

Nellie Simmons Meier Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2024

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81058693>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007085>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2007
Revised 2024 February

Collection Summary

Title: Nellie Simmons Meier Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1898-1938

ID No.: MSS58693

Creator: Meier, Nellie Simmons, d. 1939

Extent: 500 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81058693>

Summary: Author and palmist. Autographed original palm prints, autographed photographs, and character sketches of 135 notable individuals that were assembled for Meier's book, *Lions' Paws, the Story of Famous Hands*.

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

Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906.

Disney, Walt, 1901-1966.

Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937.

Meier, Nellie Simmons, -1939.

Meier, Nellie Simmons, -1939. *Lions' paws, the story of famous hands*. 1937.

Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915.

Subjects

Palmistry.

Occupations

Palmists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Nellie Simmons Meier, author and palmist, were given to the Library of Congress in 1938 by Nellie Simmons Meier and transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division in 1979.

Processing History

The papers of Nellie Simmons Meier were arranged and described in 1985 by David Mathisen. The collection was revised in 1997 by Nazera Sadiq Wright and Nan Thompson Ernst and the finding aid revised in 2007. The finding aid was updated in 2024 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings and photographs of Nellie Simmons Meier is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Nellie Simmons Meier 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, Nellie Simmons Meier Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Nellie Simmons Meier span the years 1898-1938 and consist of autographed original hand prints and photographs of such notable individuals as Susan B. Anthony, Walt Disney, Amelia Earhart, Booker T. Washington, and other actors, artists, musicians, statesmen, and public figures, along with character sketches written by Meier based on her reading of their hands. As a palmist, Meier studied the shape of the hand and lines in the palm to read an individual's character, personality, and future. Meier assembled these records for her book, *Lions' Paws: The Story of Famous Hands* (1937).

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of individual.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Index
BOX 1	Hand prints, photographs, and character sketches, 1898-1938
BOX 1	Aberdeen and Temair, Ishebel Maria (Mohoribanks)
BOX 1	Adams, Maud
BOX 1	Adams, Wayman
BOX 1	Addams, Jane
BOX 1	Ade, George
BOX 1	Alexander, Grand Duke of Russia
BOX 1	Andrews, Roy Chapman
BOX 1	Anthony, Susan B.
BOX 1	Atherton, Gertrude
BOX 1	Barnard, George Gray
BOX 1	Barrymore, Ethel
BOX 1	Beach, Amy Marcy Cheney
BOX 1	Beebe, William
BOX 1	Beers, Clifford W.
BOX 1	Bok, Mary Louise Curtis
BOX 1	Borglum, John Gutzon de la Mothe
BOX 1	Bori, Lucrezia
BOX 1	Cadman, S. Parkes
BOX 1	Catt, Carrie Chapman
BOX 1	Chase, William Merritt
BOX 1	Christy, Howard Chandler
BOX 1	Davenport, Fanny
BOX 1	Dewey, John
BOX 1	De Wolfe, Elsie
BOX 1	Disney, Walt
BOX 1	Ditmars, Raymond L.
BOX 1	Dressler, Marie
BOX 1	Drew, John
BOX 1	Dumm, Edwina
BOX 1	Earhart, Amelia
BOX 1	Erskine, John
BOX 1	Fairchild, Henry P.
BOX 1	Farrar, Geraldine
BOX 1	Finley, John H.
BOX 1	Fiske, Minnie Maddern
BOX 1	Flagg, James Montgomery
BOX 1	Fontanne, Lynn
BOX 1	Forbes-Robertson, Sir Johnston
BOX 1	Fortune, William

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Frishmuth, Harriet Whitney
BOX 1	Frohman, Daniel
BOX 1	Garden, Mary
BOX 1	George, Grand Duchess (Marie) of Russia
BOX 1	Gerard, James W.
BOX 1	Gershwin, George
BOX 1	Gibson, Charles Dana
BOX 1	Golden, John
BOX 2	Hadley, Henry
BOX 2	Hale, Louise Glosser
BOX 2	Hammond, John Hays, Jr.
BOX 2	Hampden, Walter
BOX 2	Hayes, Helen
BOX 2	Heifetz, Jascha
BOX 2	Herbine, Lottie
BOX 2	Holman-Black, Charles
BOX 2	Holmes, Burton
BOX 2	Howard, Leslie
BOX 2	Hubbard, Frank McKinney
BOX 2	Huston, Walter
BOX 2	Iturbi, Jose
BOX 2	Johnson, Edward
BOX 2	Johnson, Martin
BOX 2	Johnson, Osa
BOX 2	Jones, Quill
BOX 2	Kahn, Otto H.
BOX 2	Kreisler, Fritz
BOX 2	La Farge, Christopher Grant
BOX 2	Lang, Anton
BOX 2	Lawes, Lewis E.
BOX 2	Le Gallienne, Eva
BOX 2	Lie, Jonas
BOX 2	Lindsey, Benjamin B.
BOX 2	Lloyd, Harold
BOX 2	Luckner, Felix, Graf von
BOX 2	Ludlow, Louis
BOX 2	Lunt, Alfred
BOX 2	MacDonald, Christie
BOX 2	MacDougall, Alice Foote
BOX 2	MacFadden, Bernarr
BOX 2	MacMonnies, Frederick W.
BOX 2	Manship, Paul
BOX 2	March, Frederic
BOX 2	Markham, Edwin
BOX 2	Marlowe, Julia
BOX 2	McCormack, John

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 2	McGinnis, Knefler
BOX 2	McLean, Evalyn Walsh
BOX 2	Mitchell, Grant
BOX 2	Nichols, Ruth R.
BOX 2	Nicholson, John Kenyon
BOX 2	Nicholson, Meredith
BOX 3	Owen, Ruth Bryan
BOX 3	Payne, John Barton
BOX 3	Peary, Robert E.
BOX 3	Pickford, Mary
BOX 3	Pons, Lily
BOX 3	Post, Wiley
BOX 3	Pu Lun, Prince of China
BOX 3	Putnam, Herbert
BOX 3	Riis, Jacob A.
BOX 3	Riley, James Whitcomb
BOX 3	Roosevelt, Eleanor
BOX 3	Sanger, Margaret
BOX 3	Schelling, Ernest
BOX 3	Schumann-Heink, Ernestine
BOX 3	Sewall, May Wright
BOX 3	Skinner, Otis
BOX 3	Smith, Alfred E.
BOX 3	Spaeth, Sigmund
BOX 3	Spalding, Albert
BOX 3	Stafford, Marie Ahnighito Peary
BOX 3	Stefansson, Vilhjalmur
BOX 3	Stock, Frederick A.
BOX 3	Stone, Dorothy
BOX 3	Stone, Fred
BOX 3	Tarbell, Ida M.
BOX 3	Taylor, Deems
BOX 3	Thomas, John Charles
BOX 3	Thomas, Lowell
BOX 3	Tibbett, Lawrence
BOX 3	Towne, Charles Hanson
BOX 3	Tunney, Gene
BOX 3	Verestchigan, Vasili
BOX 3	Wagner, Siegfried
BOX 3	Wallace, Lew
BOX 3	Washington, Booker T.
BOX 3	Whiffen, Blanche Galton (Mrs. Thomas)
BOX 3	White, William Allen
BOX 3	Wiley, Harvey W.
BOX 3	Williams, Alford J.
BOX 3	Williams, J. Scott

Container List

Container	Contents
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BOX 3	Wise, Stephen S.
BOX 3	Wong, Anna May
BOX 3	Wong, Kai Kah
BOX 3	Young, Stark