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Marie Ferre Collection

1971-2013 2 boxes (0.75 linear foot) **Call no.**: MS 1040



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Read collection overview

Esma-Marie N'Doi Booth was born into a missionary family in the Belgian Congo in Dec. 1932, and attended school there until entering Boston University. She earned her degree in art and art history in 1954, the same year she married the philosopher Frederick Feree, and for much of the next four decades, she worked as an archivist at the colleges and universities where her husband found an academic home: Vanderbilt, Mount Holyoke, and Dickinson. After retiring to Northfield, Mass., in 2000, she became active in local history and historic preservation, including working as archivist for the Association for Gravestone Studies. She died in Greenfield, Mass., in 2016 at the age of 83. The Ferre collection contains articles, news clippings, and notes on New England gravestones, along with several dozen images taken by Ferre in graveyards during the early 2000s, primarily in Massachusetts.

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Gravestones

Background on Marie Ferre

Esma-Marie N'Doi Booth was born to Methodist missionaries in what was then the Belgian Congo on Dec. 30, 1932, and attended school at the Central School for Missionaries' Children in Ludondai until entering college at Boston University. Graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in art and art history in 1954, Ferre married the philosopher and metaphysician Frederick Feree, building a careere as an archivist at the institutions where he found an academic home: Vanderbilt, Mount Holyoke, and Dickinson.

After retiring in 2000, Ferre moved to Northfield, Mass., and became active in local history and historic preservation. In addition to serving on the town historic commission, she volunteered as a docent at Historic Deerfield and became active in the Association for Gravestone Studies, serving for several years as archivist. In 2008, she founded the Friends of Northfield's Old Cemeteries and conducted a comprehensive survey of the town's Center, setting the stage for its listing on the National Register. Ferre died in Greenfield, Mass., on March 4, 2016.



Marie Ferre among the headstones, ca.2004

Scope of collection

The Ferre collection contains articles, news clippings, and notes on New England gravestones, along with several dozen images taken by Ferre in graveyards during the early 2000s, primarily in Massachusetts.

Inventory

Photographs 2002-2007 Conn.: Danbury, New Haven 2004 Box 1:1 Mass.: Becket, Chesterfield 2005 Box 1:2 Mass.: Dennis, Yarmouth 2004 Box 1:3 Mass.: Dennis, Yarmouth, Newburyport, Newbury 2005-09 Box 1:4 Mass.: Dennis, Yarmouth, Northfield, Newburyport, Newbury, Harvard 0000 Box 1:5 Mass.: Miscellaneous (two folders) 2000-2002 Box 1:6 Mass.: Mount Auburn 2007-06 Box 1:7 Mass.: Oxford 2005 Box 1:8

Mass.: Oxford, Acushnet, Shutesbury 2005 Box 1:9 Mass.: Plympton 2004 Box 1:10 Mass.: Rutland, Vt., Petersham, Mass. 2006-06 Box 1:11 Mass.: Yarmouth 2002 Box 1:12 Miscellaneous 2005-2007 Box 1:13 New York: Long Island 2007-06 Box 1:14 Nova Scotia 2005-06 Box 1:15 Unidentified 2002-2004 Box 1:16 **Research materials** 1971-2013 Association for Gravestone Studies: archives 2005 Box 2:1 Association for Gravestone Studies: Ralph Tucker Papers 2005 Box 2: 2 Carvers: miscellaneous undated Box 2: 3 Carvers: miscellaneous on various carvers 1984-2013 Box 2:4 Carvers: Soules, B. ca.1980 Box 2:5 Perley, Sidney: Early gravestones in Essex County [photocopy], Essex Antiquarian 3 1899 Box 2:6 Drinkwater, Robert: From quarry to graveyard: a schematic reconstruction of early New England gravestone carving technology. Senior thesis, UMass Amherst 1972 Box 2:7 Olsen, Susan: Graveyard discoveries: Association for Gravestone Studies sets sights on Pennsylvania, American Cemetery 2006-08 Box 2:8 Graveyard tours: maps and notes 1988-2005 Box 2:9 Introductions to gravestones [photocopies of articles] 0000 Box 2:10 Ludwig, Allan I.: Sermons in stone, FMR, no. 6 1984

Box 2: 11 Symbolism and letters on gravestones 2003 Box 2: 12 Town of Hanover 2005 Annual Calendar -- Burying grounds 2005 Box 2: 13 Trinkley, Michael: Why sandstone monuments have so many problems, AGS Quarterly, vo. 37, 1 2013 Box 2: 14

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Gift of Association for Gravestone Studies, June 2018.

Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, June 2018.

Language:

English

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Search terms

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