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Graham, Elmina, collection, 1921-1959

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Graham, Elmina E., Collection, MS 146

Elmina Graham Collection

Collection Number	MS 146
Title	The Elmina Graham Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1921 – 1959
Collection Size	3 linear feet
Creator	Elmina Graham

Scope and Content Elmina Graham was an English Professor at Kansas State Teacher's College (KSTC), now Pittsburg State University. She and Frances Hashbarger founded the Epsilon Chapter of Theta Sigma Upsilon, and she also started the Sigma Alpha chapter for Sigma Tau Delta. This collection contains correspondence, travel diaries and memorabilia, scrapbooks, histories of Theta Sigma Upsilon and Sigma Tau Delta, photographs and personal items for her and Hashbarger.

Access Restrictions This collection is open for access

Languages English

Biographical Note Elmina Elizabeth Graham was born in Green Forest, Arkansas on August 13, 1876 to William Edward Graham and Elizabeth Belinda (Atchley) Graham. Her family moved to Walla Walla in 1884. She graduated from Whitman College in Walla Walla in 1908, and in 1921 received a master's degree from the University of Washington. She also studied at the University of Chicago for one year.

Graham taught English at senior high schools in Washington for ten years and was an assistant professor of English at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. In 1922 she began to teach English as an assistant professor at the Kansas State Teacher's College. She became an associate professor in 1924 and a professor in 1928. She became a part-time professor of language and literature in 1946.

During her teaching career, Graham was a member of the National Education Association, National Association of College Teachers of English, and Kansas State Teachers Association. She was a member of the Language and Literature Club, the South Central Regent for Sigma Tau Delta and founded the Sigma Alpha Chapter of Sigma at KSTC. She and Frances Hashbarger worked to install the Epsilon Chapter of Theta Sigma Upsilon at KSTC. In Theta Sigma Upsilon, Frances was the national vice-president in 1928, a member of the Advisory Cabinet, and the west central regent.

On July 4, 1962, Graham passed away in Washington state.

Graham, Elmina E., Collection, MS 146

Series

There are five series in this collection:

Correspondence; Travel; Theta Sigma Upsilon; Sigma Tau Delta; Frances Hashbarger; and Personal Items.

The **Correspondence** series contains one letter written to Graham from Ossie Jones of the University of the City of Toledo. The letter discusses a group leadership class.

The **Travel** series consists of journals and souvenirs from the trips Graham took with other professors and faculty members at KSTC. The majority of this series is about Graham's trip to Mexico in 1937. There are postcards, notes, research materials, programs, brochures, and photographs. There are also two journals that have maps, pictures, notes, and brochures of her trip to Colorado and the South, respectively.

The **Theta Sigma Upsilon** series contains the history of Theta Sigma Upsilon and the Epsilon chapter at KSTC. There is a scrapbook from 1934 with pictures of the active members of Epsilon, the entire history of Theta Sigma Upsilon up to 1952, and a history of Epsilon chapter from 1949 to 1959. There is a condensed history of TSU and one of their publications. There are also several photographs of the 1946 national convention and girls pledging.

The **Sigma Tau Delta** series includes materials for the fraternity. There is an official publication of the fraternity, copies of their ritual book, membership materials, a dues and member ledger, and a clipping about the history of Sigma Tau Delta.

The **Frances Hashbarger** series consists of a music book and photo album of Kincaid High School that belonged to Hashbarger.

The **Personal Items** series includes materials that relate to Graham's personal interests beyond her fraternities. There are papers over heraldry and books about how college fraternities use heraldry in their crests and Scottish clans and tartan patterns. There is a literary magazine and one over how World War II is affecting Asia. There are several materials related to the study of Christmas symbols and stories and Kansas history.

Folder List

Correspondence

f. 1 1932

Travel

- v. 1 Journal for the Colorado Trip (Summer of 1934)
- v. 2 Journal for the Hots Springs, Arkansas to Houston Trip (December of 1935)
- f. 2 Postcards and Notes for the Mexico Trip
- f. 3 Starr, Frederick. "The Mapa de Cuauhtlantzinco or Codice Campos." *Department of Anthropology Bulletin* 3 (1898): 3-38. Print.
Starr, Frederick. "Recent Mexican Study of the Native Languages of Mexico." *Department of Anthropology Bulletin* 4 (1900): 3-19. Print. (2x)
Palacios, Enrique Juan. "The Stone of the Sun and the First Chapter of the History of Mexico." *Department of Anthropology Bulletin* 6 (1921): 3-77. Print.
National Geographical Article over the History of Mexico.

Graham, Elmina E., Collection, MS 146

- Herring, Hubert. "Cardenas of Mexico." Harper's Magazine Oct. 1938: 489-502. Print.
Allen, Margaret Ford. *The Story of the Maya*. Chicago: Colortext, 1933. Print.
- f. 4 Travel Guides to Texas and Mexico (1937)
 - f. 5 Programs in Spanish
 - Pamphlets for sites and hotels
 - Menus
 - Maps
 - f. 6 Photographs (1937)
 - f. 7 Clippings (1937-1938)
 - Miscellaneous

Theta Sigma Upsilon

- v. 3 Scrapbook (1934)
- v. 4 History of the Epsilon Chapter of Theta Sigma Upsilon (1945-1959)
 - Theta Sigma Upsilon cont.
- v. 5 History of Theta Sigma Upsilon (1952)
- f. 8 Correspondence from Frances Hashbarger to Alice Sharpless
 - History of Theta Sigma Upsilon
 - The Torch of Theta Sigma Upsilon*. 27.2 (Spring 1950). Print.
- f. 9 Photographs (1946; Undated)

Sigma Tau Delta

- f. 10 *The Rectangle: Official Publication of Sigma Tau Delta*. 5.3 (Nov. 1929). Print
 - Sigma Tau Delta Initiation Ritual
 - Materials for Sigma Tau Delta
 - Member and Dues ledger
 - Clipping (1956)

Frances Hashbarger

- v. 6 Levermore, Charles H. *The Abridged Academy Song-Book*. Boston: Ginn and Company, 1926. Print.
- f. 11 Music Practice Sheet
 - Kincaid High School photo album (1921)

Personal Items

- f. 12 Papers over the study of heraldry
- v. 7 Butterfield, Emily H. *College Fraternity Heraldry*. Mensha, WI: George Banta, 1931. Print
- v. 8 *The Scottish Clans and Their Tartans*. Edinburgh: W. & A. K. Johnston, 1902. Print.
- f. 13 *The Munsey*. May 1905. Print.
 - Asia*. January 1942. Print.
- f. 14 Research on Christmas symbolisms and stories
- f. 15 Programs and pamphlets on Kansas history