1930, it was Marston who made it possible to prepare the east end of the Quad for Bridges Auditorium ("Big Bridges") given by Appleton Shaw Bridges, who had also donated Bridges Hall of Music (1915). The site chosen for the auditorium was, at the time, occupied by an unsightly heating plant, complete with tall smokestacks. This was removed and, at the same time, the original Renwick gymnasium moved farther east. Marston, who was a friend of the Bridges family, believed that: “Since this would inevitably be a very massive building it should have an ample foreground, and with Bridges Hall of Music the companion building nearby, a location east of the large open quadrangle framed in a vista and trees and shrubs seemed ideal.” Along the way, Marston also played a significant role as one of the initial trustees of the Claremont Colleges consortium, incorporated in 1925-6, supported the cost of improvements to Pearsons and Blaisdell halls, and donated land for Harper Hall at Claremont Graduate University. Marston’s beneficence was not limited to Pomona College. In San Diego, he was instrumental in the preservation of pueblo land (1899) that later became Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve, and in commissioning a comprehensive plan for Balboa Park (1902). After unsuccessful bids to become Mayor (1913, 1917), he founded and presided as president of the Serra Museum in Presidio Park (1928), later donating park and museum to the City. Marston retired as president of the Pomona College board in June 1936; named Honorary President, he remained an active trustee. On Founders Day 1937, the fiftieth anniversary of the College’s founding, Marston was honored, the presentation noting the “graciousness of spirit that has always distinguished him among his fellow men.” George Marston died in 1946 at age 95. In his history of the College, E. Wilson Lyon wrote: “Mr. Marston was the embodiment of Pomona’s highest ideals, and he left an incomparable legacy to the college he loved so deeply.” Marston was recognized on Founders Day of that year, and in addition to spoken tributes, the College published a book in his honor titled the Education of George W. Marston, written by Professor Hubert Herring.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection contains correspondence between George Marston and Pomona College presidents James Blaisdell, Charles Edmunds, and E. Wilson Lyon, regarding board of trustee meetings, fundraising, and campus planning projects. Also included are news clippings regarding George Marston’s death and correspondence between Anna Marston and E. Wilson Lyon.

Indexing Terms
College trustees
Marston, George W. (1850-1946)
Blaisdell, James Arnold (1867-1957)
Edmunds, Charles K. (Charles Keyser) (1876- )
Lyon, E. Wilson (Elijah Wilson) (1904-1989)
Pomona College (Claremont, Calif.)