Guide to the Marian Cox Papers

YCAL MSS 750

By Andrea Benefiel and Lisa Conathan

2013

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/
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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 750  

**CREATOR:** Cox, Marian, 1882-  

**TITLE:** Marian Cox Papers  

**DATES:** 1882–1972  

**BULK DATES:** 1907–1964  

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.08 linear feet (11 boxes)  

**LANGUAGE:** English  

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of correspondence, writings, photographs, scrapbooks, personal papers, printed material, and realia relating to the life and work of Marian Cox, spanning the years 1882 to 1972, with the bulk of the materials dating between 1907 and 1963. Papers include correspondence relating chiefly to social engagements, writings by Cox (drafts and printed versions), auction catalogs from Cox's homes in New York and Connecticut, and books inscribed to Cox by their authors. Scrapbooks contain biographical information on Cox as well as clippings of articles written by and about Cox. Photographs include portraits of Cox, her friends, and her homes. Objects include shoes and dresses worn by Cox.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.coxm

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.coxm.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box  
- f. folder

Administrative Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**  
Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
The Marian Cox Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation
Marian Cox Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information
Former call number: Uncat ZA MS 382.
This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and collection-level description, in 2013.

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Marian Cox (b. 1882)
Born Mabel Marian Metcalfe in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1882, Marian Cox was the author of several books of fiction, non-fiction, and essays, including Crowds and the Veiled Woman (New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1910). She was a regular contributor to The Forum and other magazines. Her autobiography, The Sphinx Wore an Orchid, was published in 1967 (New York: Vintage Press).

Marian Metcalfe married Dr. John Watson Cox at the age of 16. She lived with her husband at the Murray Hill Mansion on 5th Avenue in New York, and Stonecrest Domain in Ridgefield, Connecticut, until his death in 1928. In 1934 she auctioned off both homes and their furnishings. Marian Cox was remarried in 1943 to Captain James Fay Logan, whose duty in the Maritime Service led him to the North and South Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

Scope and Contents
The collection consists of correspondence, writings, photographs, scrapbooks, personal papers, printed material, and realia relating to the life and work of Marian Cox, spanning the years 1882 to 1972, with the bulk of the materials dating between 1907 and 1963. Papers include correspondence relating chiefly to social engagements, writings by Cox (drafts and printed versions), auction catalogs from Cox’s homes in New York and Connecticut, and books inscribed to Cox by their authors. Scrapbooks contain biographical information on Cox as well as clippings of articles written by and about Cox. Photographs include portraits of Cox, her friends, and her homes. Objects include shoes and dresses worn by Cox.
**Arrangement**

## Collection Contents

### Series I. Papers

**1.04 linear feet (3 boxes)**

Arrangement reflects the order in which material was received by the library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1-3</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1910–1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4</td>
<td>Earliest unpublished writings of Marian Cox, typescripts in binder</td>
<td>circa 1907–1926, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 5</td>
<td>“The American Peril in Europe,” by Marian Cox, typescript</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 6</td>
<td>Brief of “The Sphinx Wore an Orchid,” typescript carbon</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 7</td>
<td>“The Undying Dead,” collection of short stories, typescript and typescript carbon, in binder with magazines containing published stories</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 8</td>
<td>Copyrights and blanket assignments</td>
<td>1909–1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 9</td>
<td>Two catalogues of Cox residence auctions</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 10</td>
<td><em>American Moderns</em>, by Maxwell Geismar, inscribed to Marian Cox by the author</td>
<td>1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 11</td>
<td><em>History of Ridgefield, Connecticut</em>, George L. Rockwell</td>
<td>1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 12</td>
<td><em>Paradise Found</em>, by C. Wicksteed Armstrong; inscribed to Marian Cox by the author</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 13</td>
<td><em>Social Register of New York</em></td>
<td>1932</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Series II. Scrapbooks and Photographs**  

1.12 linear feet (4 boxes)  
Organized under two headings: Scrapbooks and Photographs.

**Scr**apbooks  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 5, f. 14 Scrapbook of biographical information about Marian Cox, with photographs, by Donald Somers</td>
<td>1972 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift of Donald Somers, 1972.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 4, f. 15 Scrapbook #1 of newspaper clippings</td>
<td>1910–1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 4, f. 15 Scrapbook #2 of newspaper clippings and memorabilia</td>
<td>1910–1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 (Oversize), f. 23 Scrapbook (loose pages)</td>
<td>1913, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Photographs**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 (Oversize), f. 24 Barnes, Harry Elmer</td>
<td>1932 May 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 6, f. 16 Cox, Marian</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 18 Kennerly, Mitchell</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 19 McCabe, Joseph</td>
<td>1917 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 20 Shaw, George Bernard</td>
<td>1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 21 Sinclair, May</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 22 Wagstaff, Blanch Shoemaker</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 (Oversize), f. 25 Murray Hill Mansion, New York</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 6, f. 17 Stonecrest Domain, Ridgefield, Connecticut</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Series III. Objects

*0.71 linear feet (3 boxes)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 9</td>
<td>Jeweled Heels and Marian Cox’s First Shoes</td>
<td>circa 1882, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 10 (Oversize)</td>
<td>Blue and gold sequined dress worn by Marian Cox</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 11 (Oversize)</td>
<td>Red sequined dress worn by Marian Cox</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Women authors, American -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats
Photographic prints -- United States -- 20th Century
Scrapbooks -- United States -- 20th Century

Occupations
Authors -- United States -- 20th Century

Names
Cox, Marian, 1882-