

Collection #  
M 1431  
OM 0706

**WINSTON AND HELEN WYTHE  
COLLECTION, 1941–1971**

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Processed by

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 half-size manuscript box, 1 oversize manuscript folder, 3 folders photographs, 2 folders cold storage color photographs, 1 folder upright graphics, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1941– 1971

PROVENANCE: Donated by Karen U. Vaugh

RESTRICTIONS: Materials in cold storage need at least 4 hours to acclimate, so patrons should call ahead if they wish to view materials that are in cold storage.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2017.0224

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Winston Prentiss Wythe was born on 13 September 1907 in Riley, Indiana, to Vane Wythe and Hallie E. Brill. He graduated from Glenn High School on 23 May 1924 and from Indiana State Teacher's College in 1928 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education.

On 10 June 1933, Winston married Helen Hunter with whom he had a son named Rud. He taught at Froebel High School in Gary, Indiana, until 1941 when he moved to Indianapolis to work as a mathematician for the Quality Tool & Die Company. He also taught engineering mathematics at Purdue University.

During World War II, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy on 15 October 1943 and was later promoted to lieutenant junior grade. During his training, he was stationed in Hollywood, Florida; Fishers, New York; and Boston, Massachusetts.

After divorcing his first wife, Winston was remarried to Helen Louise Dawson on 21 March 1944. He was discharged from service on 7 April 1946 and went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in education from the Indiana State Teacher's College in 1946. He died on 6 December 1983 and is buried in the Goshen Church Cemetery in Spearsville, Indiana.

Helen Louise Dawson Wythe was born on 2 December 1918 in Spencer, New York, to Ernest Nelson Dawson and Elizabeth Duncker. During the World War II, she worked as a bookkeeper and stenographer. She died on 4 July 2017 and is buried in Goshen Church Cemetery in Spearsville, Indiana.

Sources:

Ancestry.com

Materials in the collection

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection consists of materials relating to Winston P. Wythe and Helen Wythe. Folders 1 through 5 of the collection are organized chronologically and contain correspondence written while Winston was serving with the U.S. Navy Reserve during World War II. The majority of the correspondence is written between Winston and Helen, but there are also letters written between Winston and his parents as well as his Aunt Winifred and Aunt Goldie. Also included are letters written between Helen and Winston's family. The letters primarily reference Winston and Helen's relationship in addition to his experiences during training, family matters, and leisure activities.

Folder 6 contains documents relating to Winston's naval service including birth certificates and health certificates, promotional papers, discharge papers, and papers regarding his transfer to the Retired Reserve.

Folder 7 contains assorted papers relating to Helen and Winston's wedding and honeymoon.

Folder 8 contains Winston's Masters of Arts diploma.

The collection also contains multiple photographs of Helen and Winston, a postcard featuring a picture of the Japanese surrender during World War II, Winston's high school and Bachelor's degree diplomas, and a button from a naval uniform.

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### CONTENTS

Diplomas, Winston P. Wythe, 1924; 1928

### CONTAINER

OM 0706,  
Folder 1 of 1

Correspondence, Winston P. Wythe, October–  
December 1943

Box 1, Folder 1

Correspondence, Winston P. Wythe, January 1944

Box 1, Folder 2

Correspondence, Winston P. Wythe, February 1944

Box 1, Folder 3

Correspondence, Winston P. Wythe, March 1944  
September 1945

Box 1, Folder 4

Correspondence, Winston P. Wythe, n.d

Box 1, Folder 5

Naval papers, Winston P. Wythe, 1941–1971

Box 1, Folder 6

Wedding and honeymoon papers, Winston P. and  
Helen Wythe, 1944

Box 1, Folder 7

Master of Arts diploma, Winston P. Wythe, 16 August  
1946

Box 1, Folder 8

Portraits, Helen Wythe, 1942

Photographs,  
Folder 1 of 3

Portraits, Winston P. Wythe, ca. 1930–1943

Photographs,  
Folder 2 of 3

Portrait, Winston P. and Helen Wythe, 1945

Photographs,  
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Portrait, Helen Wythe, ca. 1940

Cold Storage:  
Color Photographs,  
Folder 1 of 2

Portrait, Winston P. and Helen Wythe, ca. 1940

Cold Storage:  
Color Photographs,  
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WWII Japanese surrender postcard, 1945

Graphics,  
Folder 1 of 1

Naval uniform button

Artifacts,  
2017.0224