

**Phipard Family
Papers, 1880-2002
Doc 510-511, 551, MSA 407, 468-469, and MS Size B**

Introduction

This collection consists of diaries, letters, photographs, postcards, newspaper and magazine clippings, pamphlets, Christmas cards, and a scrapbook from three generations of the Phipard family of Royalton, Vermont. Charles W. Phipard's World War II letters from 1942 to 1945, and the related photographs and postcards, are the focus of the collection. The collection also includes Helen Phipard's memorabilia from Camp Wihakowi in Northfield, Vermont, between 1929 and 1931. The collection occupies three document boxes, three archival flip top boxes, and one MS Size B folder; it consumes 4.25 linear feet of shelf space. John Dumville, son of Helen Phipard Dumville and nephew of Charles Phipard, gave the collection to the Vermont Historical Society in 2003 (ms. acc. no. 2003.9), with addenda donated in December 2005.

Biographical Notes

Willard Phipard was born March 15, 1887, the son of Leonora and Charles Kelsey Phipard. He graduated from the University of Vermont Medical School in 1913. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in September 1918 as a First Lieutenant and was discharged in August 1919. Phipard practiced medicine and lived in New York City and died in 1942.

Willard Phipard married Hazel Evelyn Dealing (1869-1892) in Burlington, Vermont, in 1890. Hazel was the daughter of Emma Helen LaFountain and Bertrum Dealing. Hazel's mother was the sister of Jessie LaFountain and Cora Gero. Hazel's parents died from tuberculosis when she was a child and she was brought up on Loomis Street in Burlington, Vermont. Hazel was close in age to her aunt, Jessie, and they grew up as sisters. After she married Willard Phipard, Hazel contracted tuberculosis and stayed at Terris Cottage on Mt. Philo (two postcard views of this facility are in the collection), and later at Dr. Trudeau's in Lake Placid, New York, where she died in 1927. Hazel's aunt, Jessie LaFountain Bigwood, became the first woman admitted to the Vermont Bar.

Charles Willard Phipard was born Aug. 5, 1916, in New York City, the son of Dr. Willard Phipard and Hazel (Dealing) Phipard. Following the death of their mother in 1927, he and his sister Helen lived first with their father's parents, Susan Leonora (Lanphear) and Charles Kelsey Phipard on Clinton Avenue in Brooklyn, New York. C.K. Phipard had a seat on the New York Stock Exchange and worked for Whitehouse & Co. After the death of C.K. Phipard they lived with Mrs. Phipard and their father's sister and husband, Edgar and Elizabeth Lanphear, in Brooklyn and later on Chelesa Street in Garden City, New York. Edgar was Secretary/Treasurer of the Otis Elevator Corp. Charles and his sister Helen spent many summers of their youth with their great-aunt and great-uncle, Cora Gero Munsell and Dr. Chauncy Munsell in South Royalton, Vermont.

Charles Phipard received his elementary education at Poly Prep Day School in Brooklyn, N.Y., the school attended by his father and grandfather. He attended Wesleyan University and Upsala College, graduating with degrees in business and economics. He was a member of the Delta Upsilon national fraternity and served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II; most of his time was spend in Canada as a weather observer.

After his discharge he returned home to Long Island and worked in the experimental department of Sperry Gyroscope. In 1956 he moved to Royalton, Vermont, to be near his sister and purchased a farm on Waterman Road where he raised chickens.

Charles Phipard was a charter member of the Heartland Lions Club, where he served as treasurer for many years. He was active as a Boy Scout leader, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and for many years was State Commissioner and Treasurer for Babe Ruth Baseball. He died August 7, 2002.

Helen Phipard was born in New York City on August 26, 1917, the daughter of Dr. Willard and Hazel Dealing Phipard. She graduated from Ashley Hall in Charleston, S.C. in 1937 and Mount Holyoke college in 1941. She married Robert Dumville (November 4, 1916-January 28, 1998) on August 2, 1947. They made their home at Woodlawn Farm in Royalton, Vermont. Helen died on November 18, 2005. A copy of her obituary is located in Folder 0.

Institutional History

Information about the history of Camp Wihakowi in Northfield, Vermont, is sparse. According to *Green Mountain Heritage* by the Northfield Town History Committee (1974):

Professor and Mrs. Arthur Winslow with Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Clark started Wihakowi Camp for Girls at the Fairgrounds in 1921. Later they moved the camp to a site near Harlow Bridge, then to Bull Run where they constructed buildings and dammed the brook for a swimming pool.

The camp was for sale in 1931 and closed for the 1932 season according to a letter Winslow wrote to Helen Phipard in December 1931. In 1957 it was purchased by the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ and was used until falling attendance necessitated its sale in 1981. The camp was under private ownership until ca 2000 when it finally closed.

Organization

The collection is organized in four series and seven subseries:

- I. Leonora Phipard
- II. Willard Phipard, b. March 15, 1887

- III. Charles Willard Phipard, August 5, 1916-August 7, 2002
 - a. Diaries
 - b. Letters
 - c. Photographs
 - d. Postcards
 - e. Newspapers and magazine clippings
 - f. Christmas cards
 - g. Miscellaneous
- IV. Helen Phipard Dumville, August 26, 1917-November 18, 2005

Scope and content

The collection consists of letters, diaries, photographs, postcards, newspaper and magazine clippings, pamphlets, Christmas cards, and a scrapbook from three generations of the Phipard family of Royalton, Vermont.

Material from the earliest generations is scant. These include: Leonora Phipard's scrapbook and clippings from the *New Idea Woman's Magazine* (ca. 1880-1915); a 1913 photograph of Willard Phipard when he graduated from the University of Vermont Medical School; and, the orders he received as an officer in the U.S. Army Medical Corps during World War I.

Most of the papers concern Charles Phipard as a young man with a scattering of material after he moved to Vermont. Charles Phipard's earliest letters are those he wrote during the summers of 1929 to 1931 when he attended several camps in New York State.

The focus of the collection is Charles Phipard's World War II letters, postcards, and photographs that he sent to his family. Phipard was a weather observer in the U.S. Army Air Force and spent much of his time in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada. His letters to Beebe (his aunt, Elizabeth Lanphear) and his sister, Helen, span the period from his induction in the Air Force in May 1942 until his discharge in September 1945. The letters in combination with his postcards and photographs fully depict his World War II experiences.

The entries in Charles Phipard's diaries that he began in 1926 as a young man and that continue until his death, are brief. In later years, especially he describes minutely the mundane details of his day.

The papers include a few letters written to Charles Phipard. The earliest were written in 1943 and 1944 by John Tunney, a male nurse who cared for Edgar Lanphear, Charles' uncle. Tunney, a songwriter, included some of his poetry and music with his letters. Between 1951 and 1953, when Charles sought real estate in Vermont, several realtors sent him letters with photographs about available property in the Royalton area.

After he settled in Vermont, Phipard became active in the Calvin Coolidge Council of the Boy Scouts of America serving as a troop leader in South Royalton. He

saved the directives he received from the Council between 1961 and 1963. These folders also include information about the Council's Camp Plymouth in Ludlow, Vermont.

The Christmas cards in Charles Phipard's collection, a sample of the cards he sent each year from 1932 to 1993, are mostly commercially produced. In 1973, 1983, and an unidentified year, however, he used photographs of his house in South Royalton on his greeting cards.

Most of Helen Phipard's papers in the collection are from the 1930s. They include her letters and memorabilia from her student days at Ashley Hall in Charleston, S.C. and Mount Holyoke College. During the summers of 1929, 1930 and 1931 Helen Phipard attended Camp Wihakowi in Northfield, Vermont. The collection includes her letters, a printed camp catalog, her autograph book, photograph albums, and memorabilia. At the end of camp, the girls wrote so-called "train letters" to their friends to be read on the journey home.

Related collections

- The Jessie Lafountain Bigwood Papers (MSA 391) includes letters to Helen Phipard and Cora Munsell and photographs of Dr. Munsell.
- Plans for alternations to the Phipard house on Waterman Road in Royalton, Vt., created by Preston M. Cole, architect, 1961-62, are in Plans B.
- Chauncy and Cora Munsell Papers MSA 475-456
- Photographs and postcards from the Phipard and Munsell families given to the Vermont Historical Society by John Dumville separately from this collection have been integrated into the picture collection. There are numerous large format photographs of UVM medical school from Dr. Munsell in Size C F-SCH-UVM.
- Helen Phipard's programs from the annual banquet at Camp Wihakowi are included in the library's unclassified pamphlet collection.
- The Vermont Historical Society Museum collection contains personal items, clothes and sporting equipment that belonged to the Phipard family including Helen Phipard's "old gold" Camp Wihakowi beret with black appliquéd "CW."

Inventory

I. Leonora Phipard

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Doc 510:1 | Scrapbook, ca. 1880-1900 |
| 2 | _____, clippings from <i>New Idea Woman's Magazine</i> , ca. 1910-1915 |

II. Willard Phipard, 1887-1942

- Doc 510:3 Photographs, 1913-1918, and receipt, 1915
- 4 Postcards sent to his family while a student at University of Vermont Medical School, 1911-1913
- 5 U.S. Army, 1918
- 6 _____, 1918-May 1919
- 7 _____, June 1919-August 1920
- MS Size B Photograph, Rocky Mountain Club (veterans of WWI), 1918.
- MS Size B _____, U.S. Army unit, ca. 1918

III. Charles Willard Phipard, 1916-2002a. Diaries

- MSA 468:1 Diaries, 1926, 1928 and 1934
- 2 _____, 1935, 1938, 1946, 1947
- Doc 510:8 _____, 1942-43
- 9 _____, 1944-45, and 1952
- MSA: 468:3 _____, 1948 (2), 1949 (2)
- 4 _____, 1950 (2), 1951 (2)
- 5 _____, 1953, 1954, 1955
- Doc 510:10 _____, 1955-58
- 11 _____, 1961-62, 1964; reminders 1961-64
- 12 _____, 1965-68
- 13 _____, 1969-72
- 14 _____, 1973-76
- 15 _____, 1977-79
- 16 _____, 1980-82
- 17 _____, 1983-85
- 18 _____, 1986-88
- Doc 511:1 _____, 1989-91
- 2 _____, 1992-94; 1992-93 appointment books
- MSA 407:1 _____, 1995-97
- 2 _____, 1998-2000
- 3 _____, 2001-02
- 4 Handwritten notes, clippings found in diaries
- 5 Receipts etc. found in diaries

b. Letters

- MSA 469:1 Letters, July 1929
- 2 _____, July 1930
- 3 _____, Aug. 1930
- 4 _____, Aug 1-13, 1931
- 5 _____, Aug. 16-27, 1931
- Doc 511:3 _____, to Elizabeth Lanphear and Helen Phipard, May 1942
- 4 _____, _____, June 1942
- 5 _____, _____, July 1942
- 6 _____, _____, August 1942

- 7 _____, _____, Sept.-Oct. 1942
- 8 _____, _____, Nov.-Dec. 1942
- 9 _____, _____, Jan.-March 1943
- 10 _____, _____, April-June 1943
- 11 _____, _____, Aug.-Sept. 1943
- 12 _____, _____, Oct.-Dec. 1943
- 13 _____, _____, Jan.-Feb. 1944
- 14 _____, _____, March-May 1944
- 15 _____, _____, June-Dec 1944
- 16 _____, _____, Jan.-May 1945
- 17 _____, _____, June-Sept. 1945
- 18 _____, to Helen Phipard Dumville, 1956
- 19 _____, to miscellaneous, 1942
- 20 _____, from John Tunney, 1943-44
- 21 _____, from miscellaneous, 1942-55
- 22 _____, re lost travelers cheques, 1943-44
- 23 _____, from Vermont realtors, 1951-53
- MSA 468.6 Camp Yahchilane, Lakemont, N.Y., memorabilia, 1929
- 7 Camp Marienfeld, Chesham, N.H., brochures etc., 1930-33
- 8 Camp Yamasee, Lakemont, N.Y., brochure, 1930
- 9 Miscellaneous
- Doc 511:24 School and college, misc., 1931-41
- 25 U.S. Army, induction, 1941-42
- 26 _____, weather observer, 1944
- 27 _____, discharge, 1945
- 28 _____, _____, 1945
- 29 _____, miscellaneous, 1942-45
- Doc 551:1 Boy Scouts of America, Calvin Coolidge Council, Inc., 1959-60
- 2 _____, _____, Jan-June 1961
- 3 _____, _____, July-Dec. 1961
- 4 _____, _____, 1962
- 5 _____, _____, 1963

c. Photographs

- Doc 551:6 Charles Phipard, July 1942-Feb. 1944
- 7 U.S. Army, Miami, FL, May-June 1942
- 8 _____, _____, Canute Field, IL, July -Sept 1942
- 9 _____, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada, 1943
- 10 _____, _____, _____, March-June 1943
- 11 _____, _____, _____, ca. 1943-44
- 12 _____, Airplanes, World War II
- 13 Historic sailing vessels, undated

d. Postcards

- Doc 551:14 Charles Phipard, sent to him, 1923-61
- 15 _____, to his sister, 1942

- 16 Alaska, Yukon Territory Canada, and Mitchel Field (no writing),
ca 1943-44
- 17 Miscellaneous, to family, 1911-1951

e. Newspaper and Magazine clippings

- Doc 551:18 Wesleyan University and Upsala College, 1940-43
- 19 World War II, 1942-43
- 20 Miscellaneous, 1942-45
- 21 "Hitler drawings," from the *New York Sun*, 1945
- 22 Airplanes, World War II, ca 1945

f. Christmas Cards

- Doc 551:23 Charles Phipard, unaddressed, 1932-50
- 24 _____, _____, 1951-70
- 25 _____, _____, 1971-1993

g. Miscellaneous

- Doc 551:26 Pamphlets, World War II, 1941-45
- 27 Miscellaneous, 1926-1945

IV. Helen Phipard Dumville, August 26, 1917-November 18, 2005

- MSA 469:10 Letters, 1926-29
 - 11 _____, July 1930
 - 12 _____, August 1930
 - 13 _____, August 1931
- Doc 551:28 _____, to family, Oct. 1935-36
 - 29 _____, _____, Feb. 1936-May 1936
 - 30 _____, _____, Nov. 1936-May 1937
 - 31 _____, _____, 1940-41
 - 32 Letters, to Miscellaneous 1937-45
 - 33 Camp Wihakowi, Northfield, Vermont, catalog, 1929
 - 34 _____, _____, autograph book, 1929-31
 - 35 _____, _____, photograph album, 1930
 - 36 _____, _____, _____, and negatives, 1931
 - 37 _____, _____, memorabilia, 1929-1931
 - 38 _____, _____, "train letters," 1931
 - 39 Ashley Hall, Charleston, S.C., misc. 1936-37
 - 40 Alpha Delta Theta, sorority 1937-38
 - 41 Mount Holyoke College, 1939-41
 - 42 Photographs, unidentified and undated
 - 43 Miscellaneous, 1938-42
- MSA 469:14 _____, undated

Priscilla Page
June 2004
rev. December 2005
rev. February 2006
rev. April 2008
rev. January 2014
phipard.doc