

Armes, Ethel Marie

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama

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Summary Information

Repository:	University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama
Source:	Armes, Ethel
Title:	Ethel Marie Armes papers
ID:	MSS.0087
Date [inclusive]:	between 1890 and 2002
Physical Description:	0.4 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Personal letters written by Ethel Armes, a Birmingham journalist and author, primarily to Alice Wiggin of Franklin, Massachusetts.

Preferred Citation

Ethel Marie Armes papers University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama

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Biographical / Historical

Ethel Marie Armes, second daughter of George Augustus and Lucy Hamilton Kerr Armes, was born on 1 December 1876 in Washington, D.C. She was a journalist and author who wrote for the *Chicago Chronicle*, *Washington Post*, and the *Birmingham Post-Herald*. She also wrote several books, including *The Story of Coal and Iron in Alabama* and *Stratford Hall: The Great House of the Lees*.

Although she never married, in 1925 she adopted Catherine Claiborne, a ten year old girl for whom she'd been a foster parent. According to Ethel's letters, Catherine was a beautiful and talented girl, much courted by beaux and Hollywood. In the early 1930s, Ethel signed a contract with Paramount Studios (Mrs. Cecil B. de Mille was her chaperone!). Catherine went to Hollywood in 1933. By May of 1945, Catherine had married Richard W. Millar and had two sons, Richard Jr. and Roger.

Ethel Armes died on 28 September 1945 in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

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Scope and Contents

The collection contains personal letters written by Ethel Armes from the late 1800s through the 1940s. The bulk of the letters are to Alice Wiggin of Franklin, Massachusetts, longtime friend and confidant. There are also photocopies of newspaper articles about the death of Ethel's younger brother, Edmund C. Armes of Birmingham, Alabama, as well as those about her death in 1945, and a variety of articles about her books. There is also one unidentified photo.

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Administrative Information

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Provenance

Cather and Brown Books

Conditions Governing Access

None

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Controlled Access Headings

- Women
- Personal correspondence
- Daily Life and Family
- Authors, American -- Alabama
- Women -- Alabama
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Photographs
- Wiggin, Alice
- Armes, Ethel

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, Outgoing - 1901-1905	box 87.001	folder 1
Correspondence, Outgoing - 1906-1914	box 87.001	folder 2
Correspondence, Outgoing - 1932-1933	box 87.001	folder 3
Correspondence, Outgoing - Not Dated	box 87.001	folder 4
Correspondence, Incoming	box 87.001	folder 5
Correspondence - Alice Wiggin's "Grand Tour," Summer 1910	box 87.001	folder 6
Correspondence to Alice Wiggin Concerning Ethel Armes	box 87.001	folder 7
Envelopes	box 87.001	folder 8
Photograph	box 87.001	folder 9
Order of Adoption - Catherine Claiborne	box 87.001	folder 10
Wiggin Genealogies	box 87.001	folder 12
Newspaper Clipping	box 87.001	folder 11
Newspaper Clippings (Photocopies) about Armes' Robert E. Lee book	box 87.001	folder 13
Research Material (Photocopies) on Ethel Armes	box 87.001	folder 14