

# EARL FINE PAPERS, 1914-1931

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**Collection #s:**

**M 566**

**OM 250**

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Processed by:  
Paul Brockman  
7 December 1990

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## **USER INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 box, 1 oversize folder (.3 linear feet)

COLLECTION DATES: Inclusive 1914-1931; Bulk 1918-1919

PROVENANCE: Jean Thompson for Crawfordsville District Public Library, 222 S. Washington Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933, 26 October 1990

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 91.0026

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## **HISTORICAL SKETCH**

Earl Leland Fine was born in Wallace, Fountain County, Indiana around 1896. He was graduated from Wallace High

School in 1914. He was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1918 and was sent to France in September of the same year. He contracted influenza in October, 1918, and died on November 1, 1918. His body was returned to Wallace for burial in September, 1920.

Sources: Information obtained from collection

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### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The bulk of the collection contains correspondence between Earl Fine and family and friends while he was serving in the U.S. Army from June-November, 1918. Included are letters written from Earl Fine to mother (Maria), father (Jacob), sister (Flossie), and brother (Clarence) from basic training at Camp Sherman near Chillicothe, Ohio, June-August, 1918, from Camp Mills, Long Island, New York, August, 1918, while on board ship crossing the Atlantic, September, 1918 and from France, September-October, 1918. Topics discussed are of a general nature such as daily events in basic training, waiting to be sent overseas, news from home and the loneliness of being in France waiting to be sent to the front.

There also are letters to Fine from his parents, sister, brother and girl friend, Josephine Hallett regarding news from home and concern over his well being. Some of these were written after Fine had died from influenza inquiring as to why he had not written and of their love for him. Also included are several letters from Earl Fine's fellow soldiers who wrote to his parents and sister regarding his death and the circumstances surrounding it.

Also, there are letters of condolences from friends and relatives regarding Earl Fine's death, memorials and certificates from the government, letters from nurses and hospital administrators regarding his last days and correspondence dealing with removing the body from France and returning it for final burial in Wallace.

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### **BOX AND FOLDER LISTING**

#### **BOX 1: Correspondence and Papers, 1914-1931**

Folder 1: Letters from Earl Fine, June-July, 1918

Folder 2: Letters from Earl Fine, August, 1918

Folder 3: Letters from Earl Fine, Sept.-Oct., 1918

Folder 4: Letters to Earl Fine, Aug.-Sept., 1918

Folder 5: Letters to Earl Fine, Oct.-Nov., 1918

Folder 6: Letters to family (mostly condolences), Nov.-Dec., 1918

Folder 7: Letters to family regarding Fine's death, 1919

Folder 8: Correspondence, documents and misc. items regarding Fine's death and burial, 1919-1920

Folder 9: Family Correspondence, 1918-1931

Folder 10: Misc. Items, 1914-1925

#### **OVERSIZE MANUSCRIPT BOX (1 Folder):**

Earl Fine Memorial, 1 November 1918

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## CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Fine, Earl Leland, 1896-1918

SUBJECT ENTRIES: United States. Army. Infantry Division, 84th

World War, 1914-1918--France

World War, 1914-1918--Indiana--Wallace

Soldiers--Indiana--Wallace

Soldiers' bodies, Disposition of--Indiana--Wallace

Wallace (Ind.)

Camp Sherman (Ohio)

END