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H88-0455. Marigold Lodge.
Records, 1915-2006. 1.50 linear ft.

Abstract

Egbert H. Gold, tycoon of the Vapor Car Heating Company of Chicago and New York, established Marigold Lodge in 1913. The cottage, located at Point Superior on Black Lake (Lake Macatawa), was designed by the firm of Tallmadge and Watson, Chicago, and executed by contractor H. M. Deam. The beautifully realized buildings and grounds, added to the National and State Registries of Historic Sites in 1984, were donated to Hope College in 1969 and sold to Herman Miller, Inc., in 1978. The Gold family is further notable for Mary Jayne Gold’s WW II involvement (with Varian Fry) in aiding European Jews to emigrate and to escape Nazi persecution. The collection includes photographs, journals, and correspondence relating to Marigold Lodge and the Gold family; the lodge library list; plans and blueprints for a greenhouse; a 1915 assessment of Egbert H. Gold’s health that is a remarkable look at medicine in the nation’s post-Progressive age; a 16mm film of Samuel (Dick) and Bunny Gold’s wedding; and family obituaries and the memorial service speech and will for Mary Jayne Gold. There is also the lodge dedication speech (1985), pictorial guidebooks, and recent articles. Lastly, the collection contains two books: the autobiography of Mikhail Thorgevsky, Margaret Gold’s second husband; and Mary Jayne Gold’s memoir of her wartime efforts.

Accession No: H88-0455
Provenance: Gold Family
Photographs: 67 images and 2 photograph albums
Processed by: Ena Brooks, October 1998
David Andrews, July 2001

History

Egbert H. Gold, tycoon of the Vapor Car Heating Company, of Chicago and New York, established Marigold Lodge in 1913. Mr. Gold searched the Lake Michigan coast to find a serene place where he could build a summer vacation home to escape busy Chicago, and decided to settle at Point Superior on adjacent Black Lake (Lake Macatawa). The architect hired to design the home was Mr. Tallmadge of Tallmadge & Watson, Chicago. The family hired H. M. Deam as the general contractor. The first building, the icehouse, was completed in January 1913. The construction of the house was begun in that spring and completed in November 1913. It featured a boathouse, barns, special walkways, and an extensive garden. Marigold Lodge became the summer home of Egbert, wife Margaret Jayne (Dickey), and their three children, Samuel Dickey, Mary Jayne, and Egbert, Jr. The lodge was named for both mother and daughter.

The Gold family is further notable for Mary Jayne Gold’s WW II involvement in aiding European Jews to emigrate and to escape concentration camps and other Nazi persecution. In this effort, she was a colleague of the like-minded Varian Fry.

The Gold family enjoyed the lodge until 1969. After the death of her mother, Mary Jayne Gold gave the home and land to Hope College. Nine years later, in 1978, Hope College sold the
lodge to Herman Miller, Inc. as a corporate events center. Herman Miller still owns the lodge today.

Scope and Content

The collection includes photographs, journals, and correspondence relating to Marigold Lodge and the Gold family; the lodge library list; plans and blueprints for a greenhouse; a 1915 assessment of Egbert H. Gold’s health that is a remarkable look at medicine in the nation’s post-Progressive age; a 16mm film of Samuel (Dick) and Bunny Gold’s wedding, and family obituaries and the memorial service speech and will for Mary Jayne Gold. There is also the lodge dedication speech (1985), pictorial guidebooks, and recent articles. Lastly, the collection contains two books: the autobiography of Mikhail Thorgevsky, Margaret Gold’s second husband; and Mary Jayne Gold’s memoir of her wartime efforts. The collection is organized alphabetically by subject.

Container List

Box 1

Building Plans for E.H. Gold Residence (see Oversized Collections Cabinet)
   Layout of Bathroom, Grand Rapids Marble & Fireplace Company, n.d.
Dedication speech, 1985
Display Items, n.d. (11 images)
Egbert H. Gold Medical assessment, 1915
Film, S. D. Gold wedding, n.d.
Gold Family Obituaries, 1928, 1944, 1959, 1968
Memorial Service Speech (Mary Jayne Gold), 1997
Memoranda (bound)
   No. 1, 1912-1923
   No. 2, 1924-1928
Publications
   Mischa: My Book by Mikhail Ivanovitch Thorgevsky, n.d.
   Crossroads Marseilles by Mary Jayne Gold, 1940
Sugar Ration Card for Ottawa County, n.d.
Will of Mary Jayne Gold, 1997

Box 2 (Oversized)

Photographs (38 images)
Photograph Albums (2 items)