

# MOORS, MARTHA L.

## Martha L. Moors Family collection, 1909-1924, undated

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
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### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Moors, Martha L.  
**Title:** Martha L. Moors Family collection, 1909-1924, undated  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 171  
**Extent:** 0.3 cubic ft. (1 box)  
**Abstract:** Contains letters written to Laura Burrows, grandmother of Martha L. Moors, from 1909 through 1925.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Martha L. Moors Family Collection, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

#### Processing

Processed by Jennifer Gerth, 1998.

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### Collection Description

#### Biographical Note

Martha L. Moors was a missionary in Angola in the early and mid 1920s. Based upon her correspondence, she was a nurse, midwife, or doctor, and possibly a teacher. She was born circa 1898. Other members of her family, such as her father and possibly a sister, were also missionaries.

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**Scope and Content Note**

These letters were written to Laura Burrows, grandmother of Martha L. Moors, from 1909 through 1925. Most of the letters are from Moors while she was serving as a missionary in Angola. Two letters are from another granddaughter named Mona, who was possibly Moors' sister or cousin. Other letters are to and from correspondents whose full names are not clear including Lou or Louise, an Aunt Martha, and an Aunt Laura, all of whom appear to be relatives of Martha L. Moors. The last name of these women may be Burrows. The letters are arranged by date with undated letters last.

The strength of this collection lies in the letters written by Martha L. Moors. In these letters Moors described her daily life from her beginning as a missionary in Africa in 1920 through 1925. She wrote of the abuses of the colonial Portuguese government towards whom she felt disdain and of Arthur Sylva, a Portuguese official. Moors also told her grandmother of her nursing or medical duties among the native population of her mission. Moors nursed people during sickness and tells of the diseases, including smallpox and respiratory infections, that killed many Africans. She also assisted women in childbirth.

Every letter reveals her faith in God and feelings as a missionary. Moors may have been Seventh-Day Adventist based upon clues in her letters. She also might have been Congregationalist as she made some references to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, a Congregationalist group. Despite these clues, Moors never concretely specified her religious affiliation.

Moors discussed family matters with her grandmother. From this information, it appears that other family members were also missionaries or ministers.

## Container List

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	Correspondence, 1909-1923
1	2	Correspondence, 1924, undated

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