

A Finding Aid to the Lucy A. Dowd Greeting Card and Ephemera Collection

Record Unit 453



Finding aid prepared by Insley Julier from July-August 2013. Revised by Insley Julier in
January 2014 and February 2014.
Edgartown, Massachusetts
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Descriptive Summary

- Repository:** Martha's Vineyard Museum
Gale Huntington Research Library
59 School Street
P.O. Box 1310
Edgartown, MA 02539
508-627-4441
- Call Number:** RU 453
- Creator:** Dowd, Lucy A., 1912-2003
- Title:** Lucy A. Dowd greeting card and ephemera collection
- Dates:** circa 1880-1966, undated, bulk 1908-1913
- Physical Description:** 3 boxes + 1 1/2 box (1.764 cubic feet)
- Language(s):** The materials are in English.
- Abstract:** The collection contains greeting cards, postcards, paper dolls and other ephemera, circa 1880-1966, collected by Lucy A. Dowd of Martha's Vineyard, New Jersey and Washington state.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use and Reproduction Restrictions

Requests to reproduce material from this collection should be directed to museum staff. Reproduction fees may apply.

Preferred Citation

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 453, Lucy A. Dowd Greeting Card and Ephemera Collection.

Acquisition Information

Three postcards, circa 1900s, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, January 1967. (Accession no. 1967.001). Trade cards, paper dolls and a portion of the valentines, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, September 9, 1967. (Accession no. 1967.020). Six assorted small picture cards, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, May 22, 1971. (Accession no. 1971.026). Six Christmas cards, six valentines and ten miscellaneous cards, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, July 7, 1971. (Accession no. 1971.041). Three desk blotters, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, May 6, 1972. (Accession no. 1972.023). Valentines and Christmas cards, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, May 20, 1972. (Accession no. 1972.031). Two small, World War I gummed prints of Kewpie dolls, gift of Lucy A. Dowd, June 1, 1972. (Accession no. 1972.034). Assorted cards, gift of Lucy Dowd, November 8, 1972. (Accession no. 1972.068).

Index Terms

Subjects - Topics

Advertising
Christmas
Holidays
Manners and customs
Valentine's Day

Subjects - Places

New Jersey--Social life and customs

Form/Genre Terms

Birthday cards
Christmas cards

Color lithographs
Easter cards
Greeting cards
New Year cards
Paper dolls
Postcards
Trade cards
Valentines

Contributors

Brown, Marion H.
Crammer, Paul, 1894-
Rider, Thomas, 1875-

Biography/Historical Note

Lucy Andrews Dowd was born in Tisbury, Massachusetts, February 6, 1912 to Portuguese parents, Maria DeLuz Medeiros, 1893- and Antone A. Andrews, 1867-1930. She had thirteen siblings; Benjamin, Albert, Antone, Lydia, May, Anna, Manuel, Louise, Laurence (died young), Lawrence, Elizabeth, Edward and a second Manuel, born after his brother's death. Lucy Andrews attended school in Tisbury and worked for the Cromwell family. She married her first husband, Leo E. Normandin in 1926, with whom she had four sons; Raymond, Robert, Richard and Ronald. The family lived on the island of Martha's Vineyard until approximately 1940. After divorcing Normandin, Andrews married Everett Dean Dunn, 1917- in the summer of 1943. Born in Morristown, New Jersey, Dunn was a soldier and served in World War II. Lucy Andrews Normandin Dunn married a third time to Shelby Dowd, 1907-1971. He also served in World War II and is buried in Tuckerton, New Jersey. Lucy Dowd resided in New Jersey for a number of years, in both West Creek and Tuckerton before moving west. She lived for over 20 years on the north Olympic Peninsula in Washington state; first in Sequim and later in Port Angeles. Lucy A. Dowd died in Port Angeles, Washington, on March 19, 2003 at the age of 91.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection contains greeting cards, postcards and other ephemera, circa 1880-1966, collected by Lucy A. Dowd. The cards convey best wishes for Birthdays, Christmas, Easter, New Year's, Thanksgiving Day, Valentine's Day and other holidays and special occasions, as well as general greetings. Christmas cards and valentines are most prevalent. Most of the greeting cards are color lithographs or printed postcards dated 1908-1913, however, the collection also includes die-cut and collaged cards. The latter

two are particularly prevalent among the valentines. Many of the cards are addressed to New Jersey recipients in New Gretna, Parkertown, Tuckerton and West Creek, including, Marion H. Brown, Paul Crammer and Thomas Rider. It is not known if Lucy A. Dowd was connected in any way to these individuals or if she merely collected the cards. A few of the cards bear annotations by Dowd indicating that she was the recipient. Others are annotated on the verso in pen with the initials L. A. or Lucy A. In a few instances Dowd included an explanatory note about the items she donated. These notes have been left in situ with the items. The collection also contains several trade cards, circa 1880-1900, which advertise businesses and products, cards conveying religious verses, and a number of paper dolls cut from women's magazines in the first quarter of the 20th century. Most of the paper dolls are unidentified and undated however the collection includes portions of the *Lettie Lane Paper Family* by artist Sheila Young. This paper doll series was first introduced in the *Ladies Home Journal* in 1908 and remained in production until 1912. In addition, miscellaneous materials include; two small poetry booklets from the late 1800s, two Kewpie doll stamps annotated 1919, a catalog advertising art calendars, circa 1931, blotters advertising typewriters, undated, packaging from sewing needles, undated and the *Army and Navy Service Book* of Albert Andrews of Tisbury, published in 1941.

Arrangement

The greeting cards are arranged alphabetically by holiday, occasion or subject and therein chronologically, with miscellaneous greeting cards filed last. Religious cards, trade cards, paper dolls and other miscellaneous materials are arranged alphabetically at the end of the collection following the greeting cards.

Collection Contents

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	1	Birthday Cards	1905-1910
1	2	Birthday Cards	1911-1913
1	3	Birthday Cards	1914
1	4	Birthday Cards	1921-1924, undated
1	5	Birthday Cards	undated
1	6	Children's Calendar Pages	1901
1	7	Christmas Cards	1903-1908
1	8	Christmas Cards	1907-1908
1	9	Christmas Cards	1909-1910
1	10	Christmas Cards	1909-1910, undated
1	11	Christmas Cards	1909-1922
1	12	Christmas Cards	1911-1912
1	13	Christmas Cards	1914-1919
1	14	Christmas Cards	1925, 1959-1966

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	15-20	Christmas Cards	undated
2	1-3	Christmas Cards	undated
2	4-5	Christmas Cards from Great Britain	undated
2	6	Easter Cards	1903-1911
2	7	Easter Cards	1911-1918
2	8-9	Easter Cards	undated
2	10	Greetings, Good Luck and Best Wishes	1906-1911
2	11	Greetings, Good Luck and Best Wishes	1911-1913, undated
2	12	Humor	1910-1912, undated
2	13	July 4th and Patriotic	1908-1918, undated
2	14	New Year Cards	circa 1910, undated
2	15	New Year Cards	1911, undated
2	16	Saint Patrick's Day	1905-1908
2	17	Spring	undated
2	18	Thanksgiving	1908-1914, undated
2	19	Tourist Card	1907
2	20	Tourist Postcards	1909-1913, undated
3	1	Valentines Note: The folder contains hand-made, collaged cards.	1903-1916
3	2	Valentines	1903, 1913-1920, undated
3	3	Valentines	1906-1908
3	4	Valentines	1908-1916
3	5	Valentines	1909-1956, undated
3	6	Valentines	1910
3	7-11	Valentines	circa 1910
3	12	Valentines	1911 and 1960
3	13	Valentines	1918-1922
3	14-16	Valentines	undated
3	17	Miscellaneous Postcards and Ephemera	1907-1910, undated
3	18	Miscellaneous Postcards and Ephemera	1907-1926, 1966, undated
3	19	Miscellaneous Fragments Note: This file contains unidentified, detached or broken pieces of cards and other ephemera.	1911-1918, undated
3	20	<i>Army and Navy Service Book</i> of Albert Andrews Note: This published work contains prayers and hymns.	1941
3	21	Blotters	undated

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
3	22	Catalog of Calendars	between 1929 and 1932
4	1	Image of Lucy A. Dowd and Letter	undated
4	2	Kewpie Doll Stamps	1919
4	3-6	Paper Dolls	1908-1912, undated
4	7	Paper Dolls	undated
4	8	Poetry	1880s-1890s
4	9	Religious Cards	1882, 1905-1906, undated
4	10	Sewing Needle Packaging	undated
4	11	Trade Cards	circa 1880-1900
		Note: Several of the trade cards are annotated with the name Antone A. Andrews.	
4	12	Trade Card for McConomy Brothers	undated