

**University of Oklahoma Libraries
Western History Collections**

Alberta Anne Wilson Constant Collection

Constant, Alberta Anne Wilson. Papers, 1930–1983. 9 feet.

Author. Correspondence (1930–1983) of Edwin and Alberta Constant with friends, admirers, publishing companies, and agents regarding family affairs of the Constants, the authorship, publication, and distribution of her works, and public appearances by Alberta Constant; publicity items (n.d.) generated by Constant's writings; subject and reference files (n.d.) of Constant regarding topics of interest or on which she wrote; manuscripts (n.d.) of the fiction and non-fiction works by Constant; and publications (1945–1953), including newsletters, magazines, and journals, containing articles or stories by Constant.

Series 1: Correspondence

The "Correspondence" series of this collection contains all correspondence found within the Constant materials. Ms. Constant originally filed her correspondence in a number of ways, most commonly by correspondent, and by subject. Most correspondence has been filed chronologically, though some have been filed by subject, and one small file by correspondent in an attempt to preserve the importance Ms. Constant attached to these various categories.

Box 1

File

1. With Walter Stanley Campbell, 1947-1955.
2. With Holland's Magazine of the south, 1947-1953.
3. Re. "Miss Charity Comes to Stay," 1957-1958.
4. Re. "Oklahoma Run, " 1954-1958.
5. Re. "Oklahoma Run," 1954-1958.
6. Re. "Oklahoma Run," 1954-1958.
7. Re. "Willie and the Wapanucak Wildcat," 1953-1959.
8. Re. articles and plays by Constant, 1946-1949.
9. Re. Phi Eta, 1946-1954.
10. Re. speeches delivered by Ms. Constant, includes some speeches.
11. General, Undated, and 1930, 1936.

12. General, 1940, 1946-1954.
13. General, 1955-1957.
14. General, 1957-1959.
15. General, 1960-1962.
16. General, 1963-1964.
17. General, 1965-1968.

Box 2
File

1. General, 1969-1973.
2. General, 1974-1981.

Series 2: Publicity

Includes the various materials - newspaper and magazine clippings, etc. - by which Ms. Constant and her writings received media attention.

3. General.
4. General.
5. Re. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?"
6. Re. "Paintbox on the Frontier: The Life of George Caleb Bingham."
7. Re. "Oklahoma Run."
8. Re. Ms. Constant's authorship of the text of Jack F. Kilpatrick's Symphony No. 8, "Oklahoma," Commissioned by the state of Oklahoma and performed for its Semi-Centennial celebration by the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra.
9. Re. "Miss Charity Comes to Stay."

Series 3: Subject Files

A broad category encompassing a variety of materials, this series mirror Ms. Constant's personal method of filing materials by subject for quick and ready reference. Again, her method has been preserved as much as possible.

10. Order received for "Bookworms..."

11. Awards received by Ms. Constant for books.
12. Re. John Edwin Constant.
13. Re. John Edwin Constant.
14. Short-course notes, taken by Ms. Constant during attendance in the University of Oklahoma's Short Course on Professional Writing sponsored by Walter Stanley Campbell.
15. Biographical materials, re. Alberta Constant (see also Box 3, Folder 7).
16. History of the Erwin family.
17. Christmas in Missouri.
18. Ideas by Constant for stories.
19. Ideas by Constant for speeches.
20. Poetry by Constant.
21. Poetry composed for Constant by appreciative grade-school children.

Series 4: Reference Files

These materials are essentially the "creativity files" of Ms. Constant, containing newspaper, magazine, and journal clippings, pages from books, and brief handwritten notes saved by Ms. Constant for informational purposes. Much of the information found herein was incorporated into her books and stories. Also found within this series are Ms. Constant's files of speeches delivered and information regarding her achievements.

22. Re. George Caleb Bingham
23. Speeches by Constant and related information.
24. Speech by Constant, "The Librarians of My Life."
25. Speech by Constant to the American Folklore Society.
26. Speech by Constant, "So You Want to Write a Book."
27. Speech by Constant, re. short stories and the foibles of authoring them.

**Box 3
File**

1. Speech by Constant to a chapter of WICI (Women in Communication, Inc.)
2. Speech by Constant, "Creativeness in Children."
3. Notes and information, re. Colonel Alex William Doniphan.
4. Speeches by Constant, various subjects.
5. Re. writing for children.
6. Re. early-day automobiling.
7. Threlkeld family history and Alberta Constant biographical information (see also Box 2, Folder 15).
8. Membership rosters of organizations in which Constant belonged.
9. Re. Agriculture, Art and artists, Automobiles (old).
10. Re. Birds, early Business and industry, and Butterland Overland Mail Company.
11. Re. Chandler, Oklahoma.
12. Re. Churches, Colorado, and Christmas.
13. Re. Diseases/Medicine, Entertainment, Fashions, Steamboats in Siberia.
14. Re. Food, Governors, Guns, Houseboats, and Houses and Furnishings.
15. Re. "History Cous" (sic) "at Norman."
16. Re. Indians of North America.
17. Re. Captain Maurice M. Langhorne, Law and lawyers, Lincoln County (Oklahoma), Pioneers, Mr. Erwin, Territorial (Oklahoma) land openings, Mrs. Roy V. Hoffman, Maude Conklin Marshall, and Indians of North America (continued from previous file).
18. Re. Oklahoma City, and Oil in Oklahoma.
19. Re. Oklahoma history, Personalities, Politics and railroads.
20. Re. Runs (land runs of Oklahoma) of 1889, 1893, and Sac & Fox Indians.
21. Re. Schools, Shawnee, Tulsa, and Oklahoma City (the cities), Society.

22. Re. Sports, Superstitions, Telephone, Territorial Oklahoma news, Topeka tornado, Town pictures, and "Those Motoring Millers."

Box 4

File

1. Re. Tennessee, and Trees and plants.
2. Re. United States, Vocabulary building, Weather.
3. Re. Wagons and stages, Wild animals, and Words (regional and Western).
4. Re. Kansas
5. Re. Kansas
6. Re. Independence, Missouri.
7. Re. Independence, Missouri (the historical edition of "The Examiner").
8. Re. Kansas pioneers.
9. Re. Pioneer life in Oklahoma Territory.
10. Re. Juliette Lowe Fund.
11. Re. Missouri customs and places, and Bent's Forts.
12. Re. Fort Osage, Missouri, and Society of Midland Authors.

Not in folders: Four index card files containing additional reference information.

Series 5: Manuscripts

Divided into two sub-series ("sub-series A: Long Works" and "sub-series B: Short Works"), this series contains all manuscripts authored by Constant to be found within this collection. Included under this heading are manuscripts as well as various sorts of typescripts, page proofs, and galley proofs.

Sub-series A: Long Works

Box 5

File

1. Untitled manuscript.
2. Untitled manuscript, continued from above.
3. "Paintbox on the Frontier: The Life of George Caleb Bingham."

4. "Miss Charity Comes to Stay."
5. "Oklahoma Run."
6. Character Sketches and galley proofs for "Oklahoma Run."
7. Galley proofs for "Oklahoma Run" (continued from previous folder.)
8. Unused material for "Oklahoma Run."
9. "Oklahoma Run," (folder 1)
10. "Oklahoma Run," (continued: folder 2).
11. "Oklahoma Run," (continued: folder 3).
12. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (folder 1)
13. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (continued: folder 2).
14. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (continued: folder 3).

Box 6
File

1. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (continued from box 5: folder 4).
2. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (continued: folder 5).
3. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" (continued, folder 6).
4. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" - Page proofs and signatures.
5. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" - Page proofs and signatures.
6. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" - Original typescript.
7. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" - Original typescript, continued.
8. "Does Anybody Care About Lou Emma Miller?" - Original typescript, continued.
9. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
10. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.

11. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
12. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
13. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
14. "Those Miller Girls," typescript.
15. "Those Miller Girls," typescript.

Box 7

File

1. "Those Miller Girls," typescript.
2. "Those Miller Girls," typescript.
3. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
4. "Those Miller Girls," galley proofs.
5. Narration composed by Ms. Constant for Jack F. Kilpatrick's Symphony No. 8, "Oklahoma," prepared by him as commissioned by the State of Oklahoma for its Semi-Centennial (50th birthday) celebration. Performed by the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra.
6. "Those Motoring Millers," preliminary typescript.
7. "Those Motoring Millers," preliminary typescript.
8. "Willie and the Wildcat Well," page proofs.
9. "Willie and the Wildcat Well," page proofs.
10. "Willie and the Wildcat Well," galley proofs.
11. "Willie and the Wildcat Well," galley proofs.
12. "The Dog in the Hedge."

Sub-series B: Short Works

13. "Olney Bledsoe and the Cussed Critter."
14. "The Society."

15. "They Set a Good Table," "Fannie Farkle the Ferocious Fighting Falcon," - manuscript by and about Constant's mother Marie Fite Erwin - "Day Help," "The Magic Formula," "The Cat and the Wedgewood Bowl," "The G.C.P. - C.C.S.," "Quaker Boy," "The Religious Processing," and a report re. Constant's writings.

Box 8
File

1. Poetry by Constant.
2. "Sword in the Heart."
3. "Clayton Calhoun Story," "Mrs. Murdock and the National Pastime," "George: the True Story of a True Mouse," "Peter Cartwright," "Me and My Big Mouth," "Angels in Aprons," "Penny a Day," "Careless Rapture," "The Day Our Luck Ran Out," "Charity Begins Where You Find It."
4. "Olney Bledsoe and the Cussed Critter," "Love Is Eternal."
5. "Stories for Children" (includes various titles), "Daniela in the Lions Den," "Spirit of Salterville, Arise!," "History Repeats for Miss Pryde," "Jenny Had a Wild Streak," "Clothes Makes the Man," "Love and Larceny," "Chapter Four: A Various People," "This is the Way it Was," "Sampson: East Texas Style," "Second Adventure," "Summer is over," and various untitled manuscripts.
6. "Angie and the Song of Love," "Afternoon with Mrs. Lacey," "I'm All Boxed In!," "For Rent: One Ivory Tower," "From Back to Front," "How to Live With What You Have," "Upon a Midnight," "It Was a Small World," "May I Show You My Itchings?," "The Skin Game - or - My Life With Eczema," "Rhapsody in Stew," "I Eat When I'm Hungry," "Soup" (incomplete), "Start Out Hearty," "Sand Cans," "Queries and Quizzes," "The Little Things I Hate."
7. "What Are You Worth," "Wild Audiences I Have Known," "Best Christmas Stories," "The Measure of a Dozen," "Around the World on a Hundred Pennies," "The Happy Profession," "Oklahoma - Phi Eta Edition," "The Magic Formula."
8. "The Evolution of Pa," untitled plays.
9. "Jackson County Journal" (includes several titled stories), "The Story of Windwagon Smith," and "The Wonderful Journal Windy Bill."
10. Untitled manuscript; "Fiddler's Wedding" or "The Preacher's Confession," "I remember Johnny Jordan," "Letter to the Sergeant," "Imagination Unlimited," "Clothes Make the Man," "Straight is the Gate."

11. "Are You Your Family's Keeper?," "Club Programs are Trumps," "Home-Based Vacation," "Food for Thought," "Keeping Yourself in Hot Water," "Plan of Attack," "Polly Propane Says," "Tips from the Broomhandle," "Buffet's the Way," "Do's and Don't of Buffet Service," "Child's Eye View," "Dissa and Datta," "It's Child's Play," "Move Over, Pardner," "Good Neighbors are Made, Not Born," "Olney Burris," "Paging the Ladies," "Needle's Eye," "Please Come to Order," "'The Chair' and You," "When You're 'The Chair'," "Parliamentary Procedure and You," "Program Planning," "Read'em and Weep No More, My Lady," "Resources: Unlimited," "Mamas - That Man's here Again" (Santa Claus), "Ancestors Were Human Beings," "What About Installment Buying?"
12. "When O.U. Was Very, Very Young," "Kitchen Dictionary," "Is Your Welcome Insured?," "Remember the End," "Who Walks Alone," "Oliver Wiswell."
13. "The Nazarene," "Vanishing Virginia," "The Yearling," "Bird in the Tree," "Autobiography of William Lyon Phelps."
14. "Trens in Modern Novel" (sic), "I Married Adventure," "Mr. Sheffington" (incomplete), "'Matrix Table Nomination" (Women In Communication, Inc.)

Series 5: Awards and Plaques

A very small series, this category contains only two files of awards and plaques granted Ms. Constant by various groups. Additional award certificates and honor certificates may be found within the Reference Files series and the Subject Files series. Within the Correspondence series is several items regarding the receipts of these rewards.

15. Plaque, wooden, with brass fixtures engraved as follows: "Distinguished Alumni Award presented to Alberta Wilson Constant by the Alumni Association of Oklahoma City University," 1967.
16. Award, framed, entitled, "For eminent and devoted leadership in community service - Alberta Constant - has been chosen by the Independence Branch of American Association of University Women as a special honoree of 1966-1967.

Box 9

Series 6: Publications

Magazines, journals, newsletters, and some newspapers and newspaper clippings containing articles and stories written by Ms. Constant. Due to the nature of the materials of this series the contents of some have not been placed in files but flat within each box of this series. Sample titles include "The Saturday Evening Post," "Holland's Magazine of the South," "Reader's Digest," and "The Southwest Review."

Sound Recordings Collection:

Recorded disc: "Ballad of Oklahoma, Featuring Bob Duncan and the Surrey Singers." 33 1/3. c1957 by Red Plains Trading Post, Ltd., Oklahoma City.

Cassette tape: Speech of Alberta Wilson Constant before the Women's Posse of the Westerners in Oklahoma City, with introductory remarks by Alice L. Marriott. October 6, 1972.