Samuel Simpson Marquis (1866-1948)  
Papers  
1817-1985 (bulk 1889-1940)  
5.3 linear ft.

Acquisition Number: 1983-07

Acquisition: Gift of Rogers I. Marquis (1983) and Barbara (Marquis) Carritte (1986).

Access: Access to the collection is unrestricted.

Copyright: Copyright to this collection is held by the Cranbrook Educational Community.

Preferred Citation: Samuel Simpson Marquis Papers, Cranbrook Archives, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Photographs: In Photograph Special File and Oversized Folder.

HISTORY

Samuel Simpson Marquis was born on a farm near Sharon, Ohio on 8 Jun 1866. Upon graduating from Alleghany College in Meadville, Pennsylvania in 1890, he entered the General Theological Seminary in New York. A year later, he transferred to the Cambridge Theological Seminary in Massachusetts where he graduated in 1893.

Ordained as an Episcopalian priest, Marquis served in churches in Woburn and Bridgewater, Massachusetts. In 1899, he was called to St. Joseph’s Church in Detroit. Under his leadership, the parish prospered and Marquis became one of the better known churchmen in the city. In 1906, Bishop Williams prevailed upon Marquis to become dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral in Detroit. While there, Marquis oversaw the construction of the new cathedral building (1908-1911), which was designed by Ralph Adams Cram.

At Henry Ford’s invitation, Marquis resigned his duties at St. Paul’s in Oct 1915 to head the Welfare Department of the Ford Motor Company, and accompanied Ford on the ill-fated “Peace Ship” to Europe in Dec 1915. Marquis remained at Ford Motor for five years. After his departure, he published Henry Ford: An Interpretation (1923), one of the first works written by a Ford intimate.

Marquis returned to St. Joseph’s Church as rector in 1921. Three years later, at the request of George Gough Booth, he moved to Bloomfield Hills to assist in establishing a new parish, Christ Church Cranbrook. As Missionary-in-Charge, Marquis conducted services in the Meeting House (now Brookside School) and helped to supervise the completion of the church buildings, designed by Bertram G. Goodhue Associates of New York.

Marquis was appointed Rector of Christ Church once the parish was officially established in 1927 and served in that capacity until 1938. He was also instrumental in founding Cranbrook School for Boys and was a Trustee of the school from 1926-1939. On 23 May 1940, Marquis Hall was dedicated in his honor.

Samuel Marquis married Gertrude Lee Snyder 23 Aug 1894 in Warren, Ohio. They had four children: Dorothy (1895), Barbara Lee (1897), Roger Israel (1901) and Gertrude Lee (1907). After Marquis retired, he and Gertrude resided in Birmingham, Michigan, where he died on 21 Jun 1948. The funeral was held at Christ Church Cranbrook.
SCOPE AND CONTENT

The collection is arranged into eight series: Personal, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Cranbrook, Sermons and Sermon Notes, Scrapbooks, Ford Motor Company Welfare Department, Publications, and Oversize. It consists of materials relating to the Marquis family, church affiliations, Ford Motor Company and Cranbrook activities, with the bulk being sermons and sermon notes. Materials include clippings, correspondence, diplomas, publications and scrapbooks.

SERIES I: Personal consists of correspondence, news clippings, poems and publications used as reference material by Marquis. Of particular interest is a letter written to Gertrude Marquis from Clara Ford in 1917. Correspondence regarding the controversial sermon, “Wanted: A New Religion” is included. The records of a missing box are listed at the end of the finding aid.

SERIES II: St. Paul’s Cathedral contains photocopies of correspondence related to Marquis’ relationship with St. Paul’s Cathedral from 1892-1911.

SERIES III: Cranbrook includes items relating to the establishment of Christ Church Cranbrook and Marquis’ involvement with the Cranbrook Educational Community, 1926 – 1940.

SERIES IV: Sermons And Sermon Notes comprises the bulk of the collection. The sermon notes with corresponding transcribed or published sermons were arranged together in the folders. The remaining sermon notes were arranged by format: handwritten or typewritten, and by the material on which it was written, cards or paper. If known, sermons and notes are in chronological order by institution or intended audience. Drafts and revisions of the writings are arranged together. Additional writings by Marquis are also included.

SERIES V: Scrapbooks (1898-1940) Some of the scrapbooks have been disassembled, while others remain intact. They primarily contain newspaper clippings and photographs. Most of the photographs have been copied.

SERIES VI: Ford Motor Company Welfare Department pertains to Marquis’ work with the Ford Motor Welfare Department (1912-1934) and includes speeches, writings and data collected during that time.


SERIES VIII: Oversized Materials include diplomas, certificates and photographs relating to Marquis’ religious, social and school affiliations.
RELATED COLLECTIONS

- Christ Church Cranbrook Records (1992-01)
- George Gough Booth Papers (1981-01)
- Cranbrook School Records (1979-06)
- Audio Cassette Collection (1990-09, Tape #56)
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4. Correspondence, 1916  
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| **Box 2** | 1. Correspondence, 1941-1982, n.d.  
2. Correspondence, Gertrude Marquis, 1917  
3. Family history notebook, Gertrude Marquis, 1934-1937  
5. Poems, n.d.  
| **SERIES II: St. Paul’s Cathedral** | |
| **Box 2** | 7. Correspondence, 1892, 1907  
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| **SERIES III: Cranbrook** | |
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2. Sermons, transcribed, Jan –Sep 1930
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5. Sermons, transcribed, Apr – Jun 1931
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1. Sermons, transcribed, Nov – Dec 1932
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7. Sermon notes, Cornell, n.d, 1925
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1. Sermon notes, handwritten, 1899, 1900
2. Sermon notes, handwritten, 1915
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7. Sermon notes, loose pages, n.d.
8. Writings, booklets, 1898 - 1929
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1. Writings, topical, religious, n.d.
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3. Scrapbook, sermon notes, numbered 396 - 419
4. Scrapbook, sermon notes, numbered 445 – 469
5. Scrapbook, clippings, 1899 – 1906
6. Scrapbook, photographs, 1908-1914

Box 7
1. Scrapbook, 1889 – 1923
2. Scrapbook - St. Paul’s, 1906 – 1920
4. Scrapbook, clippings, 1915 - 1933
5. Scrapbook - Cranbrook, 1925 – 1940
6. Scrapbook, clippings, 1932

SERIES VI: Ford Motor Company Welfare Department

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1. Clippings – Henry Ford, 1922 – 1923
2. Contracts, copyrights, 1922 - 1934
3. Correspondence, 1916
4. Speeches, 1912 – 1917
5. Testimony: wage arbitration, 1920
6. Writings, 1914 – 1920
7. Writings, n.d.
8. Writings, Sociological Department Book, 1914 - 1916

SERIES VII: Publications

Box 9
1. Amiel’s Journal (1899), Henri-Frederic Amiel
3. The Archko Volume or The Archaeological Writings of the Sanhedrin and Talmuds of the Jews (1913)
4. Biblia Hebraica (1890)
5. The Book of Common Prayer…According to the Use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (1897)
6. Caste and Slavery in the American Church (1843) A. Churchman

Box 10
1. Henry Ford: An Interpretation (1923) Samuel Simpson Marquis
2. St. Paul’s Cathedral, Detroit, Michigan: One Hundred Years, 1824-1924 (1924)
3. The Task of Rationalism (1910) John Russell
Oversize Box

1. Certificates, 1892 –1944
2. Cranbrook Foundation Certificate, 1948
3. Diplomas, 1893 - 1937
7. Scrapbook with photographs and clippings
8. Scrapbook, clippings, 1907 – 1910

Note: SERIES I: PERSONAL has been missing one box with the following records since at least 2001:

1. Poems, c 1886-1937
4. Transcript, Interview with Marquis children, 1952
6. Correspondence, Lee Anne G. Kryder, 1982-1983
8. Correspondence, Muster Roll – John Perrin, 1865-1868
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