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Ferris J. Meigs Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in
the Bronxville History Center, Village of Bronxville,
at the Bronxville Public Library

Processed by
Raymond H. Geselbracht
2023

Ferris J. Meigs Papers

Administrative Information

Collection: Ferris J. Meigs Papers

Dates: 1887-1972, bulk 1896, 1901, 1926-1931

Size: About 800 pages

Access: Open for research

Copyright: Copyright interest is assumed to remain with the authors and photographers of the documents and photographs or their heirs, unless copyright law provides otherwise.

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Collection Description:

The Papers of Ferris J. Meigs—lumber company executive, son-in-law of William Van Duzer and Sarah Lawrence and long-time resident of Bronxville--are composed primarily of personal correspondence among members of the Meigs family. Many, perhaps most, of the letters in the collection relate to a lengthy international trip which Ferris J. Meigs's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Titus B. Meigs, took in 1901. Titus B. Meigs's letters from the trip were transcribed and bound and given the title *Travel Letters, Titus B. Meigs, Jan. 7-Sept. 19, 1901*. Another, smaller and later (1926-1931), cluster of letters is from Lucia Meigs Birnie to her brother, Ferris J. Meigs. A 1918 letter from Ferris J. Meigs to Dudley B. Lawrence is quite different from the other letters in the collection; it relates in detail management problems at the Hotel Gramatan. One of the two photographs in the collection is an important, because rare, depiction of William Van Duzer Lawrence, touring probably somewhere in France.

The Ferris J. Meigs Papers were given by Lucia Stout Andrews, the daughter of Louise Lawrence Meigs and Ferris J. Meigs, to her daughter, Rebecca Stout Underhill, in about 1980. Mrs. Underhill donated them to the Bronxville History Center in 2023.

Relationships to Ferris J. Meigs of correspondents represented in the collection:

- Louise Lawrence Meigs, wife
- Mr. and Mrs. Titus B. Meigs, mother and father
- Lucia Meigs Birnie, sister
- Walter Meigs, brother

- Dudley B. Lawrence (wife's brother), brother-in-law
- Agnes Wellington (mother-in-law's sister), aunt

Correspondence File, 1887-1972, bulk 1901

Box 1

- Ferris J. Meigs to Mr. and Mrs. Titus B. Meigs , 1887-1888, 1899, 1909, 1911, 1919
- Ferris J. Meigs to Lucia L. Meigs, 1886-1888 and Undated
- Ferris J. Meigs to Dudley B. Lawrence, 1918—Regarding the Hotel Gramatan
- Louise Lawrence Meigs to Ferris J. Meigs, 1919, 1924, 1926-1928, 1933 and Undated
- Louise Lawrence Meigs to Lucia Meigs Birnie, 1901
- Titus B. Meigs to Ferris J. Meigs and Lucia L. Meigs, 1901 (Bound transcriptions of the letters, with the title *Travel Letters, Titus B. Meigs, Jan. 7-Sept. 19, 1901*)
- Titus B. Meigs to Ferris J. Meigs, 1896, 1901, 1911
- Titus B. Meigs to Mr. Dodge, 1896
- Mrs. Titus B. Meigs to Lucia Meigs Birnie, 1901
- Mrs. Titus B. Meigs to Louise L. and Ferris J. Meigs, 1896, 1901
- Mrs. Titus B. Meigs to Her Brother, 1901
- Mrs. Titus B. Meigs to Frances (granddaughter) and Oliver (Jack) Lyford
- Mrs. Titus B. Meigs to Walter Meigs, 1901
- Lucia Meigs Birnie to Ferris J. Meigs, 1926-1931 and Undated
- Walter Meigs to Lucia Meigs Birnie, 1929
- Agnes Wellington to Ferris J. Meigs, 1926-1927
- Anna Lawrence Bisland, Speech about Sarah Lawrence, Given at Sarah Lawrence College, January 18, 1944
- Meigs Family Genealogy
- Sermon Given at the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, February 21, 1926
- Miscellaneous
- Photographs (2)