
Hope College
Papers, 1922-1963. 0.75 linear ft.

Abstract

Hope College professor of German from 1921-1955. Collection includes correspondence with Paul Fried, Eva Van Schaak, and Helen Keller (signature), Boyd’s diary, and photographs.

Accession No:        H88-0016  
Provenance:          Laura Alice Boyd  
Donor:               Information Unavailable  
Photographs:         17 images (Box 2)  
Processed by:        Rebecca O’Shesky, June 1992  
                    Jenifer A. Smith, October 1993

Biography

Laura Alice Boyd was born in Clarence, Iowa, on October 3, 1884. She graduated from high school in 1902 in Red Oak, Iowa. Boyd received her B.A. degree from Tarkio College (1906) and her M.A. degree from Missouri State University (1907). From 1908-1910, Boyd taught public school in Idaho. She returned home in 1910 to care for her ailing mother until 1916, when she accepted a teaching position at Sterling College in Kansas.

In 1921, she began teaching at Hope College as instructor of German. Boyd became a full professor of German in 1929; she remained at Hope College until her retirement in 1955. While at Hope, Boyd helped to establish the German Club and the Palette and Masque theater group.

Following her retirement, Boyd moved to Massachusetts to live with long time friend and former student Eva Van Schaak. She returned to Holland when Miss Van Schaak accepted a teaching position at Hope College in 1956.

Laura Alice Boyd died on November 25, 1962, at the University Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Scope and Content

The Laura Alice Boyd Papers have been arranged alphabetically by topical heading. General correspondence includes a 1962 letter signed by Helen Keller. Photographs include many pictures of Boyd, as well as her friends and other Hope College faculty members. The Poems & Riddles folders contain many of Boyd’s original poems and short stories.

Container List

Box 1

Biographical, 1902-1963  
Correspondence
Fried, Paul, 1947-1953
General, 1951-1962
Hope College, n.d., 1921-1956
Retirement, 1955
Van Schaak, Eva, 1937
Diary, 1934-1961
Poems & Riddles, 1959, n.d. (2 folders)

Box 2

Photographs
Laura Alice Boyd
Pine Lodge, 1929 (1 image)
Winter 1932 (1 image)
With Hope Faculty?, n.d. (1 image)
With Mother, 1943 (2 images)
Beechwood Rd., n.d. (1 image)
1955 (1 image)
n.d. (2 images)
Mitsu Emori, May 1961, n.d. (2 images)
Martha D. Kollen, June 1932, 1948 (2 images)
J. B. Nykerk (on Arbor Day), 1932 (1 image)
Eva Van Schaak, 1927, 1929 (3 images)