

# A Guide to the McKendrie-Day Collection 1920-1930

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A Collection in Roanoke Public Libraries 2011.11.05

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## History

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## Title Statement

A Guide to the McKendrie-Day Collection 1920-1930

**Subtitle:** McKendrie-Day Collection, A Guide to the

**Collection:** 2011.11.5

## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Dyron Knick. 19 December 2014

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

**20141219** Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Descriptive Summary

### Accession Number

2011.11.05

### Language

English

### Physical Characteristics

1 record storage box, 1 oversize file

### Repository

Roanoke Public Libraries

## Administrative Information

### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

### Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

## **Acquisition Information**

Donated by Pat Douglas

## **Preferred Citation**

McKendrie-Day Collection, Accession #2011.11.05, Roanoke Public Libraries, Roanoke, VA

# **Biographical Note**

Charles McKendrie and Sarah Day were married on 22 September 1904 in Washington DC. They lived in various homes throughout the Washington DC area, Essex County, and Roanoke, VA. Charles came to Roanoke as a railroad worker, but developed his lifelong trade as a builder after loosing his job to a railroad strike. He learned the building trade from Tommy Carter of Roanoke, VA, where he built his first six houses. They lived in Roanoke from 1918 - 1928 and then returned to Washington DC where he continued his business. Charles and Sarah had five children (1 boy, 4 girls) and adopted a son. Their first son, Herman Ishmel, died in infancy. Their youngest daughter, Irene, was tragically killed in a car accident on her 17th birthday. Irene's death in February 1930 was a significant loss for the family, and Sarah returned to Roanoke to live with the Clements family until August 1930. After moving back to Washington DC, Charles and Sarah lived there for the rest of their lives. Grace and Mabel McKendrie never married. They both lived in Washington DC for much of their lives as government workers, and traveled frequently. Jessie "Boots" McKendrie married Forrest Carlyle Brimacombe and had two sons.

# **Scope and Content**

The documents in the McKendrie Day Family Papers include family history documents and materials relating to Charles and Sarah McKendrie's four daughters, Grace, Mabel, Jessie "Boots" and Hilda "Irene". The majority of the materials focus on Mabel and Irene McKendrie. Mabel's documents focus on her years spent as a teenager in Roanoke, VA (1926-1928). Her diary, travel journal and high school programs document the life of a budding teenager in 1920s Roanoke, VA. Her diary lists the names of friends and families living in Roanoke, VA. Her manuscripts, undated, show her skills as a young writer. In one of her manuscripts, "Ellen of the Westland", there is a torn page from a magazine advertising a writing contest with a \$25,000 cash prize for the best novel by a woman. The documents relating to "Irene" McKendrie focus primarily on her tragic death in a car accident in Washington DC on her 17th birthday. Compiled in a scrapbook, there are photographs, letters, newsclippings, and sympathy cards, many of them from Roanoke residents.

# **Arrangement**

Documents are arranged creator or subject of the document.

# **Contents List**

## **[Level 1 Items]**

### **Box 1**

#### **McKendrie Family History**

##### **Folder 1**

#### **McKendrie, Hilda Irene - Scrapbook, photograph and school diploma**

##### **Folder 2**

#### **McKendrie, Mabel: Manuscript - "Hermit Lane or The Love of a Hermit"**

##### **Folder 3**

#### **McKendrie, Mabel: Manuscript - "Unfailing Light"**

##### **Folder 4**

#### **McKendrie, Mabel: Manuscript - "Ellen of the West Land"**

##### **Folder 5**

#### **McKendrie, Mabel: Travel Diarv**

**Folder 6**

**McKendrie, Mabel: Diary 28 August 1925-29 July 1926**

**Folder 7**

**McKendrie, Mabel: English Parallel School - assignments**

**Folder 8**

**McKendrie, Mabel: Jefferson High School Program flyers 1926-1928**

**Folder 9**

**McKendrie, Grace: Graduation booklet from National Business College**

**Folder 10**

**McKendrie, Jessie "Boots": Certificate, Mission study**

**Folder 11**