

## Baylor University . The Texas Collection

### Gladys Allen Papers. Inclusive 1882-1893, 1913-1952, undated, Bulk 1941-1947

#### Summary Information

<b>Creator</b>	Allen, Gladys, 1897 - 1953
<b>Extent (quantity/size)</b>	1 document box
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	The Allen (Gladys) Papers consists of materials accumulated by Gladys Allen, including correspondence, personal notes, genealogical research, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

#### Subjects

Baptist universities and colleges -- Texas -- Waco -- History. / Baylor University -- History. / Baylor University -- Alumni and alumnae. / Waco (Tex.) -- History.

#### Administrative Information

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**Preferred Citation** When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is:

Allen (Gladys) Papers, Accession #42, Box#, Folder #, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

**Processing Information** Described by Brian Simmons and released on 2013-06-17.

#### Scope and Content

The Allen (Gladys) Papers were acquired as a gift from H. Hart Nance, a trust officer of Gladys Allen's estate. The items were donated to The Texas Collection on 1953 August 24. The collection dates from 1882 to 1952, with most items ranging from 1941-1947. The papers include correspondence, materials related to Allen's ancestry research and materials related to her time as a Baylor University trustee. Also included are wills of ancestors, organization applications, newspaper clippings, personal notes, photographs, artifacts from relatives, and other items collected by Allen.

#### Administrative/Biographical History

Gladys Allen was born 1897 June 2, in Crawford, Texas, to Sam L. Allen and Florence Morehead Allen. She attended Crawford public schools, Mary Hardin-Baylor College, and Baylor University (graduated 1918 June). Afterwards, she was the principal of the school at Delia, Texas, and later taught English in the Waco, Texas, school system. She taught in Waco until leaving to oversee business affairs for her father upon the death of her mother in 1934.

Allen was a member of the Baylor Board of Trustees from 1941-1947, and 1951-1953. During her time as a trustee, she was highly involved in Baylor's re-admittance to the American Association of University Women (AAUW). When Baylor lost its AAUW status due to perceived gender inequalities, Allen (a member of the AAUW) conducted research which was influential to reclaiming the accreditation. In addition to being a trustee, she was a member of Seventh and James Baptist Church and taught Sunday school classes there from 1928-1947. Allen was also active in the Waco Garden Club and the Waco Garden Council. She also for a decade as president of the Waco Young Women's Christian Association.

Allen died 1953 May 18 from cancer complications. She bequeathed assets to Seventh and James Baptist Church and Baylor University, including three endowed scholarships. Gladys Allen Hall at Baylor was named in her honor.

#### Related Resources

##### Related citations

"Allen, Gladys." in *The Handbook of Waco and McLennan County*, ed. Dayton Kelley (Waco, TX: Texian Press, 1972), 5.

Baylor University. "Allen Portrait To Be Revealed." *Baylor University press release*, May 21, 1965.

"Gladys Allen Resigns at Fidelis Business Meeting" *The Daily Lariat* (Waco, TX), Apr. 27, 1926.

"Oral memoirs of Merle Mears McClellan Duncan."

<http://digitalcollections.baylor.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/buioh/id/2323/rec/13>. Accessed 31 May 2013.

#### Archival Arrangement

The Allen (Gladys) Papers was previously arranged in four series: Correspondence, Genealogical Materials, Baylor University Board of Trustees Materials, and Miscellanea. It was not clear if this arrangement was original order or imposed by an archivist upon accession. To enhance access, Miscellanea was expanded into two series, Literary Productions and Photographs.

Currently the Allen (Gladys) Papers are arranged in five series: I. Correspondence, II. Genealogical Materials, III. Baylor University Board of Trustees Materials, IV. Literary Productions, and V. Photographs.

#### Series 1: Correspondence. 1946-1950

#### Administrative/Biographical History

This series consists of letters to Gladys Allen while a trustee at Baylor University and president of the Waco Young Women's Christian Association. Also included is a script for a 1946 KWTX radio broadcast involving Allen. This series is in good condition.

**Item List**

Box 1. Folder 1. Correspondence and radio script, 1946-1950

**Series 2: Genealogical Materials. 1913-1945, undated****Administrative/Biographical History**

This series consists chiefly of correspondence regarding Gladys Allen's ancestry. Letters from family members and researchers are included in addition to Allen's completed applications for the National Society for Daughters of the American Revolution, copies of John Allen's will (recorded 1823, issued 1941), funeral proceedings for Sam Allen (1945), clippings of newspaper obituaries and a report titled "The Name and Family of Allen or Allan" prepared by the Media Research Bureau (issued in 1936). Personal notes are included on notecards and written on some of the items. This series is in average condition.

**Item List**

Box 1. Folder 2. Correspondence and ancestry research, 1913-1943, undated

Box 1. Folder 3. Applications, wills, newspaper clippings, personal notes and other items, 1945, undated

**Series 3: Baylor University Board of Trustees Materials. 1944-1947, undated****Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains materials related to Baylor University's loss of American Association of University Women accreditation, the bulk of which are responses to a 1944 survey of various institutions of higher education regarding gender equality and operational information. Also included are materials related to a 1947 Baylor University improvement program proposed by the current Baylor president Pat M. Neff. This series is in good condition.

**Item List**

Box 1. Folder 5. American Association of University Women survey correspondence, 1944

Box 1. Folder 6. Pat M. Neff improvement plan materials, 1945-1947, undated

**Series 4: Literary Productions. 1882-1893, 1945-1952, undated****Administrative/Biographical History**

This series consists of an assortment of items including personal notes (possibly genealogical related information), newspaper clippings, ephemera and two notebooks belonging to A. L. Allen chronicling agricultural and climate conditions in central Texas from 1882-1893. This series is in average condition.

**Item List**

Box 1. Folder 6. Personal notes, newspaper clippings, ephemera and A. L. Allen notebooks, 1882-1893, 1945-1952, undated

**Series 5: Photographs. undated****Summary Information****Media**

Photographic print

**Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains a photograph of the Baylor University Board of Trustees and unidentified photographs found within the materials. This series is in average condition.

**Item List**

Box 1. Folder 7. Photographs, undated