

CARL E. AMT AND  
CATHERINE A. MURPHY  
COLLECTION

RUTH T. WATANABE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
SIBLEY MUSIC LIBRARY  
EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

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## DESCRIPTION OF COLLECTION

Shelf location: C3B 15,5

Physical extent: 1.25 linear feet

### Biographical Sketches



*From Carl E. Amt and Catherine A. Murphy Collection, (right) Box 1, Folder 5; (left) Box 1, Folder 6.*

Carl Edmund Amt was born on September 11, 1899, in Cross Plains, Indiana, and grew up in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He graduated from Drury College (Springfield, Missouri) in 1922, with a Bachelor of Music degree in piano, organ, and theory. Continuing his education, he completed a B.F.A. in piano and theory at University of Missouri in Columbia, followed by a master's degree in theory and organ at the Eastman School of Music in 1937 and a master's degree in sacred music (organ major) from Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1949. Thereafter, he completed coursework for a Ph.D. in theory at the Eastman School in 1956. He actively worked as a church organist while also holding a faculty position at Oklahoma State University (1925-65) where he taught organ, theory, and counterpoint. He also served the university as bellmaster. Throughout his decades-long career, he worked continuously as an organist, and often simultaneously as choir director, at numerous churches. He served in the U. S. Army during World War I, and in the U. S. Navy during World War II as an Assistant to the Chaplain (1942-1945). He died on August 1, 1998, in Winter Park, Florida.



*From Carl E. Amt and Catherine A. Murphy Collection, Box 1, Folder 10.*

Carl's sister, Catherine A. Murphy (*née* Amt), was born on January 3, 1916 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She completed her undergraduate degree at A&M College (Stillwater, Oklahoma), where she majored in voice. In 1945 she completed a masters degree in music literature (voice major) at the Eastman School of Music, and thereafter went on to complete a masters degree in sacred music at Union Theological Seminary (New York City) in 1950. In 1963 she completed a Ph.D. in philosophy and music education at Florida State University. She had an active teaching career teaching voice, piano pedagogy, and church music. Her final teaching position was at East Carolina University, where she was made full professor; she was designated professor emerita upon her retirement in 1977. She died on October 13, 2013, having been predeceased by her ex-husband, Blakely M. Murphy (1914–1987; married 1936–1945), and daughter Judith Murphy Weaver (1939–2006).

In honor of her late brother, Dr. Murphy started a trust that resulted in an endowed scholarship fund, *The Catherine A. Murphy and Carl E. Amt Endowment Fund*, at the University of Rochester.

### **Provenance**

The collection was the gift of the Estate Catherine A. Murphy. The gift to RTWSC was facilitated by Karen Amico in the Office of Trusts and Estates at the University of Rochester.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection is comprised of personal and professional documents from the lives of both Catherine A. Murphy and Carl E. Amt. Materials representing both consist of photographs, academic degrees, and professional resumes.

From the life of Catherine A. Murphy are copies of her academic theses, letters of recommendation, and some legal documents.

From the life of Carl E. Amt are documents pertaining to his service in the U. S. Navy and also legal documents.

The collection also contains two documents from Carl's father, Johann Heinrich Amt.

### **Restrictions and Use**

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection; however, reproduction of collection materials will be provided to patrons only in accordance with the provisions of the United States Copyright Law (1976) and its revisions.

### **Associations**

This collection is one of many collections at RTWSC that document the careers and legacies of Eastman School of Music alumni. As of this writing, the department holds two collections of papers of other Eastman vocal alumni, namely Paul Horgan (BM 1926) and Ethel Codd Luening (BM 1928), as well as those of Eastman piano alumni, including Pauline Alpert (studied 1923–1927) and Marie Erhart Pearson (BM 1933). Eastman alumni Frederick Fennell (BM 1937, MM 1939), Homer Todd Keller (BM 1937, MM 1938), and Gardner Read (BM 1936, MM 1937) attended the school concurrently with Carl E. Amt (MM 1937).

## DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

The materials in the collection are arranged in two series, as described below:

### **Series 1: Photographs**

This series is comprised of photographs, including portraits of Carl E. Amt and Catherine A. Murphy as well as assorted personal and family photographs.

### **Series 2: Documents**

The remainder of the collection is comprised of documents, namely diplomas and certificates; professional documents, including resumes, letters of recommendation, and copies of Catherina A. Murphy's dissertations; legal documents; and a small number of personal documents.

# INVENTORY

## Series 1: Photographs

### Box 1

- Folder 1 Carl E. Amt: Childhood photographs.  
6 items. Includes:
- 4 portraits labeled “Carl’s/Carl Amt’s baby picture”; undated (1899–1900). 4 black and white photographs, mounted, 4.25” x 6.5”.
  - Portrait of Carl E. Amt as a toddler, attributed to Miss Bush (Aurora, IN); undated. 1 black and white photograph, mounted, 4.25” x 5.25”.
  - Portrait of Carl E. Amt as a young boy, attributed to Miss Bush (Aurora, IN); undated. 1 black and white photograph, mounted, 6” x 8”.
- Folder 2 Carl E. Amt: Black and white photographs (ca. 1910s–1950s).  
12 black and white photographs, most of Carl Amt alone; dating from approximately 1918–1950s (most undated). Sizes range from 2.5” x 3.5” to 3.25” x 5”. Includes:
- 1 photograph of Carl in Oklahoma City (1918).
  - 2 photographs of Carl in academic regalia (undated).
- Folder 3 Carl E. Amt: Photographs in uniform (1944–1945).  
11 black and white photographs of Carl Amt in military uniform; undated (1944–1945). Sizes range from 2.5” x 4.5” to 4” x 5”.
- Folder 4 Carl E. Amt: Black and white photographs (ca. 1950s–1970s?).  
25 black and white photographs, most of Carl Amt alone; dating from approximately 1958–1970s? (most undated). Sizes range from 2.5” x 3.5” to 3.5” x 6”.
- Folder 5 Carl E. Amt: Small portraits.  
18 black and white portraits of Carl E. Amt; undated. Sizes range from 2.5” x 3.5” to 5” x 7”.
- Folder 6 Carl E. Amt: Large portraits.  
7 items. Includes:
- Portrait of Carl E. Amt, attributed to The Smith Studios; undated. 1 black and white photograph (6” x 8”), mounted, 7.5” x 10”. 2 copies.
  - Portrait of Carl E. Amt, attributed to The Smith Studios; undated. 1 black and white photograph (6” x 8”), mounted, 7.5” x 10”.
  - Photograph of Carl E. Amt at the organ; undated. 1 black and white photograph, 8.25” x 10”.

- Photograph of Carl E. Amt overlooking Oklahoma State University campus, attributed to Helt Studio; undated. 1 black and white photograph, 8" x 10".
- Photograph of Carl E. Amt with two children at the organ, labeled "Christmas 1940. Ray L. S x 1940"; dated December 1940. 1 color photograph, 8" x 10".
- Photo folder, labeled "Evon Streetman Photography," containing 4 items:
  - o Portrait of Carl E. Amt at the organ (newspaper clipping); undated. 1 black and white clipping (4.75" x 6.5"), mounted, 7.5" x 9.5". On reverse: "The Mayflower Retirement Community ... Winter Park, Florida."
  - o Facsimiles of Carl E. Amt's baptismal certificate; dated October 29, 1899. 3 copies.

Folder 7

Carl E. Amt: Color photographs.

40 color photographs, almost all of Carl E. Amt alone; dating from ca. 1960s–1980s (most undated). Sizes range from 2.5" x 3.5" to 5" x 7".

Folder 8

Catherine A. Murphy: Black and white photographs.

26 black and white photographs, most of Catherine A. Murphy alone; dating from approximately 1917–1960s? (most undated). Sizes range from 1.75" x 2.5" to 4" x 6.5". Includes:

- 4 photographs of Catherine as a young child).
- 5 photographs of Catherine in academic regalia (undated).
- 5 professional portraits of Catherine (undated).

Folder 9

Catherine A. Murphy: Color photographs.

2 color photographs of Catherine A. Murphy; undated. Sizes range from 3.5" x 3.5" to 5" x 7".

Folder 10

Catherine A. Murphy: Portraits.

Photo folder, labeled "Evon Streetman Photography," containing 5 items:

- 3 contact prints, containing 9 professional portraits of Catherine Murphy; [dated 1962]. 3 black and white contract prints, each marked "proof," 8" x 10".
- 2 professional portraits of Catherine Murphy; [dated 1962]. 2 black and white photographs, each marked "proof," 8" x 10".

Photo folder, labeled "Evon Streetman Photography," containing 2 items:

- Portrait of Catherine Murphy, attributed to Evon Streetman; dated 1962. 1 black and white photograph, affixed to mounting board, 8" x 10".
- Portrait of Catherine Murphy; [dated 1962]. 1 black and white photograph, marked "proof," 8" x 10".

Portrait of Catherine Murphy, attributed to Evon Streetman; dated 1962. 1 black and white photograph, affixed to mounting board, 8" x 10".



Folder 11 Catherine Murphy & Carl Amt: Black and white photographs.  
7 photographs of Catherine Murphy and Carl Amt; dating from approximately 1917–1970s? (most undated). 7 black and white photographs. Sizes range from 3.25” x 4.25” to 3.5” x 5”. Includes:  
- 2 photographs dating from Catherine’s childhood (ca. 1917–1918?).

Folder 12 Catherine Murphy & Carl Amt: Color photographs  
14 photographs of Catherine Murphy and Carl Amt; dating from 1969–1980s? (5 undated). 14 color photographs. Sizes range from 2.5” x 3.5” to 3.5” x 5”.

## **Series 2: Documents**

### **Box 1 [cont.]**

Folder 13 Carl E. Amt Public School Diploma (1914).  
Diploma from Tipton County Public Schools Common School Department; dated May 21, 1914. 21” x 16”.

Folder 14 Carl E. Amt High School Diploma (1918).  
Diploma from Oklahoma City High School; dated May 23, 1918. 10” x 13”.

Folder 15 Carl E. Amt High School Diploma Cover (1918).  
Leather diploma cover, embossed “Oklahoma City High School, Carl Edmond Amt, Class of 1918.” 7.25” x 11.25”.

Folder 16 Carl E. Amt Navy Discharge Papers (1945).  
Sealed envelope containing [Carl Amt’s] WWII dog tags. Annotation on envelope: “Discharge from Navy 1945.”  
Facsimile of certificate of honorable discharge from the US Navy; dated July 31, 1945. On reverse: record of service. 2 copies.  
Carbon copy of VA Form 7-1907c-1 (Notice of Training Status). 2 pp.  
- Form notes Carl Amt’s enrollment at Eastman School of Music for Doctor’s Degree, Fine Arts.

Folder 17 Carl E. Amt: Small Documents (1959-1973).  
Publicity circular announcing events for the Oklahoma A&M College’s Autumn Festival of Fine Arts (1959).  
US passport; issued April 18, 1978.  
Press clipping announcing recital by Carl Amt and Anne Ash, laminated; undated. 1 p.

Folder 18 Carl E. Amt: Professional Documents (1965-1998).  
*From folder labeled: “Carl E. Amt, Education: Resumé.”*

Clipping from unidentified Oklahoma State University–Stillwater publication, containing a photograph of Carl Amt [with other faculty?]. 1 p.  
Resume, titled “Summary of Training and Experience.” 5 versions; dating from ca. 1965 and 1971. 22 pp., total.  
Various documents: certificate from Oklahoma State College, letter from Max A. Mitchell (Head, Department of Music, Oklahoma State University–Stillwater), program from Christmas service, resume. 9 pp.  
Memorial resolution honoring Carl E. Amt, from Oklahoma State University; dated September 28, 1988. Enclosed in document folder and accompanied by letter from James E. Halligan (President, Oklahoma State University) and biographical sketch of Carl Amt. 3 pp.

## **Box 2**

### **Folder 1**

Catherine A. Murphy: Small Documents (1916-1943).  
Certified copy of birth certificate; dated January 3, 1916. 1 p.  
“Catherine A. Murphy v. Blakely M. Murphy: Journal Entry of Judgment and Decree of Divorce.” Legal document; dated August 2, 1943. 3 pp.

### **Folder 2**

Catherine A. Murphy: Degrees (small format) (1945-1963).  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music diploma, issued by Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College. Granted August 26, 1945. 8.5” x 11”.  
Certificate of membership in Pi Kappa Lambda, Phi Chapter. Issued on March 18, 1957. 6” x 8.5”.  
Doctor of Philosophy diploma, issued by Florida State University Graduate School. Degree granted August 10, 1963. 7” x 9”.

### **Folder 3**

Catherine A. Murphy: Eastman Master’s Thesis (1945).  
“The Choral Style of Randall Thompson as Shown in *The Peaceful Kingdom*.”  
Master’s thesis, Eastman School of Music, 1945. 70 pp.  
- Accompanied by manuscript note identifying document. 1 p.

### **Folder 4**

Catherine A. Murphy: Professional Correspondence (1945-1977).  
Correspondence pertaining to Catherine Murphy’s professional activities, including letters of recommendation, acknowledgements of resignations, letters of appointment, and related correspondence. 20 letters (19 typescript, 1 ink); dated between February 14, 1945, and November 22, 1977.  
- Letters pertaining to East Carolina University accompanied by certificate of appreciation issued upon retirement; dated May 12, 1978.

### **Folder 5**

Catherine A. Murphy: Professional Documents (1945-1977).  
Laminated miniature facsimile of doctoral diploma (1963), 2.5” x 3.5”.  
Enclosed in envelope.

- See Box 2, Folder 2, for original diploma.

Recital programs. 3 items:

- Graduate recital, Eastman School of Music; dated July 10, 1945. 1 p.
- Voice recital, Union Theological Seminary; dated April 26, 1950. 4 pp.
- Typescript texts (presumably from recital program; program is missing). 2 pp.

“Women’s Glee Club.” Excerpt, including photograph, from unidentified college publication. 1 p.

Facsimiles from Thomas Morley, *Madrigals to Five Voices* (London: Thomas Este, 1598). Consists of title page and page from cantus part. 2 pp.

Summary of Catherine A. Murphy’s education. Ink. 1 p.

Resume, titled “Summary of Training and Experience.” 5 versions; dating from ca. 1965 and 1977. 17 pp., total.

Folder 6

Catherine A. Murphy: Theological Seminary Master’s Thesis (1950).

“The Boy Choir of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York.” Master’s thesis, Union Theological Seminary, 1950. 115 pp.

- Accompanied by manuscript note identifying document. 1 p.

Folder 7

Catherine A. Murphy: Thomas Morley Research (1956-1977).

Documents pertaining to Catherine Murphy’s published commentary on Thomas Morley (*Thomas Morley Editions of Italian Canzonets and Madrigals, 1597 and 1598*, 2 vols. [Tallahassee: Florida State University, 1964]). Includes correspondence, press clippings, reviews, and typescript summary. 6 items.

**Box 3**

Item 1

Carl E. Amt: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music diploma, awarded by the University of Missouri. Degree granted on July 31, 1936. Rolled.

Item 2

Carl. E. Amt: Master of Music diploma, awarded by the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester. Degree granted June 21, 1937. Rolled.

Item 3

Carl E. Amt: Sacred Order of the Golden Dragon. Granted on board of the S.S. Meteor heading for Okinawa; dated May 12, 1945. Rolled.

Item 4

Carl. E Amt: Master of Sacred Music diploma, awarded by Union Theological Seminary, New York City. Degree granted 1949. Degree written in Latin. Rolled.

Item 5

Catherine A. Murphy: Master of Music diploma, awarded by Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester. Degree granted November 3, 1945. Rolled.

- Item 6 Catherine A. Murphy: Master of Sacred Music diploma, awarded by Union Theological Seminary, New York. Degree granted May 23, 1950. Degree written in Latin. Rolled.
- Item 7 Confirmation and baptism certificate for Johann Heinrich Amt. 2 items, rolled.  
Baptismal certificate of Johann Heinrich Amt (father of Carl E. Amt).  
Baptized on August 23, 1874.  
Confirmation certificate of Johann Heinrich Amt (father of Carl E. Amt), born August 11, 1874, confirmed May 25, 1888.
- Folder 8 Carl E. Amt: Baptismal Certificate (1899).  
Certificate of baptism, issued in Aurora, Indiana; dated October 29, 1899.  
Mounted, 10" x 14".
- Folder 9 Carl E. Amt: *The American Guild of Organists* membership certificate (1935).  
Certificate; issued June 10, 1935. 11" x 14".
- Folder 10 Carl E. Amt: Press clipping ("Head of A. and M. Organ Department": photo with caption); dated March 5, 1939. 1 p.
- Folder 11 Carl E. Amt: Death Certificate (1998).  
Official death certificate issued by the state of Florida; date of death August 1, 1998; certificate dated August 6, 1998.