

CRANBROOK

ARCHIVES

Ellen Warren Scripps Booth

Papers, 1870-1948

1.2 linear ft.

Acquisition Number:	1981-03
Acquisition:	This collection, originally stored at Cranbrook House, was a gift of the Booth family.
Access:	Access to this collection is unrestricted.
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Preferred Citation:	Ellen Warren Scripps Booth Papers, Cranbrook Archives, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.
Photographs:	In Photograph Special File
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Biography

Ellen Warren Scripps Booth was born on 10 July 1863 in Detroit, Michigan, eldest daughter of James E. Scripps, founder of the Evening News (later the Detroit News), and Harriet J. Messinger Scripps. She graduated from Capitol Union High School in Detroit and married George Gough Booth (1864-1949) on 1 June 1887 in the same city.

As a young woman, Ellen Booth did editorial work for both the Evening News and the Detroit Tribune, which her father purchased in 1891. She was the mother of five children: James S. Booth (1888-1954), Grace E. Booth (1890-1978), Warren S. Booth (1894-1987), Henry S. Booth (1897-1988), and Florence L. Booth (1902-1983).

Through her father's interest in the fine arts and, also, through her travels in Europe, Ellen Booth acquired an education in the history of fine arts, which enabled her to advise her husband in his purchases of art objects for their collection. She also served as a director of the Evening News Association, the holding company for the Detroit News.

Ellen Warren Scripps Booth died at Cranbrook on 24 January 1948 at the age of 84.

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection, too small to be broken into series, is foldered topically and arranged roughly in chronological order, with individually bound diaries placed after the foldered material. The collection deals primarily with the personal life of Ellen Warren Scripps Booth. The time period covered ranges from her school days in the early 1870s through her death in 1948.

The Papers contain a smattering of documents, including childhood drawings and maps, pages from an autograph book, Daughters of the American Revolution membership papers, journals from trips taken in 1881 and 1927, and a few Cranbrook-related papers. In addition, there is an extensive series of letters from Ellen Booth's mother, Harriet J. Scripps, as well as a run of Mrs. Booth's diaries, the majority of which span the years 1880-1910.

Finally, there eight photographs, mostly ferrotypes and ambrotypes, and one small watercolor; all of those able to be identified are of early Scripps or Booth family members.

Box Number--Description

Box 1

Bible Stories and Pictures [belonged to Ellen Scripps Booth as a child],
[n.d.]
Maps, drawings, school writings, and notes, 1870-1873
Pages from Autograph Book, 1877-1885
Correspondence, 1901-1919
Correspondence from Harriet J. Scripps [mother]
1901-1916
1917-1920
1921-1923
1924-1927
Correspondence from James E. Scripps [father], 1905
Daughters of the American Revolution, membership papers, 1914
Cruise logbook and passenger lists, 1927
Indenture to Cranbrook Foundation, 31 December 1930
Resolutions in Memoriam, 1948
Calling card (Ellen Scripps Booth), [n.d.]
Diaries
1880
1881, March 30-September 5 [1st European trip journal]
1882
1883
1884
1885
1886
1887-1888
1889-1891
1892-1896
1897-1899
1900-1902
1903-1905
1906-1907
1908-1938 [spotty coverage after 1910]
1939-1944 [spotty coverage]
Book of Common Prayer [belonged to Ellen Scripps
Booth], 1929

Photograph Special File

Envelope 1

Ellen Mary Saunders Scripps (1804-1841), 1821?, watercolor
portrait by her brother George

John Andrew Jeremiah Martell, ca. 1870, ferrotype

Unidentified woman, ferrotype

Envelope 2

Unidentified man, ferrotype

Unidentified man, ferrotype

Henry Wood Booth (1837-1925), ca. 1854, daguerrotype

Harriet Messinger Scripps (1838-1933), ambrotype

James E. Scripps (1835-1906), crystal ivorytype

unidentified child, ambrotype