

**MARY POOLE CRANFORD COLLECTION**  
PP0030

**Descriptive Summary**

*Creator* Cranford, Mary P.

*Title* Mary Poole Cranford Collection

*Accession Number* PP0030

*Physical Description* 2 medium archival boxes

*Inclusive Dates* 1953-1972

*Language Note* English

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**Administrative Information**

*Repository*  
Mercer University Library  
Archives and Digital Initiatives  
1501 Mercer University Dr.  
Macon, Georgia 31207  
478-301-2968  
archives@mercer.edu

*Citation*

[after identification of item(s)], Mary Poole Cranford Collection. Archives and Digital Initiatives, Mercer University Library, Macon, GA.

*Acquisition*

Gift of unknown

*Processing note*

Inventory prepared by Special Collections personnel and Rachel Lukavsky (2021)

*Restrictions on access*

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

*Restrictions on use*

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**Collection Description***Biographical Note*

Mary Poole Cranford was a Georgia author, editor, journalist, and social commentator in the early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Poole and grew up in Warwick, Georgia, where she attended Warwick Baptist Church and Ashburn High School. She also attended McPhaul Institute, a teacher training school and then served as a teacher in the Crisp County school system (Bay Springs School) for several years. She moved to Macon, Georgia, in 1937. Cranford became a public relations writer for the Army during World War II and worked as a Secretary to the Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners. She began to publish newspaper articles in local newspapers during that time. She earned her Master of Education, presumably from Mercer University, and went on to write several books: *When Cometh Peace?* about World War and family struggle concerns; *From My Window*, a collection of inspirational essays individually titled *Letters to Cranford*; *Behold the Children*, concerns about situations in the public-school system. She was married to Carl Cranford and was a member of Midwestern Writer's Conference, the National Geographic Society, First Baptist Church of Macon, the Business Women's League, and the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Georgia Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

*Scope and Content Note*

The Mary Poole Cranford Collection contains letters, transcripts, newspaper clippings, writings, and photographs belonging to Mrs. Mary Poole Cranford.

*Subjects*

Mercer University  
First Baptist Church of Macon  
Midwestern Writer's Conference  
National Geographic Society  
Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners  
American literature – 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Education – Georgia – Societies, etc.  
Women authors, American - Georgia

*Related Material*

None

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**Series Description**

Series 1: "When Cometh Peace"

Series 2: "From My Window"

Series 3: "Behold the Children"

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**Container List**

SERIES 1: "WHEN COMETH PEACE"

Folder 1/1: Transcript

Folder 1/2: Letters, 1929-1953

Folder 1/3: News clippings, 1952-1954

Folder 1/4: Photograph of Cranford at Mercer University recruiting for government worker jobs

SERIES 2: "FROM MY WINDOW"

Folder 1/5: Letters, 1953-1954

Folder 1/6: News clippings, 1953-1955

Folder 1/7: Cranford writings—Short stories, essays, music

SERIES 3: "BEHOLD MY CHILDREN"

Folder 2/1: Novel Transcript

Folder 2/2: Letters, 1953-1972

Folder 2/3: Newspaper clippings, 1971