and teaching refugee women home industries and sanitation. She was three times decorated by the Greek government, and in 1937, returned home briefly to receive several honors including LL.D degrees from Ohio State University and her alma mater, Antioch. By the late 1930s, Alice Carr was being written of as "one of the world's best known women."

In the fall of 1941, the Nazi army occupied Greece and all Americans were expelled. Carr returned to New York City to be the Advisor in Public Health for the Near East Foundation. During the closing years of World War II, she traveled widely and lectured for the Foundation before going home to Yellow Springs to retire. In 1948, she joined the Melbourne Village Community in Florida. There she designed and supervised the construction of her new home, gardened extensively, raised chinchillas and bees, rented rooms to tourists, and was very active in the affairs of the community. She died in 1968 at the age of 81.

Scope and Content

The heart of the Alice Carr Papers is the correspondence in Series 1. The first part of this series consists of correspondence from Alice Carr and is arranged in simple chronological order. The individuals she wrote to most frequently were her sister, Katherine Carr Harris in McRae, Georgia and her aunt, Alice Ladley Totten, and cousin, Bessie Totten in Yellow Springs. Spanning the years 1901-1962, these letters cover the bulk of her life and are a rich source of information about her. They show her development from a bright, enthusiastic teenager, to a young nurse in World War I and postwar Europe, to her internationally recognized work as a public health administrator in Greece, to her retirement in Florida where she continued to be active, thoughtful, and innovative. She wrote candidly about her feelings and opinions as well as her experiences, and her personality, her views of life, and her work are interestingly and often humorously brought to light.

The rest of the correspondence series consists of letters written to Alice Carr from various family members and friends. It is arranged so that major correspondents are given their own file folders while the remainder of the letters are arranged chronologically. Span dates for the entire series are 1901-1968.

Series 2, Red Cross Materials, and Series 3, Near East Foundation Materials, contain correspondence, reports, journal articles, and personnel papers connected with Carr's professional life and work for these two organizations. The most interesting materials are the reports she wrote for the Near East Foundation concerning rural medical cooperatives, village rehabilitation, public health, sanitation, and disease control. <u>Balkan Journal, An Unofficial Observer in Greece</u> written in 1944 by Laird Archer, the Foreign Director of the Near East Foundation, is included in Series 3 and contains many references to Carr's work in Greece. Series 2 covers the years 1917-1944, and Series 3, 1926-1947.

Series 4 is a miscellaneous collection of Carr's personal papers and includes biographical and genealogical materials, newspaper clippings, her will and death certificate, files on various organizations, a file on Melbourne Village Community and some of her projects there, a file of grade reports from Antioch, a short story she wrote in 1903, and her collection of passports and visas. Materials in this series cover the years 1898-1968.

The Lizzie B. Schilling Estate Papers, Series 5, consists of legal documents pertaining to Alice Carr's cousin who died in 1948. Carr was the executor of the estate and the papers have mainly genealogical value because they trace the ancestry of Carr's paternal grandmother, Sophronia Thomas Carr, in order to establish heirs of the estate. This series also contains Lizzie Schilling's

diaries from 1918-1926 which give an insight into the routine life of a Springfield housewife during the period.

The photographs in Series 6 are arranged into several categories including portraits, family and friends, France and World War I, Greece, Florida, and trips. The photographs date from around 1905 until the mid 1960s.

Subject Terms:

Persons/Families

Carr, Alice G., 1887-1968 Schilling, Lizzie B.

Organizations/Corporate Names

Near East Foundation (Greece)

Places

Yellow Springs (Ohio)

Subjects (General)

World War, 1914-1918 – Hospitals, charities, etc. World War, 1914-1918 – War work – Red Cross Public health administration – Greece – 1923-1941

Material Types

Correspondence Clippings (information artifacts) Photographs

Occupations

Nurses -- History

Collection Inventory

SERIES I: CORRESPONDENCE					
Box	<u>File</u>	Description	<u>Date</u>		
1	1	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1901-1908		
	2	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1910-1919		
	3	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1920-1929		
	4	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1930-1935		
	5	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1936-1940		
	6	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1941-1944		
	7	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1945		
	8	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1946-1947		
2	1	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1948-1949		
	2	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1950-1951		
	3	Correspondence from Alice Carr	1952-1962		
	4	Correspondence from Alice Carr	Undated		

2	5	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Florence Crumpton	1911-1919
	6	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Bessie Totten	1914-1962
	7	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Helen Livermore	1952-1967
	8	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Eve Odiorne	1953-1968
	9	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Louise Odiorne	1948-1968
	10	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Ladley Harris	1943-1953
	11	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Frank Yirka	1948-1949
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3	1	Katherine Carr Harris	1904-1920
	2	Katherine Carr Harris	1946-1948
	3	Katherine Carr Harris	1949-1950
	4	Katherine Carr Harris	1951-1952
	5	Katherine Carr Harris	1953-1955
	6	Katherine Carr Harris	1956-1958
	7	Katherine Carr Harris	1959-1960
2	0	Constant House	1004 1010
3	8	George Harris	1904-1918
4	1	George Harris	1942-1946
•	2	George Harris	1948-1961
4	3	Correspondence from Publishers	1941-1943
	4	Correspondence Re: Speaking	1941-1954
	5	Correspondence with American Journal of Nursing	1941-1943
4	6	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1905-1914
	7	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1915
	8	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1916-1918
	9	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1919
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4A	2	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1920-1927 1937-1943
	3	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1944-1946
	4	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	1947-1967
	5	Miscellaneous Correspondence to Alice Carr	Undated
	3	Wiscenaneous Correspondence to Afree Carr	Undated
SERI	ES II:	RED CROSS MATERIALS	
5	1	Red Cross Service Certificate	1921
-	2	Correspondence	1917-1944
	3	Thanksgiving dinner, Base Hospital	1918
	4	Articles about Alice Carr in Red Cross Bulletin and Courier	1920, 1928
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EK	IES III	: NEAR EAST FOUNDATION MATERIALS	
5	5	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Adeline Woltman	1941-1945
	6	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Florence Duryea	1941-1947
	7	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Laird Archer	1941-1943
	8	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Cleveland Dodge	1941-1944
	9	Correspondence to Alice Carr from C.I. Crother	1941-1945
	10	Correspondence to Alice Carr from E.C. Miller	1941-1942
	11	Correspondence to Alice Carr from E.C. Miller	1943-1945
	12	Correspondence to Alice Carr from Miscellaneous	1943-1948
	13	Carr talk to staff of Near East Foundation	1937
	14	"Village Project in Rehabilitation through "Self-Help" by Alice Carr	circa 1930s
	15	"Rural Medical Co-operatives and other Health Work in Yugoslavia" by Alice Carr	1936
	16	"Public Health, Medicine and Sanitation in Greece (before the Axis Occupation)" Report by Alice Carr	1942 Dec
6	1	"General Study of the Problem of Reclothing The Greek People" with appendix by Alice Carr	1943
	2	"Malaria Control, Sanitation, Disease Prevention, Medical Supplies – Greece" By A. Warren	1942
	3	Report of the Executive Secretary to the Bd. Of Near East Foundation	1943-1945
	4	Foreign Director's Report	1942, 1945
	5	"Personnel Training for Reconstruction Services in the Near East"	1943
	6	Miscellaneous reports and programs	1941-1945
	7	Alice Carr personal papers	circa 1940
	8	Copies of The New Near East	1926-1927
	9	Copies of Near Eastern News	1933-1934
	10	"The Woman who wouldn't come Home," Reader's Digest	1938
	11	Balkan Journal, by Laird Archer	1944
ERI	ES IV	: MISCELLANEOUS PERSONAL PAPERS	
6	12	Biographical Material	Undated
	13	A. Carr's Will	1962, 1968
	14	A. Carr's death certificate and obituaries	1968
	15	Genealogy	Undated
	16	Passports and visas	1918-1935
			

7	1	"Enchanted Mirror" a story by A. Carr	1903
	2	"Training School Library" by A. Carr	1912
	3	American Friends of Greece	1937-1942
	4	Greek War Relief Association	1941-1943
	5	American Farm School	1941-1947
	6	CARE	1950
	7	Melbourne Village Community	1948-1963
	8	Dogs	1935-1953
	9	Chinchilla Ranch	1953-1958
	10	Passenger lists	1920-1921
	11	House plans	Undated
	12	LL.D. degrees, Antioch, Ohio State (Oversize: Loc.6, Fol.3)	1937
	13	Grade Cards	1898-1904
	14	Expense books	1941-1943
SER	IES V:	LIZZIE B. SCHILLING ESTATE PAPERS	
7	15	Correspondence and legal papers	1948-1949
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7	16	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1918
	17	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1919
	18	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1920
	19	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1921
	20	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1922
	21	Lizzie B. Schilling Diaries	1925
SER	IES VI	: PHOTOGRAPHS	
8	1	Portraits of Alice Carr	1924-1938, Undated
	2	Family and Friends	1869-1961
	3	Dogs	1934-1953
9	1	France and World War I	1914-1920 (bulk
9	1	Trance and world war i	1914-1920 (bulk 1917-1918)
	2	Carr's home and garden in Greece	1938; 1940;
	2		Undated
	3	Greece	1921-1941
10	1	Ceremonies	1933; 1934; 1941
10	2	Florida	1950-1968
	3	Trips	1922-1937
Ιο	c.6,	Oversize (19 items)	1928; 1934;
	der 2	Oversize (1) nems)	Undated
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