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Administrative Information

Provenance: This collection was formed around an interview of Miriam E. Andrews carried out by Marge Duvall, then University Archivist, in July 1974. The photograph and book were probably added by the Archivist from the department’s holdings.

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Cite as: Miriam Andrews Papers, Special Collections, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

Restrictions on access: None

Biographical Note

Miriam Andrews was born in West Sumner Maine, May 1, 1897. In 1902, she moved to Brunswick where she spent her childhood. She attended high school and graduated in 1916. In 1920, she graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music. She went on to study in New York at Juilliard School of Music. She continued her education at Columbia University’s Teachers College where she received her Bachelors and Masters degrees.

Ms. Andrews began teaching at Gorham Normal School in 1922. She remained a music teacher there until 1960. During her years at Gorham, she directed plays and organized concerts and operettas. She also compiled a music book for the school called Songs of Gorham Normal School that was produced in 1925.

Ms. Andrews died after an illness in Portland Hospital on July 13, 1976. She was brought home to Brunswick where she was buried in the Riverside Cemetery.

Description of the Papers

The collection consists of the results of an interview in 1974, a cassette tape and transcript, accompanied by a photograph of Andrews and the book she wrote.

The transcript was an interview that took place on July 12, 1974. The interviewer was USM’s University Archivist Ms. Duval. The interview covers her career at the Gorham School and her accomplishments, personal and otherwise, while there. There is also information about her years at Columbia’s Teachers College and at Juilliard in the 1920s.
The photograph of Andrews was probably taken in the year 1960 and used in the Gorham School yearbook, part of the faculty pictures.

The songbook, *Songs of Gorham Normal School*, was produced in 1925 and Andrews discusses the origin of the songs in her interview. It contains many songs popular at that time. A card found with the book indicates that Andrews was selling copies from her home in Brunswick. Pencil notations in the book indicates it was cataloged by a library, therefore if probably came from USM's existing collection.

Other information on Ms. Andrews in Special Collections can be found in the Gorham Normal School yearbooks from 1922-1945 and also the Gorham State teachers college yearbooks dating from 1946-1960. Information of can also be found in orbituaries in the Portland, Maine, Evening Express and Portland, Maine, Press Herald in the 1976, July editions. Copies of some death notices are in the Special Collections department files, consult the staff for access.

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