Introduction
64 folders, .75 cu. ft.

The memoirs of Addie Aldridge Gordon concern both her own childhood in Cass County, Missouri, and the stories handed down by her parents and other family members.

During the 1930’s, Addie Aldridge Gordon was asked by her daughter, Mrs. L. Gordon Lichty, to write her childhood recollections. These memories were written on small pieces of paper which were then organized and typed into chapters by Mrs. Litchy. The collection contains preliminary material marked “additions” and “odds and ends” as well as several rewrites of the memoirs. Portions of this material are duplicated. A few letters and genealogical material help clarify the family relationships mentioned in the text. Mrs. Litchy has penciled in some editorial comments but the memoirs retain the style and intent of Addie Aldridge Gordon.

Donor Information
The papers were a gift from Lenne Gordon Lichty, daughter of Addie Aldridge Gordon. They were accessioned as KA0107 on August 31, 1981 and KA0136 on April 1, 1982.

Biographical Statement:
Addie Aldridge Gordon was born on September 1, 1887, in Cass County, Missouri, daughter of Absalom (Dick) Aldridge. The Aldridge family had originally immigrated from England to South Carolina, and by stages westward. They first moved into Tennessee, and then into Alabama, prior to their move into Missouri in 1855. The family was relatively affluent and owned slaves upon their arrival in Missouri.

Addie Aldridge received a good education in Cass County schools and went on to teach in those same schools before marrying. Sometime after her marriage to Charles C. Gordon, they moved to Berkeley, California, where she died on September 23, 1973.

Box List

Box 1 (038301)

Folder 1. Entry into Missouri, 1855
Folder 2. Log House and the Early Years
Folder 3. Around the House and Yard
Folder 4. Food: Types and Preparation
Folder 5. Food: Butchering
Folder 6. Farmers: “our Woods”
Folder 7. Chores: Herding Cows; House Keeping for Jessee
Folder 8. Chores: Churning
Around the Home and Neighborhood
Folder 9. Ora
Folder 10. School
Folder 11. Church: Sunday; The Methodist Church and Baptizing; The Lone Jack
Circuit; The Baptist Church
Folder 12. Aunt Sirilda’s House and Nancy; Miss Conley; Anne Cox’s Funeral
Folder 13. Holidays: Christmas
Folder 14. Holidays: Children’s Day; May Day; New Years
Folder 15. Holidays: Lone Jack Picnic
Folder 17. Winter: Hard Times and Winter (1895-1896)
Folder 18. Baby Bryan (Chamber Pot Story)
Folder 19. Jess and Sallie
Folder 20. Spring
Folder 21. Trips: Kingsville; Johnson County; Strasburg and Pleasant Hill
Folder 22. Movers and Campers; Gypsies; Peddlers
Folder 23. Summer
Folder 24. Vacations
Folder 25. Storms
Folder 26. Culture
Folder 27. Scandal; Modesty; Good Folks and Bad
Folder 28. Pearl’s Wedding
Folder 29. Weddings: Hettie’s Wedding; Infares; “The Wedding Bells” (a song or a poem)
Folder 30. Minnie
Folder 31. Minnie
Folder 32. Hired Help
Folder 33. Hiring out to the Circus
Folder 34. Autumn
Folder 35. The Manifolds’
Folder 36. Uncle John, Aunt Lizzie and Bessie
Folder 37. Aunt Mary and Tales of Alabama
Folder 38. Sallie
Folder 40. Jimmie Roupe
Folder 41. Oklahoma Land Race
Folder 42. Nora
Folder 43. Tin Curlers
Folder 44. Politics; Hair Politics
Folder 45. W.C.T.U. Speaking Contest
Folder 46. Songs and Party Notes
Folder 47. Sings and Sayings
Folders 48-62. Additions and Odds and Ends: Preliminary Material
Folder 63. Letters and Family Papers
Folder 64. Genealogical Material; Sketch of the Aldridge Farm and the General Neighborhood.