

Pittsburg State University

## Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

---

[Finding Aids](#)

[Special Collections & University Archives](#)

---

9-2-2021

### Gray, Mary Virginia Holstine, collection, 1901-1991

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa>



Part of the [Music Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library, "Gray, Mary Virginia Holstine, collection, 1901-1991" (2021).  
*Finding Aids*. 292.  
<https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa/292>

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections & University Archives at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@pittstate.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@pittstate.edu).

## **Gray, Mary Virginia Holstine, Collection, MS 284**

### **Mary Virginia Holstine Gray Collection**

#### **Overview of the Collection**

<b>Creator</b>	Unknown
<b>Title</b>	Mary Virginia Holstine Gray Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1901-1991
<b>Quantity</b>	1 linear foot
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS 284
<b>Summary</b>	A Collection of short stories and music produced, collected, and owned by Mary Virginia Holstine Gray.
<b>Repository</b>	Pittsburg State University; Leonard H. Axe Library; Special Collections & University Archives 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg; Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	There are no restrictions and the collection is open for research. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Biographical Note</b>	Mary Virginia Erskine Holstine Gray was born on January 21 <sup>st</sup> , 1908 in Pittsburg, Kansas to Ralph and Myrta Erskine. She married Lawrence Holstine in 1931 and ran the Ritz Tavern with him until the late 1960s. In the mid-1940s she began to write her own music, and throughout the late 1950s and early 1960s she wrote short stories. In 1967, Lawrence Holstine passed away. After his death, Mary moved to Frontenac, Kansas. In 1971, she married Roland Gray, who passed away in 1974. Mary passed away on Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup> , 1996.

#### **Content Description**

This collection includes primary and secondary resources and is divided into the following series:

## **Gray, Mary Virginia Holstine, Collection, MS 284**

1. Short Stories
  - a. Autobiographies
  - b. Fiction
  - c. Non-fiction
  - d. Rejection Letters from Editors
  - e. Letters to and from Editors
2. Music
  - a. Music composed by Mary V. Holstine Gray
  - b. Piano Sheet Music
  - c. Song Programs
  - d. Song Magazines
3. Miscellaneous

### **Processing Note**

Collection formally processed in September 2020

### **Detailed Description of Collection**

#### **Series 1: Short Stories**

F. 1; My Biography; The Chocolate Cherries; My Secret Experiment; The Staule; Musings of a Homesteader (includes outline); Did You Say Something?; A Frog Tale; He's Still With Me (Poem); A True Sad Love Story (Poem)

F. 2; Her Secret Desire; Victoria's Vengeance; The Golden Heart; The Billfold; Baby Star; Blue Diamond; Night of Terror; Lori; The Indecent Ones (two copies); The Hitchhikers (two copies); Hectic Holiday; The Wart; There are Fairies; Victoria's Vengeance; The Dairy Quilt; What our Pioneer did with his Life: Old Tad's Niece; A Fishing Trip

F. 3; Man: Slave to Alcohol; Where is our Pioneering Spirit; Wise Wives Restyle Homes; Television Could Bring Peace; The Awesome Power We Possess; How much is a Coin Worth?; Weyerhauser Kidnapping in 1935; Handi-Hints (2 copies); The Chocolate Cake and the Sugar-Holic; A Revolting Development of the Machine Age; A Commemorative to the Queen; Are Colleges and Universities drifting towards Socialism?; Veteran Angler Bares Secrets (with Envelope); Young Bill Draper; Where is our Pioneering Spirit?; Land of the Cherokees; Is a Complex ever Conquered; Treasure Hunting the Easy Way; The Art of the Pioneers; For the Love of Mike and Debbie; If He Were Perfect, He'd Have Wings

F. 4; The Andrews Sisters, 1945; The Blue Network, 1945; The Towers, 1958; Saturday Evening Posts, 1958; Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, 1959; Mercury Publications, 1959; McFadden Publications, 1959; Playmate, 1960; American Museum of Natural History, 1960; Travel, 1960; Holiday, 1960; The Eagle, 1960; Automotive Magazine, 1960; Library of Congress, Chicago Natural History Museum, 1960; The Kansas City Star, 1962 (has several rejection letters

## **Gray, Mary Virginia Holstine, Collection, MS 284**

attached); Coin World, 1964; Western Publications, 1979; Grit, Date Unknown; Home & Highway, Date Unknown; Ginny Simms, Date Unknown

F. 5; The Progress of Pittsburg, 1958; American Museum of Natural History, 1960; The Instructor, 1960; Boys Life, 1960 (four copies); Conflict and Competition, 1989 (two copies); Little Pot of Gold, 1993

### **Series 2: Music**

F. 6; My Heart's in the Heart of America; I Salute the Stars and Stripes; Arizona Moon; Spring Fever; Log Cabin Home; Night Winds; I You're Swell; I'll Wait For Your Return; The Sun Don't Shine Here Anymore; Paradise Park

F. 7; Tone Paintings for the Piano; Three Quaint Encore; Little Sunshine; Love Days; Beloved Child; Her Bright Smiles; Only a Poor Old Drunkard's Child; Sweet Oregon; The Olympic Mountains; If You Can't Go Over Come Across; Your Uncle Sam; Oh, If We Only Had Known; Banjo Twang; Stars and Stripes Forever; The Wayside Chapel; Whispering Hope; Ethelbert; The Rosary; Selected Foreign Songs and Ballads; Those Sons My Mother used to Sing; Sacred and Secular Solos and Duets; Nocturne (two copies); Old Fashioned Roses; In the Sweet Long Ago; A Perfect Day; Charles Wakefield Cadman Songs; The Merry Widow; Absent; Old Fashioned Roses; Venetian Gondolas; Flower Songs; In a Garden; Il Trovatore; Idilio; Standard Marches; Sunbeams; Sing Me to Sleep; Songs; The Great White Throne; Sacred Songs and Duet; Golgotha; Beyond the Gates; Love's Dream after the Ball; A Garland of Old English Songs; Three Shadows (Oversize)

F. 8; Program of Patriotic Songs; Barber Shop Quartet Songs

F. 9; 245 Well-Known Songs; The Harmonizer; Songs That Will Live Forever; Song Parade; Song Hits; Songs Screen; Big Song Magazine; Best Loved Hillbilly, Cowboy Songs; Hit Parade

### **Series 3: Miscellaneous**

F. 10; Letter to Winston Churchill; Letter to Frank Sinatra; Genealogy; News Clippings; Red Berry for Democrat Poster (Two), (Oversize)