

Tudor Place Manuscript Collection
Josephine (Law) May Haines Papers
MS-16

Introduction

Josephine (Law) May Haines (1834-1899) was the sister of Sarah (Law) Williams (1837-1912), the mother of Anna (Williams) Peter 1872-1961) who married Armistead Peter, Jr. (1870-1960).

Josephine (Law) May Haines was married twice. Her first marriage was in 1853 to Colonel Charles Augustus May (1818-1864), a Mexican War hero who died in 1864.

The Villa Maria on Lake Como, Italy, became Josephine (Law) May's permanent residence in 1894. She married George Augustine Haines (1843-1915) on September 16, 1895. She is important to the history of Tudor Place because the bulk of her substantial estate and many objects from Villa Maria are at Tudor Place. Most of the papers in this collection date from after her move to Italy and primarily concern Villa Maria. These documents came to Tudor Place through Armistead Peter, Jr., who was responsible for closing up Villa Maria after the death of George Augustine Haines, Josephine (Law) May Haines' husband. The papers include social and business correspondence, subject files, legal documents, financial documents, lists and inventories, scrapbook material, and printed material.

These papers were a part of the estate Armistead Peter placed under the auspices of the Carostead Foundation, Incorporated, in 1966; the name of the foundation was changed to Tudor Place Foundation, Incorporated, in 1987. Use and rights of the papers are controlled by the Foundation. The collection was processed and the register prepared by James Kaser, a project archivist hired through a National Historical Records and Publications grant in 1992. This document was reformatted by Emily Rusch and revised by Tudor Place archivist Wendy Kail in 2020.

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Biographical Sketch

Little detail is known of the life of Josephine (Law) May Haines (1834-1899), the oldest daughter of the five children of industrialist George Law (1806-1881) and Sarah (Anderson) Law (1810-1883). She was the sister of Sarah (Law) Williams (1837-1912), whose daughter Anna (Williams) Peter (1872-1961) married Armistead Peter, Jr. (1870-1960), third owner of Tudor Place.

Josephine (Law) May Haines was married twice. On February 8, 1853, she married Colonel Charles Augustus May (1818-1864), a Mexican War hero. According to newspaper legend, the couple resided on Fifth Avenue in New York City just below Twenty-ninth Street, where Josephine (Law) May entertained and gave musicals and dinners. Colonel Charles May died in 1864; after his death she became very devout and was one of the first women in New York to have a chapel in her home.

Josephine (Law) May made the Villa Maria, Cadenabbia, on Lake Como, Italy, her permanent residence in 1894. The villa had been built 1889-1892 by the famous architect Giacomo Mantegazza; it was a majestic structure with a double series of arches in the center of the façade; a staircase connected the villa to a park and a wet dock on the lake. Josephine (Law) May Haines married George Augustine Haines (1843-1915) on September 16, 1895. Together the couple renovated their villa, entertained guests, and travelled abroad. Josephine (Law) May Haines died in Basel, Switzerland, on July 5, 1899.

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Series Description

CORRESPONDENCE

Series

CORRESPONDENCE

1892-1899; ND

Incoming

Most of these letters date from 1896 through 1898. These include letters from family members George Law, Jr., Alga (Smith) Law, Anna (Law) Wright, Sarah (Law) Williams, but are mostly general social correspondence. A number of letters are from Charles Whitehall, a friend from New York, and Luigi Gulli, who seems to have been an impresario for a musical ensemble that Josephine (Law) May Haines supported. One letter is from Archbishop Corrigan of New York City.

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE

1894-1899

Incoming

Consists of business correspondence, primarily dealing with the renovation and furnishing of the Villa Maria. Several letters are from contractors and subcontractors and from interior decorators and antiques dealers from Paris and London. An exchange of correspondence with Steinway and Sons indicates the type of piano purchased from the firm and its placement at the Villa Maria. Some letters are from clothing designers, including the House of Worth. Other letters relate to financial transactions with Brown and Shipley, the United States Trust Company of New York, and an Italian bank, and a legal case in which John Hardy represented Josephine (Law) May Haines. Many letters have bills/receipts, account statements, or measured drawings attached.

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE: JAMES AFFLECK

1895-1899

James Affleck was the Law family lawyer, but these letters deal mostly with the private financial matters of Josephine (Law) May Haines, including the settlement of her brother George Law, Jr.'s, estate, payment of dividends from the George Law, Sr., estate, the closing of the Law family house at 259 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and the disposal of the furnishings in the house.

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE: J. G. AFFLECK

1896-1899

J. G. Affleck was James Affleck's nephew. As his uncle's health faltered, J. G. Affleck took over his uncle's business.

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE: JOHN M. SCRIBNER
1896-1897

John M. Scribner was George Law, Jr.'s, lawyer and these letters concern the settlement George Law, Jr.'s, estate.

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE
1894.

One outgoing letter to Enrico Zanoli placed him in charge of the Villa Maria.

SUBJECT FILES

Series

MONSIGNOR MARTIN CLERC
1884-1902

Josephine (Law) May Haines met Monsignor Martin Clerc in Rome, where he was the Vatican correspondence to *L'Univers*, a Parisian Roman Catholic newspaper. In the winter of 1892 she asked him to serve as her personal chaplain. Monsignor Martin Clerc was well connected in ecclesiastical circles. Included in this subject file are letters from Monsignor Martin Clerc to Josephine (Law) May Haines, letters from members of the Clerc family concerning financial matters, condolence letters, legal documents, and bills and receipts. The legal documents suggest that Monsignor Martin Clerc owned or negotiated the purchase of Villa Maria. Bills and receipts indicate that Josephine (Law) May Haines paid his expenses. He died in May 1894; obituaries form part of the subject file.

GEORGE LAW, SENIOR, ESTATE
1894-1904

Account statements and lists of securities.

GEORGE LAW, JUNIOR, ESTATE
1896-1897; ND

Correspondence with James Affleck, J.G. Affleck, and John M. Scribner.

LEGAL CASE: EMILIO CAMANNI
1892-1895

Case brought against Josephine (Law) May Haines by an Italian businessman.

EDWARD GREEN MALBONE, ARTIST
1897

Information about the 18th century American artist.

MARRIAGE TO GEORGE AUGUSTINE HAINES

1895

Correspondence regarding legal matters concerning Josephine (Law) May Haines' marriage to George Augustine Haines.

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS

Series

NOTES

ND

Fragmentary notes.

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

Series

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

1895-1899

Includes marriage certificates, powers of attorney, Josephine (Law) May Haines' will, a residency permit, a safe conduct pass, and summonses.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

[N.B. Related material is found in the George Augustine Haines Papers. Only material maintained or addressed directly to Josephine (Law) May Haines is in this collection.]

Series

ACCOUNT BOOKS

1889-1899

Books for accounts in Banca di Lecco and the Knickerbocker Trust Company.

ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

1886-1901

Includes statements from Banca di Lecco and the United States Trust Company of New York.

BILLS AND RECEIPTS

1883-1898

Arranged chronologically.

Includes a wide variety of receipts for household expenses and furnishings.

BILLS AND RECEIPTS: GONDOLA

1892-1897

Receipts for the construction and maintenance of a gondola.

LISTS AND INVENTORIES

Series

ADDRESS BOOK

1877

Includes addresses for people in Paris, Washington, and London.

INVENTORY: ART EXHIBITION

ND

Inventory of items loaned by Josephine (Law) May Haines for an exhibition at the Ortgies Gallery, New York City.

INVENTORY: FANS

1891

Includes descriptions and valuations.

INVENTORIES

1894

An inventory with valuations including many porcelain figures, and an inventory of items loaned, including snuffboxes.

SCRAPBOOK MATERIAL

Series

SCRAPBOOK MATERIAL

1894-1896; ND

Notes, programs, and pressed flowers.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

1881-1896

Articles about the Law family.

CALLING CARDS AND ADDRESSES

ND

Calling cards for Monsignor Martin Clerc.

RECIPES

ND

Recipes for eggnog and soup.

RIBBON: METROPOLITAN OPERA

1894

Commemorates the last performance of the 1894 season.

LABORATORY REPORTS

1898

Urine analyses for Josephine (Law) May Haines.

HOLIDAY CARDS

1884-1885

A number of these cards are hand painted.

PRINTED MATERIAL

Series

PRINTED MATERIAL

1886; ND

Includes programs for musical performances, and one of Josephine (Law)

May Haines' calling cards.

ENVELOPES

ND

Envelopes unmatched to correspondence.

DRAWING/POEM

Poem in honor of Josephine (Law) May Haines written and drawn by Augusto Guidini.

MS-16
Box 1

Folder		
1	Correspondence	1892
2	Correspondence	1893
3	Correspondence	1894
4	Correspondence	Jan-Apr 1895
5	Correspondence	Jul-Dec 1895
6	Correspondence	1896
7	Correspondence	1897
8	Correspondence	Jan-May 1898
9	Correspondence	Jul-Dec 1898
10	Correspondence	1899; ND
11	Business Correspondence	1894-1895
12	Business Correspondence	1896
13	Business Correspondence	1897
14	Business Correspondence	1898
15	Business Correspondence	1899; 1901
16	Business Correspondence: James Affleck	1895-1899
17	Business Correspondence: J. G. Affleck	1896-1897
18	Business Correspondence: J. G. Affleck	1898-1899
19	Business Correspondence: John M. Scribner	1896
20	Business Correspondence: John M. Scribner	1897
21	Outgoing Correspondence	1894
22	Correspondence: Monsignor Martin Clerc	1884-1889; ND

23	Correspondence: Monsignor Martin Clerc	1893-1894
24	Correspondence: Monsignor Martin Clerc	1895
25	Correspondence: Monsignor Martin Clerc	1896-1898

MS-16
Box 2

Folder

1	Monsignor Martin Clerc Estate: Correspondence	1892-1902
2	Monsignor Martin Clerc Estate: Correspondence	1894
3	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Deeds	1892
4	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Deeds	1894
5	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Deeds	1895-1899
6	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Bills and Receipts	1891-1892
7	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Bills and Receipts	1893-1894
8	Monsignor Martin Clerc: Newspaper Clippings	1894
9	George Law, Sr., Estate: Financial	1894-1904
10	George Law, Jr., Estate: Correspondence	1896-1897
11	George Law, Jr., Estate: Legal Documents	1897
12	Legal Case: Emilio Camanni	1892-1895

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Box 3

Folder		
1	Resume: Edward Green Malbone, Artist	1897
2	Correspondence: Marriage to George Augustine Haines	1895; 1907
3	Notes	ND
4	Marriage Certificates	1895
5	Power of Attorney to George Augustine Haines	1895, 1897
6	Residency Permit: Lugano	1895
7	United States of America Safe Conduct Pass	1895
8	Summons	1899
9	Estate of Josephine (Law) May Haines: Will, Copy	May 19, 1896
10	Account Book: Banca di Lecco	1894
11	Account Book: Banca di Lecco	1896
12	Account Book: Banca di Lecco	1896-1899
13	Account Book: Knickerbocker Trust Company	1889-1899
14	Account Statements	1886-1897
15	Account Statements	1898; 1899
16	Account Statements: United States Trust Company of New York	1897-1901
17	Canceled Checks: Banca di Lecco	1894
18	Canceled Checks: Banca di Lecco	1896
19	Canceled Checks: Banca di Lecco	1897
20	Canceled Checks: Banca di Lecco	1898
21	Check Stubs: Banca di Lecco	1896
22	Bills and Receipts	1883

23	Bills and Receipts	1889
24	Bills and Receipts	Jan-Aug 1891
25	Bills and Receipts	Sep-Dec 1891; ND
26	Bills and Receipts	Jan-Mar 1892
27	Bills and Receipts	Apr-Jun 1892
28	Bills and Receipts	Jul-Dec 1892
29	Bills and Receipts	Jan-Apr 1893
30	Bills and Receipts	May-Jun 1893
31	Bills and Receipts	Jul-Aug 1893

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Box 4

Folder		
1	Bills and Receipts	Sept-Nov 1893
2	Bills and Receipts	Dec 1893; ND
3	Bills and Receipts	Jan-May 1894
4	Bills and Receipts	Jun-Dec 1894
5	Bills and Receipts	Jan-May 1895
6	Bills and Receipts	Jun 1895
7	Bills and Receipts	Jul 1895
8	Bills and Receipts	Aug 1895
9	Bills and Receipts	Sep 1895
10	Bills and Receipts	Oct 1895
11	Bills and Receipts	Nov 1895
12	Bills and Receipts	Dec 1895
13	Bills and Receipts	1896
14	Bills and Receipts	1898
15	Bills and Receipts: Gondola	1892-1897
16	Address Book	1877
17	Inventory: Art Exhibition	ND
18	Inventory: Fans	1891
19	Inventories	1894
20	Scrapbook Material	ND
21	Newspaper Clippings: George Law, Jr.	1896
22	Newspaper Clippings	1881-1894,

		ND; scattered
23	Calling Cards and Addresses	ND
24	Recipes	ND
25	Ribbon: Metropolitan Opera	1894
26	Laboratory Reports	1898
27	Correspondence: Holiday Cards	1884-1885
28	Printed Material	1886; ND
29	Engravings: <i>View of West Point</i> , West Point, New York; <i>View of the Capitol</i> , Washington, D.C.	ND
30	Calling Cards: Mrs. May; Mr. & Mrs. George A. Haines	1886; ND
31	Envelopes: Unmatched to Correspondence	ND
32	Calendar	1923

MS-16
Box 5

Drawing/Poem: In Honor of Josephine (Law) May Haines by Augusto Guidini, <i>In Morte del Fratello Giorgio</i>	1896
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