

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

REGISTER: Michael and Mary Walsh O'Neill Family Papers

MS. NO.: 4896

Processor: Regina Costello

Editor: Michael McCormick

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Michael O'Neill (d. 1961) was born in Tourmakeady, County Mayo, and his wife, Mary Walsh (1905-2001) came from the same county. They both immigrated to the United States independently of each other in the 1920s. Mary made Chicago, Illinois, her home, and Michael settled in Cleveland, Ohio. Mary met Michael while on a visit to Chicago. In the late 1930s, they relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, for employment purposes, and made this city their long term home. The O'Neills raised their family in the Irish tradition, instilling in them a love of the Irish culture.

The Michael and Mary Walsh O'Neill Family Papers, 1901-2000, consist of certificates of birth, marriage and naturalization, an essay on the life of Mary O'Neill, memorial cards, photographs and two poems.

The collection is arranged alphabetically by document type, and then chronologically.

This collection is of value to researchers studying Irish American history in northeast Ohio. It will be of particular interest to genealogists seeking information about the O'Neill and Walsh families who originated in County Mayo. Those interested in the life of a first generation Irish woman will find the essay on the life of Mary to be insightful. Those interested in Irish poetry will find the poems authored by Mary to be of interest.

A video *The Life of Mary* has been removed to the film collection.

Provenance: Peggy O'Neill, 2002.

Number of Containers: 1 Oversize Folders: 0 Oversize Volumes: 0

Size: 0.20 linear feet / 0.06 linear meters

Restrictions: None.

Container

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| 1 | <u>Folder</u> | 1: Certificate of birth, Mary Walsh, Ballinrobe, County Mayo, photocopy, 1905. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 2: Certificate of birth certificate, Michael O'Neill, Ballinrobe, County Mayo, photocopy, 1901. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 3: Certificate of marriage, Michael O'Neill and Mary Walsh, Chicago, Illinois, photocopy, 1936. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 4: Certificate of naturalization, Michael O'Neill, Cleveland, photocopy, 1930. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 5: Essay, "The Life of Mary O'Neill", author unknown, undated. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 6: Memorial cards, Michael O'Neill, 1961, Mary O'Neill 2001, photocopies. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 7: Newspaper clipping, <i>The News Herald</i> , March 17, 1986. (original stored in Oversize Folder 1, Oversize materials) |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 8: Photograph, Jack and Ann Joyce, photocopy, 1920. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 9: Photographs, Mary Walsh on the boat to America, Mary Walsh with her grandchildren, photocopies, ca. 2000. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 10: Photograph, Michael O'Neill, undated, Mary Walsh, undated, Michael O'Neill and Mary Walsh, undated, wedding photograph of Michael and Mary O'Neill, 1936, photocopies. |
| | <u>Folder</u> | 11: Poems, "The Answer to Twenty One Years", "Walking My Way Back Home", photocopies, by Mary Walsh, undated. |
| Oversize | <u>Folder</u> | 1: Oversize material described above in Container 1, Folder 7. |