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Guide to the Maurine Smith Papers 1917-1919



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.SMITHM
Title	Smith, Maurine. Papers
Date	1917-1919
Size	0.25 linear feet (1 box)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Maurine Smith was a member of the Poetry Club of the University of Chicago during the two years preceding her death on March 8, 1919, at the age of twenty-three. The collection comprises an autobiography written by Smith for the English Composition class of Professor James Root Hulbert, probably offered in 1918. In it she tells of her years of intense physical suffering, her devotion to nature, and her increasing interest in poetry. The bulk of the collection is made up of approximately two hundred typescript poems, a few of which were published in *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse* and in *The Keen Edge*.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Smith, Maurine. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Maurine Smith was a member of the Poetry Club of the University of Chicago during the two years preceding her death on March 8, 1919, at the age of twenty-three. Her association with the Poetry Club came at a most fortunate time, for among its members were Glenway Westcott, Elizabeth Madox Roberts, Maurice Lesemann, and Yvor Winters. After her death in 1921 Westcott and Winters wrote the foreword to a volume of Smith's poems, "The Keen Edge." Yvor Winters says of Smith, "For me she is fixed in a few lines, aided, perhaps, by fragments of an inaccurate memory. Thin, and a trifle bent, withdrawn, she surveys the autumn morning through a window."

Scope Note

The collection comprises an autobiography written by Smith for the English Composition class of Professor James Root Hulbert, probably offered in 1918. In it she tells of her years of intense physical suffering, her devotion to nature, and her increasing interest in poetry. The bulk of the collection is made up of approximately two hundred typescript poems, a few of which were published in *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse* and in *The Keen Edge*. Also included is a draft of Yvor Winters' foreword to *The Keen Edge*.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html>

Subject Headings

- Smith, Marine
- Winters, Yvor
- Poetry: A Magazine of Verse

INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder 1

Autobiography

Box 1

Folder 2

Poems, 1914-1916

Box 1

Folder 3

Poems, 1916-1919

Box 1

Folder 4

Poems, undated

Box 1

Folder 5

Yvor Winters' "Foreword" to *The Keen Edge*