



[COLLEGE ARCHIVES](#)

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Gustavus Adolphus College
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Gustavus Adolphus College Archives St. Peter, Minnesota

**Hall Family. Papers Concerning Camilla Hall and George F. and
Lorena Hall, 1938-1995.**

CAMC Collection 13

**Hall Family. Papers Concerning Camilla Hall and George F. and Lorena Hall, 1938-1995.
CAMC Collection 13. 1 ½ Hollinger boxes.**

ABSTRACT:

The Hall Family collection consists primarily of materials documenting the life and death of Camilla Hall, a member of the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA), additional papers document the family's collective life. Materials include correspondence, reports, clippings, drawings, poems, and stories. George and Lorena Hall were the parents of Camilla Hall. From 1938-1952, George was a professor at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. In addition, he was a minister in the Lutheran Church in America and later the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Lorena Hall helped found the Art Department at Gustavus Adolphus College. Arrangement is generally chronological but based on physical size.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Camilla Hall was born in St. Peter, Minnesota during March 1945. She graduated from Washburn High School in Minneapolis in 1963 and attended Gustavus Adolphus College for her first year subsequently transferring to the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She graduated with a degree in humanities during 1967 and went on to work as a social worker in Duluth and Minneapolis, Minnesota prior to moving to California. On the west coast, Hall immersed herself in a variety of social movements and developed relationships with some individuals who eventually became active in the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA). Hall's life ended on 17 May 1974 when she and several members of the SLA died during a gun battle with officers from the Los Angeles Police Department.

Lorena (Daeschner) Hall was born on 13 April 1911. After her husband was hired into the Christianity Department at Gustavus Adolphus College in 1938, Lorena helped found the college's Art Department. Hall studied art under Dr. Birger Sandzen and Henry Varnum Poor. While at Gustavus, Hall served as department head and taught beginning and advanced drawing and painting, commercial design, handicraft, and the history of art. Hall left Gustavus in 1952 when her husband took a missionary position in Tanganyika (Tanzania). She died on 9 June 1995.

George F. Hall was born during June 1908. Following degree work at Augustana College and Augustana Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois and professional experience in the Christianity Department at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, he was hired to teach in the Christianity Department at Gustavus Adolphus College. Hall remained at Gustavus from 1938 into 1952 when he and his family left to serve as missionaries in Tanganyika (Tanzania) under the auspices of the Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions. Following a career of service, Hall died during October 2000 in Cook County, Illinois.

* Biographical information obtained from the collection.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:

The Hall Family collection consists of two series: Camilla Hall and the Hall Family. Records concerning Camilla Hall are broken down into three sub-series. These consist of the 1960s, Pre Death 1970-May 1974, and Post Death June 1974-February 1979. Arrangement within each section is generally chronological.

Camilla Hall, 1962-1979:

1960s – This sub-series contains records documenting Hall’s activities in high school, college, and her brief career as a social worker in Duluth and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Included is her high school yearbook, clippings from school papers, university diploma, and correspondence to her parents.

Pre Death, 1970-May 1974 – Materials in this section document some of Hall’s activities and interests in the years after her move from Minnesota to the San Francisco area. Included are poems, drawings, correspondence, collaborative work with writer Ron DeZure, and information about the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA). Materials about the SLA consist of the organization’s beliefs, transcript of Patty Hearst declaring allegiance to the SLA, and Communiqué #5.

Post Death, June 1974-February 1979 – Items in this sub-series consist of reports from the Police, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner for County of Los Angeles, and Lake Headley. Materials from the ACLU and Headley are similar. In addition, there is a copy of Hall’s death certificate along with related correspondence, and clippings and correspondence concerning Hall and her parents. A manuscript copy of Harvey Honig’s 1978 PhD dissertation on Hall is included

Hall Family, 1938-1995:

The Hall Family series consists of clippings documenting Lorena Hall’s career in the Art Department at Gustavus and her activities in the St. Peter community. In addition, there is a manuscript copy of “I Remember Lorena” written by her husband George F. Hall shortly after her death. This document covers the family’s story from the 1930s through the mid 1990s.

RESTRICTIONS:

There are no restrictions on use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

COLLECTION CITATION:

Hall Family. Papers Concerning Camilla Hall and George F. and Lorena Hall, 1938-1995. CAMC Collection 13. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

ACQUISITION:

George F. Hall donated this collection on two occasions during the 1990s.

PROCESSED BY:

Jeff A. Jenson processed this collection and developed the finding aid during April 2008.

RELATED COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES:

O'Brien, Susan. Research Files on Camilla Hall, 1967-1976. CAMC Collection 30.

Hanel, Rachael. "Camilla Hall's Place in the Symbionese Liberation Army" (Master's Thesis), December 2004. CAMC Collection 108.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Hall, Camilla Christine, 1945-1974.

Hall, Lorena Margaret, 1911-1995.

Hall, George F., 1908-2000.

Symbionese Liberation Army.

Left-wing extremists--California.

Radicals--California.

Gustavus Adolphus College. Art Department.

Gustavus Adolphus College. Religion Department.

Gustavus Adolphus College--History.

Headley, Lake W.

Missionaries--Africa--Biography.

CAMC Collection 13	Box	Folder	Digitized
Camilla Hall, 1962-1979			
1960s			
Clippings and Programs concerning Camilla Hall from High School and Diploma from the University of Minnesota, 1962-63 and 1967	1	3	
<i>Wahian</i> , Yearbook of Washburn High School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1963	2	1	
Correspondence, Camilla Hall to her Parents, August 1967-October 1968 (7 letters)	1	4	Sample Letter
Pre Death, 1970-May 1974			
Personal, DeZure, Ron, "Doctor Dog," undated (manuscript)	1	6	
Personal, DeZure, Ron, "Gwimble," Illustrated by Camilla Hall, undated (2 versions and additional illustrations)	2	2	
Personal, Folded Note Cards, Pen and Ink Drawings in the "Camilla Hall Collection," published by MAIAgraphics, 1979 (10 cards)	1	7	
Personal, Pen and Ink Drawings, "The Pleasure Feast," 1971 and "The Singing Madonna," 1971	Map Case	--	
Personal, "Poem-maker Soul-healer," Poems made by Members of the Radical Psychiatry Community in Berkeley, 1972 (Includes four poems by Camilla Hall)	2	3	
Personal, Correspondence and Poems of Camilla Hall, Found in her Knapsack following her Death, 1974 (Includes Related Correspondence between George Hall and the Police, July-August 1974)	2	4	
SLA Activities, "Patty Hearst Tape," Transcript, undated (p. 44-51)	1	5	
SLA Activities, "The Symbionese Federation & The Symbionese Liberation Army Declaration of Revolutionary War & The Symbionese Program, 21 August 1973 (p. 71-7)	1	5	
SLA Activities, "Symbionese Liberation Army, Los Angeles Adult Unit, Communiqué #5," February 1974 (p. 117-???)	1	5	
Post Death, June 1974-February 1979			
Correspondence and Press Releases, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), June-July 1974 (Includes "Questions Raised by Events of May 17, 1974, 28 pages; "A Statement by Dr. Ralph Abernathy; and a Police Press Release, "Remarks of Samuel L. Williams, President of Police Commissioners, City of Los Angeles")	2	6	
"The Symbionese Liberation Army in Los Angeles" by the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners to Mayor Tom Bradley, 19 July 1974	1	8	

Correspondence and Clippings from Gretchen Mills (?) to Lorena Hall, 22 July 1974 (Clippings are from the <i>Berkeley Barb</i> , June-July 1974)	2	5	
“Investigation Report: An Inquiry into May 17, 1974 and Surrounding Events,” 1 August 1974 and Addendum, 26 August 1974 (Includes Related Correspondence)	1	9	
Death Certificate for Camilla Christine Hall and Related Correspondence, October 1974-February 1975 (Includes Correspondence about Memorial Service)	1	10	
“Medicolegal Investigation into the Deaths of Symbionese Liberation Army Members,” Part 1, by Thomas T. Noguchi, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner for County of Los Angeles, 1975 (Includes Related Correspondence, 1974)	1	11	Report
“Confidential Report” with News Articles, Press Releases, and Statements, compiled by Lake W. Headley, Elizabeth Schmidt, and Jeanne Davies, June 1975	2	7	
Correspondence, Kristi Olmanson to Dr. and Mrs. George Hall, August 1977 (Includes materials about the Lesbian Feminist Committee, June 1977)	2	8	
Honig, Harvey Hilbert. “A Psychobiographical Study of Camilla Hall,” PhD Dissertation, June 1978 (unbound typescript)	1	12	
Clippings, July and October 1974 and 4 February 1979	2	9	
Hall Family, 1938-1995			
Clippings and Memorial Papers Concerning Lorena (Daeschner) Hall, 1938-44, 1988, and 1995 (Clippings concern her activities in the Gustavus Art Department and St. Peter Community)	1	1	
Hall, George F., “I Remember Lorena,” 14 August 1995	1	2	