Descriptive Summary

Languages: English

Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla 92093-0175

Title: Swope Family Correspondence

Creator: Swope (Family : Swope, Charles Byron)
Creator: Swope, Charles Byron
Creator: Swope, Gretchen

Identifier/Call Number: MSS 0510

Physical Description: 0.4 Linear feet (1 archives box)

Date (inclusive): 1917-1918

Abstract: Letters from Charles Byron Swope to his wife, Gretchen, written during his tour of duty during World War I at Fort McDowell on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Swope Family Correspondence contains letters from Charles Byron Swope to his new wife Gretchen, written from Fort McDowell on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay, between December 1917 and November 1918. The letters begin shortly after Swope’s induction into the US Army and end the day before the World War I Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. Swope wrote about personal and financial matters, the loneliness of his separation from his wife, his efforts to increase his income as a musician and photographer, and his dream of owning a farm. His letters also provide insight into everyday life on a stateside military base during World War I.

The collection also contains letters from Gretchen to Charles, although far fewer in number; letters from siblings and parents to Gretchen or Charles; and letters from friends. As a group, these letters relate family news and occasional gossip.

Arranged in three series: 1) CORRESPONDENCE, 2) MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS and 3) MICROFILM.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Swope Family Correspondence. MSS 510. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.

Acquisition Information

Acquired 2000.

Digital Content

This collection has been microfilmed and digitized.

Items available online

Subjects and Indexing Terms

California -- History -- 1850-1950
Angel Island (Calif.)
World War, 1914-1918 -- California -- Personal narratives
Fort McDowell (Calif.) -- History
Swope, Charles Byron -- Correspondence
Swope, Gretchen -- Correspondence
Swope (Family : Swope, Charles Byron)) -- Correspondence

CORRESPONDENCE

Box 1, Folder 1  
Alice J. (friend) to Gretchen Swope 1918 April 15-August 20  
https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb5156344d

Box 1, Folder 2  
Barth, Elise to Gretchen or Charles Swope 1918 February 6-September 14  
https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb18798659
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Katherine (Gretchen’s sister) to Gretchen or Charles Swope 1918 January 26-August 3 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb6043724k |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Sawyer, Eda to Gretchen Swope ca. 1917-1918 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb2801374c |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Swope, B.F. (father of Charles) to Gretchen and Charles Swope 1918 February 4-August 3 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb6965234h |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Swope, Charles Byron to B. F. Swope (father) 1918 May 23 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb10948767 |
| Box 1, Folder 7 | Swope, Charles Byron to Gretchen (wife) 1917 December 17-1918 June 16 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb7852614p |
| Box 1, Folder 8 | Swope, Charles Byron to Gretchen (wife) 1918 July 6-November 10 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb4610264b |
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Swope, Charles Byron to Gretchen (wife) between 1917 and 1918 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb1333784k |
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Swope, Gretchen to Charles (husband) 1917 December 27-1918 February 5 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb8091526d |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Swope, Marie (sister of Charles) to Gretchen and Charles | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb4849175f |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | Swope, Milly (sister of Charles) to Gretchen and Charles 1918 January 17-October 27 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb8978904f |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | Swope, Mrs. B.F. (mother of Charles) to Gretchen and Charles 1918 March 28-October 27 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb3142676k |
| Box 1, Folder 14 | Miscellaneous Swope family correspondence 1918 January 4-December 10 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb9904162 |

**MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS**

| Box 1, Folder 15 | Newspaper clippings, poems, etc. between 1917 and 1918 | https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb6658065d |

**MICROFILM**

| Box 1, Folder 16 | Microfilm - User copy |