

**Marian MacDowell Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**1996**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm74049809>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms998022>

Prepared by Beverly W. Brannan  
Revised by John R. Monagle

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 1998  
Revised 2010 March

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Marian MacDowell Papers

**Span Dates:** 1876-1969

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1908-1938)

**ID No.:** MSS49809

**Creator:** MacDowell, Marian, 1857-1956

**Extent:** 2000 items

**Extent:** 10 containers

**Extent:** 3.8 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm74049809>

**Summary:** Correspondence, manuscripts of writings, clippings and other printed material, memorabilia, and other papers relating primarily to Marian MacDowell's activities with the MacDowell Colony, the artist colony in Peterborough, N.H., established to honor her husband, Edward MacDowell.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Brooks, Van Wyck, 1886-1963--Correspondence.  
Copland, Aaron, 1900-1990--Correspondence.  
Dreiser, Theodore, 1871-1945--Correspondence.  
French, Daniel Chester, 1850-1931--Correspondence.  
Garland, Hamlin, 1860-1940--Correspondence.  
Guglielmi, O. Louis (Osvaldo Louis), 1906-1956--Correspondence.  
Hagedorn, Hermann, 1882-1964--Correspondence.  
Heyward, DuBose, 1885-1940--Correspondence.  
MacDowell, Edward, 1860-1908. Edward MacDowell papers.  
MacDowell, Marian, 1857-1956.  
MacLeish, Archibald, 1892-1982--Correspondence.  
Richardson, Nina Maud. Nina Maud Richardson papers.  
Robinson, Edwin Arlington, 1869-1935--Correspondence.  
Saint-Gaudens, Augustus, 1848-1907--Correspondence.  
Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968--Correspondence.  
Untermeyer, Jean Starr, 1886-1970--Correspondence.  
Wilder, Thornton, 1897-1975--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Edward MacDowell Association. Edward MacDowell Association records.  
MacDowell Colony (Peterborough, N.H.)

### Subjects

Artist colonies--New Hampshire--Peterborough.

### Occupations

Musicians.  
Philanthropists.

## Provenance

The papers of Marian MacDowell, wife of composer Edward MacDowell and founder of the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, N.H., were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1972. A small gift was received from Elizabeth Michael in 1979 and added to the collection in 1984.

## Processing History

The papers of Marian MacDowell were arranged and described in 1974. Additional material received in 1979 was added to the collection in 1984 and the register revised in 1996.

## Related Material

In addition to the Music Division's collection of Edward MacDowell material, other Library holdings related to Marian MacDowell include the Rare Book and Special Collections Division's collection of printed works written by MacDowell Colony members and the [records of the MacDowell Colony](#) and the [papers of Edwin Arlington Robinson](#) in the Manuscript Division.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Marian MacDowell is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Marian MacDowell are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Marian MacDowell Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1857, Nov. 22	Born, New York, N.Y.
1880-1884	Studied piano under Edward A. MacDowell, Conservatory, Darmstadt, Germany
1884	Married Edward A. MacDowell (died 1908)
1895	Purchased farm in Peterborough, N.H.
1896-1904	Resided in New York, N.Y., where Edward A. MacDowell taught music at Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1907	Founded, with others, the MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, N.H.
1908-1947	Executive director, Edward MacDowell Association
1910-1938	Toured the United States and Canada raising funds to support the colony
1930	Mus. D., University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H.
1938	Litt. D., New Jersey State College for Women, New Brunswick, N.J.
1939	Litt. D., Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.
1940	Received Pettee Medal, University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H.

1941	Received Henry Hadley Medal for outstanding service to music
1952, Aug. 15	Marian MacDowell Day, Peterborough, N.H.
1956, Aug. 23	Died, Los Angeles, Calif.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Marian Griswold Nevins MacDowell (1857-1956) span the period 1876 to 1969 but bulk largest during the years between 1908 and 1938. They consist of [correspondence](#), writings, greeting cards, memorabilia, clippings, and printed and near-print material and chiefly relate to MacDowell's activities with the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire. Her correspondence, except for nearly one hundred letters which she wrote to her close friend Nina Maud Richardson, consists of letters received. These include letters of recommendation of one creative artist by another and letters requesting permission to stay at the colony, announcing times of arrival and departure, and letters thanking MacDowell and the MacDowell Association for their support, and letters of condolence at the time of the death of Edward MacDowell. Major correspondents include Hamlin Garland, Edwin Arlington Robinson, and Thornton Wilder. Among the many other literary and artistic figures represented are Aaron Copland, Theodore Dreiser, Daniel Chester French, DuBose Heyward, Archibald MacLeish, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Roger Sessions, and Upton Sinclair.

Several short articles written by MacDowell about the colony are included in the [Miscellany](#) file, along with clippings about her. A [scrapbook](#) contains greetings and tributes from well-wishers on the occasion of Marian MacDowell Day, August 15, 1952.

Papers of her husband, the musician [Edward MacDowell \(1860-1908\)](#), received with these papers consist mainly of personal and family [letters](#) received by him during the period 1890-1904. Included in the [miscellany](#) file of this series are several short pieces about Edward MacDowell and reviews of performances of his works, photographs, and a copy of his ink portrait sketch of Franz Liszt, along with some 1924 correspondence of the MacDowell Club of New York relating to the establishment of a memorial to him.

In addition to manuscripts of Edward MacDowell's compositions, about 125 letters he wrote to his wife in the period 1880 to 1903 document his musical activities in considerable detail. The scores, totaling more than one hundred pages, include some of the composer's earliest compositions written when he was seventeen years old and drafts of heretofore unknown pieces. This material complements the collection of MacDowell music manuscripts and correspondence in the Library's Music Division.

A second group of material includes records of the [Edward MacDowell Association](#), the New York-based foundation which finances and administers the MacDowell Colony. The records consist primarily of recommendations of prospective colonists by established artists in the same field. Newspaper clippings about the colony are included in the [miscellany](#), as well as poems, articles, and illustrations by members of the colony.

A third group of papers comprises the [Nina Maud Richardson](#) file, consisting of Richardson's papers, chiefly [correspondence](#). Correspondence with Marian MacDowell provides glimpses of MacDowell, especially for the period of the 1930s. Other correspondents include Van Wyck Brooks, O. Louis Guglielmi, Hermann Hagedorn, and Jean Starr Untermeyer.

## Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in six series:

- [Correspondence, 1889-1956](#)
- [Miscellany, 1948-1962](#)
- [Scrapbook, 1952](#)
- [Edward MacDowell Papers, 1876-1924](#)
- [Edward MacDowell Association, 1907-1966](#)
- [Nina Maud Richardson Papers, 1929-1969](#)

## Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-4	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1889-1956</u></b></p> <p>Letters received, greeting cards, and miscellaneous attachments. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 4	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1948-1962</u></b></p> <p>Memorabilia, newspaper clippings, printed and near-print material, and writings by MacDowell. Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 5	<p><b><u>Scrapbook, 1952</u></b></p> <p>Greetings and tributes to MacDowell on the occasion of Marian MacDowell Day.</p>
BOX 6	<p><b><u>Edward MacDowell Papers, 1876-1924</u></b></p>
BOX 6	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1881-1904</u></b></p> <p>Letters received and copies of letters sent, with enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 6	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1876-1924</u></b></p> <p>Newspaper clippings, photographs, memorabilia, and correspondence about a memorial to Edward MacDowell. Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 7	<p><b><u>Edward MacDowell Association, 1907-1966</u></b></p>
BOX 7	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1911-1937</u></b></p> <p>Letters received with enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.</p>
BOX 7	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1907-1966</u></b></p> <p>Miscellaneous material including address lists, autographs, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, printed matter, and writings. Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 8-10	<p><b><u>Nina Maud Richardson Papers, 1929-1969</u></b></p>
BOX 8-10	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1929-1969</u></b></p> <p>Correspondence received by Richardson with enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 10	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1937-1969</u></b></p> <p>Miscellaneous material including addresses, financial matter, memorabilia, greeting cards, invitations, newspaper clippings, and printed and near-print materials. Arranged by type of material.</p>

# Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 1-4</b>	<b>Correspondence, 1889-1956</b> Letters received, greeting cards, and miscellaneous attachments. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.
<b>BOX 1</b>	Alexander, John W. Allen, Henry Antin, Mary Arms, John Taylor Ashton-Jonson, G. C. aus der Ohe, Adele Auslander, Joseph Ballard, Fred Barnewall, Mr. Beach, Amy M. (Mrs. H. H. A. Beach) Beach, Rex Beede, Ivan Benét, Stephen Vincent Benét, William Rose Benton, Thomas Hart Birckhead, Hugh Blum, Jerome Bohnhorst, Frank R. Bonner, Eugene Briggs, Dorothy Bell Brisbane, Arthur Brooks, Van Wyck Brown, Alice Brush, George deForest Buck, Dudley Burkley, Francis Burnat, A. Cadman, Charles W. Canby, Henry Seidel Canby, Marion Carmer, Carl Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Carroll, Gladys Hasty Carroll, Grace Stewart Potter Channing-Stetson, Grace E. Chase, Mary Ellen Cleugh, Sophia Clifton, Chalmers

## Correspondence, 1889-1956

### Container

### Contents

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	Coburn, Harry A.
	Cohen, Julius
	Cole, Rosetter G.
	Comstock, Harriet T.
	Conant, Isabel Fiske
	Converse, Frederick S.
	Cook, Walter
	Copland, Aaron
	Cromwell, Mary R.
	Dahlstrom, Mrs. Harold H.
	Daniel, Lewis
	Daniels, Mabel
	Diamond, David
	Dodd, Mead & Co.
	Downes, Olin
	Dreiser, Theodore
	Edward MacDowell Association
	Ehrlich, Leonard
	Erskine, John
	Ewen, David
	Farnham, Matell Howe
	Farrar, John
	Feigin, Irving N.
	Field, Sara Bard
	Fillmore, Parker H.
	Finck, Henry T.
	Fisher, A. E.
	Fisher, Edward
	Fitzgerald, Robert
	Flack, Marjorie
	Fletcher, John Gould
	Fox, Felix
<b>BOX 2</b>	French, Daniel Chester
	Frost, Frances
	Frothingham, E. W.
	Gale, Zona
	Ganz, Rudolph
	Garland, Hamlin
	Gibbs, Hamilton
	Gilbert, Henry F.
	Gilder, Richard Watson
	Gilman, Elizabeth
	Gilman, Lawrence
	Godfrey, P. F.
	Goffe, Greta
	Guglielmi, O. Louis

## Correspondence, 1889-1956

### Container

### Contents

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Hagedorn, Hermann  
Hanson, Howard  
Haubiel, Charles  
Haughton, John Alan  
Hemmer, Eugene  
Heyward, Dorothy  
Heyward, DuBose  
Hillyer, Robert  
Hooper, Helen Rhoda  
Hubbard, D. K.  
Hughes, Rupert  
Humiston, William Henry  
Hutcheson, Ernest  
Isaacs, Lewis M.  
Jacobi, Frederick  
James, Edmund J.  
Jno. Williams, Inc.  
Johnson, Mary  
Johnson, Robert Underwood  
Jonson, G. C. Ashton *See Container 1, Ashton-Jonson, G. C.*  
Krafft, Gertrud  
Kramer, A. Walter  
Kreymborg, Alfred  
Kroll, Leon  
LaFarge, John  
Lane, Annie  
Lane, John  
Lang, Margaret R.  
Langs, John Pierce  
Larsson, Marjorie Flack *See Container 1, Flack, Marjorie*  
Leonowens, Anna H.  
Levey, Henry  
Levey, Jeffrey King  
Lewis, Emma M.  
Locke, Edwin A.  
Locke, Katherine  
Loeffler, Charles M.  
Low, Seth  
Lunt, Cornelia G.  
MacDowell, Edward, condolences on the death of  
MacKaye, Percy  
McKean, Hugh  
McKim, Charles F.  
MacLeish, Archibald  
MacMonnies, Frederick  
Mana-Zucca



## Correspondence, 1889-1956

### Container

### Contents

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BOX 3

Mansfield, Beatrice  
Mansfield, Helen C.  
Mason, Daniel Gregory  
Mason, William  
Marshall, Henry Rutgers  
Maxwell, William  
Moore, Douglas  
Morgan, Mrs. Charles  
Morley, Christopher  
Morris, Crosby Dansby  
Musical Courier Co.  
Nichols, Maurice H.  
Nikisch, Arthur  
Nunn, Emily  
Olinsky, Ivan G.  
O'Sheel, S.  
Paef, Bashka  
Perkins, Mrs. Dwight H.  
Peterkin, Julia  
Peterson, Agnes Emelie  
Phelps, William Lyon  
Pinckney, Josephine  
Prestopino, Gregorio  
Prince, Benjamin  
Randolph, Harold  
Read, Gardner  
Reynard, Grant  
Rider-Kelsey, Corinne  
Ridge, Lola  
Robinson, Allan  
Robinson, Edwin Arlington  
Rogers, A. P.  
Rogers, Bernard  
Safonoff, W.  
Saint-Gaudens, Augustus  
Schauffler, Robert H.  
Schelling, Ernest A.  
Scholes, Percy A.  
Sessions, Roger  
Sharp, Elizabeth A.  
Sinclair, Upton  
Slesinger, Tess  
Sonneck, Oscar G.  
Spalding, Albert  
Speyer, Leonora  
Stedman, Edmund C.

## Correspondence, 1889-1956

### Container

### Contents

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	Stetson, Grace E. Channing <i>See Container 1, Channing-Stetson, Grace E.</i>
	Still, Amy
	Stock, Frederick
	Stokowski, Olga Samaroff
	Stoney, Samuel Gaillard
	Storer, Helen A.
	Story, Edwin Bruce
	Sundstrom, Ebba
	Swope, Herbert Bayard
	Taft, Lorado
	Tarbell, Ida M.
	Thompson, Bernice
	Thursby, Emma Cecilia
	Torrence, Ridgely, and Olivia Dunbar
	Trubach, Ernest
	Truman, Harry S.
	Turnbull, Agnes Sligh
BOX 4	Turner, Ross
	van der Stucken, Frank
	van Doren, Carl
	van Doren, Mark
	van Dyke, Henry
	Van Veen, Stuyvesant
	Vinton, Frederic P.
	Voynick, E. L.
	Walker, Edith
	Ward, Christopher
	Watson, Dudley Crafts
	Waugh, Alec
	Weil, Oscar
	Wheelock, John Hall
	White, Elizabeth
	Whiteside, Mary Brent
	Widdemer, Margaret
	Wilder, Thornton
	Williams, Betsey
	Williams, R.
	Winsor, Mary May
	Wood, Mrs. C. E. S. <i>See Container 1, Field, Sara Bard</i>
	Woodberry, George Edward
	Wylie, Ruth
	Zaturenska, Marya
	Unidentified
	Zeisler, Fannie Bloomfield
	Ziegfeld, Florenz

## Correspondence, 1889-1956

### Container

### Contents

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	Zorach, William
<b>BOX 4</b>	<b>Miscellany, 1948-1962</b> Memorabilia, newspaper clippings, printed and near-print material, and writings by MacDowell. Arranged by type of material.
<b>BOX 4</b>	Memorabilia Newspaper clippings Printed and near-print material Writings
<b>BOX 5</b>	<b>Scrapbook, 1952</b> Greetings and tributes to MacDowell on the occasion of Marian MacDowell Day.
<b>BOX 5</b>	Marian MacDowell Day, 15 Aug. 1952
<b>BOX 6</b>	<b>Edward MacDowell Papers, 1876-1924</b>
<b>BOX 6</b>	<b>Correspondence, 1881-1904</b> Letters received and copies of letters sent, with enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.
<b>BOX 6</b>	aus der Ohe, Adele Barton, George Edward Bergen, Francesco Bolting, Alice Bonvin, Ludwig Brockway, Howard Burgess, John W. Carreño, Teresa Cowen, Frederic H. deKoven, Reginald Deland, Margaret Dickinson, Edward Garland, Hamlin Gilbert, Henry F. Gilder, Richard Watson Glücklich, J. Chr. Humiston, William Henry Johnson, Robert Underwood Joseffy, Rafael Kelley, Edgar Stillman Kerndl, Ella Klein, B. O. Krehbiel, H. E. Kroeger, E. R. Lang, B. J.

## Edward MacDowell Papers, 1876-1924

### Container

### Contents

---

Lewing, Adele  
Liquiez, E.  
Lisser, Louis  
Listemann, Bernhard  
Low, Seth  
MacMonnies, Frederick  
Mason, William  
Raff, Doris  
Schirmer, Gustave  
Schneider, George R.  
Schythe, Ludwig  
Sherwood, William H.  
Simms, Evelyn  
Sinclair, Upton  
Smith, Wilson G.  
Sonneck, Oscar G.  
Stedman, Edmund C.  
Stern, Margarethe  
Stoddard, Mr.  
Story, Edwin Bruce  
Strong, Templeton  
Swift, Samuel  
Taft, William Howard  
Thayer, Arthur W.  
Thomas, Theodore  
Van der Stucken, Frank  
Wilhemj, August  
Winsor, Mary May  
World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, Ill.  
Zerrahn, Carl  
Unidentified

BOX 6

#### **Miscellany, 1876-1924**

Newspaper clippings, photographs, memorabilia, and correspondence about a memorial to Edward MacDowell.  
Arranged by type of material.

BOX 6

Memorial  
Newspaper clippings and printed matter  
Photographs and memorabilia

BOX 7

#### **Edward MacDowell Association, 1907-1966**

BOX 7

#### **Correspondence, 1911-1937**

Letters received with enclosures.  
Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

## Edward MacDowell Association, 1907-1966

### Container

### Contents

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BOX 7	Antin, Mary Bacon, Ernst Baker, George Pierce Bard, Mary Spear Beede, Ivan Charlot, Jean Cowley, Malcolm Damrosch, Walter Davis, Elmer Erskine, John Fletcher, John Gould Gannett, Lewis Holt, Hamilton Ihrig, Roscoe M. LaFarge, Oliver Mantle, Burns Mearse, Mary Monroe, Ann Shannon Perry, Bliss Read, Gardner Robinson, Grace R. Schoen, Max Walsh, Richard J.
BOX 7	<b>Miscellany, 1907-1966</b> Miscellaneous material including address lists, autographs, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, printed matter, and writings. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 7	Address lists Autographs Memorabilia Newspaper clippings Printed and near-print material Writings
BOX 8-10	<b>Nina Maud Richardson Papers, 1929-1969</b>
BOX 8-10	<b>Correspondence, 1929-1969</b> Correspondence received by Richardson with enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.
BOX 8	American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers Antin, Mary Barth, Hans Beach, Amy M. (Mrs. H. H. A. Beach) Blass, Charlotte

## Nina Maud Richardson Papers, 1929-1969

### Container

### Contents

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	Brooks, Van Wyck
	Cadman, Charles W.
	Carmer, Carl
	Childers, Lemuel J.
	Cohen, Sol
	Daniel, Lewis
	Daniels, Mabel
	Edward MacDowell Association
	Ehrlich, Leonard
	Flack, Marjorie
	Foss, Lukas
	Frost, Frances
	Frothingham, E. W.
	Ganz, Rudolph
	Guglielmi, O. Louis
	Hagedorn, Hermann
	Hanford, Helen
	Haubiel, Charles
	Heap, Mary, condolences on the death of
	Heyward, Dorothy
	Kendall, George M.
	Kubik, Gail T.
	Levey, Henry
	Levey, Jeffrey King
	Library of Congress
	Lowens, Irving
BOX 9	MacDowell, Marian, 1929-1942, n.d.
BOX 10	Manton, Robert W.
	Marsh, Elizabeth
	Mason, Daniel Gregory
	Moore, Douglas
	Nevins, A. L.
	Nevins, H. B.
	Newlin, Dika
	Norton, Spencer H.
	Paeff, Bashká
	Peterborough Women's Club, Peterborough, N.H.
	Peterson, Agnes Emelie
	Reynard, Grant
	Shokler, H.
	Smith, Chard
	Sparhawk-Jones, Elizabeth
	Staloff, Edward
	Torrence, Ridgely, and Olivia Dunbar
	Untermeyer, Jean Starr

**Nina Maud Richardson Papers, 1929-1969**

**Container**

**Contents**

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Unidentified

**BOX 10**

**Miscellany, 1937-1969**

Miscellaneous material including addresses, financial matter, memorabilia, greeting cards, invitations, newspaper clippings, and printed and near-print materials.  
Arranged by type of material.

**BOX 10**

Addresses, financial material, memorabilia  
Greeting cards  
Invitations  
Newspaper clippings  
Printed and near-print material