SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: Coleman Family Papers
Dates: 1899-1912
Accession #: 2010-075
Creators: Coleman, Marie, 1878-1907
         Coleman, William Ware, 1880-1908
         Coleman, Edith, 1889-1959
Physical Description: 0.42 linear feet (2 boxes)
Languages: Collection material in English.
Processing Information: Julia A. Cowart processed the collection in 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition:
Cathy Godfrey, great niece of Marie Coleman, donated the Coleman Family Papers to Special Collections and Archives in December 2010.

Separated Material:
Items belonging to Ware Coleman were separated from the collection as follows:
  • Furman yearbook, The Bonhomie, 1901 and 1908 (added to yearbook extra copies)
  • 1901 class pin (Alumni Memorabilia RG 27/005)
  • Photograph of the 1900 Furman football team including Ware Coleman (RG 45/005-B Photographs, III Athletics Box 2)

Additional material separated from the collection:
  • The GFC yearbook, The Blue and Gold, 1901 and 1902 (added to yearbook extra copies)
Biographical Sketch:
Marie, Edith and William Ware Coleman were the children of William Lee and Mary Ware Coleman of Johnston, S.C. The sisters attended Greenville Female College; Marie graduated with a B.A. in 1899 and a Special degree in Art in 1902; Edith graduated with a Bachelor of Letters in 1909. William graduated from Furman University in 1901.


USING THE COLLECTION
Access Restrictions: None.
Preferred Citation: [Identification of item], Coleman Family Papers [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections and Archives, Furman University, Greenville, S.C.

ARRANGEMENT
This collection is arranged into two series: Series 1) Marie Clarke Coleman; and Series 2) Edith Coleman. The materials are then arranged by format and chronologically.

SCOPE AND CONTENT
This collection contains photographs, albums, correspondence, and programs pertaining to the college life of the Coleman siblings.

Both series contain photograph albums. Marie Coleman’s album is mostly undated with captions for 1902, 1904 and 1905. Depicted are probably family and friends, a trip to the beach, a trip to Washington, D.C.; Mount Vernon, Va.; Coney Island, N.Y.; New York City, N.Y.; and Savannah, Ga. Several photographs are possibly duplicates of photographs in Edith’s album. There are three photographs depicting African-American children.

Someone wrote “1906-1912” in ink on the cover Edith’s album, but the majority of photographs are undated, with 1906 and 1907 included in some captions. The photographs depict friends and possibly family. Included are male and female students, both groups posing on the GFC and Furman campuses, females posing at the Paris Mountain Hotel, Camperdown Mill on the Reedy River, and males and females with a train. One photo depicts an African-American woman. Since there were no yearbooks produced at GFC from 1904 to 1910, so these are the only photographs of students during this period.

Marie’s undated letter to her mother is possibly from 1899, as she asks if her dress for commencement will be purchased soon. She describes her trip to Clemson Agricultural College for a baseball game between Clemson and Furman. Marie describes the grounds and buildings, as well as her lunch with the college president.
Contents Inventory

Series 1 - Marie Clarke Coleman, 1899-1902 and undated

Box 1

Folder 1  Letter to Mrs. W. Lee Coleman (Mother), ca. 1899
Folder 2  Programs, 1899-1902 and undated
  • Program, Commencement Exercises: Greenville Female College, June 15, 1899 (photocopy)
  • Program, Commencement: Furman University and Greenville Female College, June 9-12, 1902 (photocopy)
  • Program, Judson Literary Society, March 25, 1902 (photocopy)
  • Program, Judson Literary Society, June 10, 1902 (photocopy)
  • Program, Graduation announcement (photocopy), Greenville Female College, 1902, envelope addressed to Miss Charlotte Manly
Folder 3  Photographs, undated
  • “ ‘Darlings’(?); “A rip-snortin set” [names listed on verso]; five females posing on the grass with buildings in the background.
  • “GFC- Greenville, SC”; view of a decorated fireplace, mantle and wall; pillows on floor in front of fireplace.
  • “In front of a F.C. (female college)”); A line of females posing outside.
  • “Just for fun”; seven female students in uniforms posing in and around a tree.
  • “Roguishness- A memento of the sporty times at GFC”; Maude Walker, Melita Clyburn, and Marie Coleman posing around a tree.
  • Professional photo by Fitzgerald photography (Greenville, SC); seven women leaning on one another, names on verso.
Folder 4  Photograph Album 1902-1905
Folder 5  Accretion # 2010-078
  • Composition Book, undated.
  • Composition Book, lecture notes, 1898
  • Newspaper clipping, “Death of Miss Marie Coleman,” June 1907 (photocopy)

Series 2 - Edith Coleman, 1906-1912

Box 2

Folder 1 - Graduation Announcement, Greenville Female College, 1909
Folder 2 - Photograph Album 1906-1912