

**CHARLOTTE DUNWIDDIE PAPERS, 1907-1995**  
**1997.A.0286**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
Tel. (202) 479-9717  
e-mail: [reference@ushmm.org](mailto:reference@ushmm.org)

**Descriptive summary**

Title: Charlotte Dunwiddie papers

Dates: 1907-1995

Accession number: 1997.A.0286

Creator: Dunwiddie, Charlotte, 1907-1995

Extent: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes, 11 oversize folders)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW,  
Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Charlotte Dunwiddie papers consist of biographical materials documenting Dunwiddie, her husbands, her parents, and her grandparents; correspondence among Dunwiddie and her family and friends during and after World War II; printed materials documenting Charlotte and Stanley Dunwiddie's lives in Peru; restitution and property files, including architectural drawings and maps, relating to Dunwiddie's efforts to receive compensation for inherited property in Germany that had been held in trust for her stepfather during the war so that it would not be seized as Jewish property; and four family photographs.

Languages: German, English, Spanish, French, Italian

**Administrative Information**

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Charlotte Dunwiddie papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art transferred the Charlotte Dunwiddie papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1997.

Custodial history: The Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art received the Charlotte Dunwiddie papers from the Estate of Charlotte Dunwiddie in 1997.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at [collections.ushmm.org](https://collections.ushmm.org) for further information.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, October 2013, revised January 2014

### **Biographical note**

Charlotte (Liselotte, Carlotta) Dunwiddie (1907-1995) was born Elizabeth Charlotte Eugenia Natalie Klein in Strasbourg to Walter Karl Klein and Else Klein (née Mayer, 1885-1942). After her parents' divorce, she was adopted by her stepfather, Adolf Hanau (1878-1942), and studied art in Berlin. She married her first husband, Richard Arthur Wolff (1890-1939), in 1929, left Berlin shortly after his death, and continued to study art in Paris and Madrid. She was briefly married to Donald McClean, moved to Buenos Aires, married D. Stanley Dunwiddie (1908-1951), and lived with him in Lima, Peru, until his sudden death in 1951. She moved to New York, continued her career in sculpture, and became the first woman president of the National Sculpture Society. Adolf Hanau was imprisoned for a month in Sachsenhausen following Kristallnacht and perished at Auschwitz in November 1942. Else Klein died in the Jewish hospital in Berlin in June 1942 and her mother, Babette Mayer, perished at Theresienstadt in December 1942.

### **Scope and content of collection**

The Charlotte Dunwiddie papers consist of biographical materials documenting Dunwiddie, her husbands, her parents, and her grandparents; correspondence among Dunwiddie and her family and friends during and after World War II; printed materials documenting Charlotte and Stanley Dunwiddie's lives in Peru; restitution and property files, including architectural drawings and maps, relating to Dunwiddie's efforts to receive compensation for inherited property in Germany that had been held in trust for her stepfather during the war so that it would not be seized as Jewish property; and four family photographs.

Biographical materials include birth, baptismal, marriage, divorce, registration, and death certificates and identification and immigration papers documenting Charlotte Dunwiddie's life in Germany, France, Spain, Peru, and America; her stepfather's imprisonment in Sachsenhausen; her relationships with her husbands; and her father's and grandparents' Catholicism. This series also includes inventories of the sculptures Dunwiddie created.

Correspondence files include two postcards to Else Hanau from Adolf Hanau while he was imprisoned in Sachsenhausen; letters from Charlotte's family in Berlin describing their lives in Berlin and efforts to emigrate; correspondence between Charlotte and her second husband describing the circumstances of their brief marriage; correspondence between Charlotte and her friends describing postwar life in Berlin, Lima, and elsewhere; and correspondence enclosing a student paper about Dunwiddie by Marion Morton.

Printed materials include clippings and a scrapbook containing articles relating to the lives of Charlotte and Stanley Dunwiddie in Peru and his death in Ohio.

The collection includes four family photographs that appear to depict Charlotte and Stanley Dunwiddie.

Restitution and property files include architectural drawings and maps related to Dunwiddie's inherited property in Berlin, Köln, and Düsseldorf; correspondence with Louis Helkenberg and Lestor Nelson who helped Dunwiddie with her property and financial claims; and land records, leases, legal documents, and sales agreements related to the property.

### **System of arrangement**

The Charlotte Dunwiddie papers are arranged as five series:

- Series 1: Biographical materials, 1907-1995
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1938-1989
- Series 3: Photographs, approximately 1920-1975
- Series 4: Printed materials, approximately 1945-1995
- Series 5: Restitution and property files, 1921-1995

### **Indexing terms**

Sachsenhausen (Concentration camp)

Women sculptors.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) – Reparations.

Jewish property – Germany – Berlin.

Jewish property – Germany – Cologne.

Jewish property – Germany – Düsseldorf.

Real property – Germany – Berlin.

Real property – Germany – Cologne.

Real property – Germany – Düsseldorf.

Jews – Germany – Berlin.

Germany – Emigration and immigration – History – 1933-1945.

Berlin (Germany)

Madrid (Spain)

Lima (Peru)

Photographs

Architectural drawings (visual works)

Maps

## CONTAINER LIST

### Series 1: Biographical materials, 1907-1995

Box/ Folder	Title
1.1	Dunwiddie, Charlotte, 1907, 1921, 1939-1949, 1970
1.2	Dunwiddie, Charlotte, Sculpture inventories, 1995
1.3	Dunwiddie, D. Stanley, 1931, 1948-1951
1.4	Dunwiddie, Lucinda, 1946
1.5	Hanau, Adolf, 1938
1.6	Klein, Joseph, 1939
1.7	Klein, Walter Karl, 1939
1.8	Mayer, Sigmund, 1939
1.9	McClean, Donald M., approximately 1937-1944
1.10	Spörckmann, Maria Catharina, 1939
1.11	Wolff, Richard Arthur, 1929, 1939

### Series 2: Correspondence, 1938-1989

Box/ Folder	Title
1.12	Annelise, 1960-1961
1.13	Dunwiddie, Charlotte (from her family in Berlin), 1939-1942
1.14	Hanau, Adolf (in Sachsenhausen to Else Hanau), 1938
1.15	Lemken, Ilse, approximately 1950-1951
1.16	McClean, Donald M., 1944
1.17	Morton, Marion B., 1989
1.18	Wergin, Annie R., 1955-1957
1.19	Miscellaneous, 1955, 1986

### Series 3: Photographs, approximately 1920-1975

Box/ Folder	Title
1.20	Family photographs, approximately 1920-1975

### Series 4: Printed materials, approximately 1945-1995

Box/ Folder	Title
1.21, OS 1	Clippings, approximately 1951-1995 (2 folders)
2	Scrapbook, 1945-1951

**Series 5: Restitution and property files, 1921-1995**

<b>Box/ Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>
1.22, OS 2-OS 11	Architectural drawings and maps, 1921, 1946-1958 (11 folders)
1.23	<i>Bundesgesetzblatt</i> issue with details about the Federal law for the Compensation of the Victims of National Socialist Persecution, 1956
1.24	Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1980, 1992
1.25	Helkenberg, Louis, Correspondence and agreements, 1951-1958
1.26	Land registry entries, 1951
1.27	Leases, 1946-1956
1.28	Magistrat von Gross-Berlin, approximately 1954-1959
1.29	Nelson, Lestor, Correspondence, 1990-1995
1.30	Powers of attorney, 1947, 1957
1.31	Sales agreements, 1957-1959
1.32	Miscellaneous, approximately 1950-1990