

**The Mai Collection**  
**FP.2012.001**  
**Belmont Mansion Restaurant and the Mai Family**  
**Finding aid prepared by Caity Tingo**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

October 01, 2012

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Fairmount Archives  
10/1/2012

## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	4
<u>General information</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	6
<u>West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Photographs, print images and photographic slides</u> .....	6
<u>West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Newspaper and periodical clippings, advertisements and general ephemera</u> .....	8

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Fairmount Archives
<b>Title</b>	The Mai Collection: Belmont Mansion restaurant and banquet facility
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1952-1956
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1923-1986
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Linear feet Less than 1 linear feet of material
<b>Language</b>	English

### Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], FP.2012.001, The Mai Collection, Fairmount Park Historic Resource Archives.

## **Scope and Contents**

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Personal photographic prints, slides, and paper material primarily featuring the Mai family who operated the Carl Mai Restaurant at the Belmont Mansion. Beyond the Mai family, material features the restaurant dining area, serving staff and landscape views of Belmont Mansion and West Fairmount Park. Items included are generally from the mid-1950s, although there are a few items dated as early as 1924 and as late as 1982.

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## **General information**

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Items included in this collection have been arranged in conjunction with their location within the Philadelphia Parks System, and can be found with related information on West Fairmount Park, depending on the type of material being researched.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Fairmount Archives 10/1/2012

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

This collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Use note**

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Archives with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

### **Donor information**

The records were collected and held by Mrs. Renate Mai, who had a familial relation with Carl and Ernestine Mai, as well as a personal interest in the subject matter. The donations were officially received 6/18/2012, and a signed Deed of Gift is on file for Mrs. Mai.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Belmont Mansion
- Philadelphia Museum of Art
- West Fairmount Park (Philadelphia, Pa.)

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Mai, Carl
- Mai, Ernestine

## Collection Inventory

	Drawer	Shelf
<p><b>West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Photographs, print images and photographic slides 1924-1968 (Bulk, 1952-1956)</b> Material is generally in good condition, with only a few bends and creases visible on some of the photographic prints. The slides appear to be in particularly good condition.</p>	7.5	Tan 3
<p><b>Conditions Governing Use note</b></p>		
<p>Collection is open for public use.</p>		
<p><b>Controlled Access Headings</b></p>		
<p><b>Geographic Name(s)</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belmont Mansion</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Personal Name(s)</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mai, Carl</li> <li>• Mai, Ernestine</li> </ul>		
<p>West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Personal photographs and slides of the Mai family 1924-1959 (Bulk, 1952-1956)</p>		
<p><b>General Information</b></p>		

**West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Pho...**

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Photographic prints and slides which primarily feature Carl and Ernestine Mai, as well as their son, Karl R. Mai, and their dog, Prince. The majority of photographs are taken in the Belmont Mansion/ West Fairmount Park areas, although a few seem to show private homes and vacations- such as Atlantic City. The slides which are included are undated, but seem to match the same time period (there are a few duplicate slides/photographs).

**Controlled Access Headings****Personal Name(s)**

- Mai, Carl
- Mai, Ernestine

Kimball, Fiske, Director, Philadelphia Museum of Art Madeira, Louis C., IV West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Photographs, printed images, and slides of Belmont Mansion and Fairmount Park 1948-1963 (Bulk, 1952-1955)

**General information**

This file contains both personal photographs taken by the Mai family of Belmont Mansion and Fairmount Park, as well as photographs and photographic prints provided to the Mai family by the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The latter appear to have been requested by Ernestine Mai to be used for postcards. Some of the prints contain handwritten measurements and notes relating to this project. Also included with this file are two pieces of correspondence from the Philadelphia Museum of Art staff. The first is a letter from Louis C. Madeira, IV, Assistant, Department of Decorative Arts dated 1948 with which the photographs were enclosed, and the second a handwritten note from Fiske Kimball, Director of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which appears to have been enclosed with the correspondence, as well.

**Correspondence**

**West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: New...**

Since the correspondence from the staff of the Philadelphia Museum of Art is so closely tied with the photographs they provided of Belmont Mansion these items have been housed with the graphic material to preserve this relation.

**Controlled Access Headings****Geographic Name(s)**

- Belmont Mansion
- Philadelphia Museum of Art
- West Fairmount Park (Philadelphia, Pa.)

	<b>Drawer</b>	<b>Shelf</b>
<b>West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Newspaper and periodical clippings, advertisements and general ephemera</b>	7.5	Tan 3

West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Carl Mai's Restaurant at the Belmont Mansion advertisements, newspaper clippings, and general ephemera 1949-1967 (Bulk, 1949-1955) Material is generally in very good condition, with small bends, stains and creases visible on a few items but not diminishing their usability.

**General information**

Items which are dated are primarily from the 1950s, although many items are undated. Materials include restaurant advertisements, newspaper write-ups, postcards featuring the restaurant, a calendar produced by the restaurant, and two dining menus.

**Controlled Access Headings****Geographic Name(s)**



West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: New...

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- Belmont Mansion

**Personal Name(s)**

- Mai, Carl

West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Restaurant and banquet facility: Newspaper and periodical clippings and general ephemera related to Carl Mai, individually 1934-1972 (Bulk, 1934-1946)

**General information**

File contains newspaper and various other periodical clippings related to Carl Mai, specifically as a chef for restaurants other than the Belmont Mansion, as well as limited personal material on the Mai family, such as information purchased regarding their coat of arms. Multiple clippings focus on Mai providing advice on how to carve a turkey. The clippings also illustrate Mai's involvement with the Philadelphia Art Alliance.

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Personal Name(s)**

- Mai, Carl

The Associate Committee of Women of the Pennsylvania Museum of Art. The Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia. West Fairmount Park, Belmont Mansion: Newspaper and periodical clippings, pamphlets, postcards and general ephemera on Belmont Mansion and Fairmount Park 1923-1986 (Bulk, 1950-1955)

**General information**

Included in this file are newspaper clippings featuring Belmont Mansion and Fairmount Park, more generally. Two pamphlets are included which were produced by and for The Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia which provide historical information on the Belmont Mansion- one printed in 1923, and one printed in 1955. A third pamphlet created by The Associate Committee of Women of the Pennsylvania Museum of Art in 1932 describes some of the colonial mansions in Fairmount Park, including Belmont. There are also a few miscellaneous postcards and periodical clippings featuring Belmont Mansion, Fairmount Park and the Fairmount Park Commission.

### **Controlled Access Headings**

#### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Belmont Mansion
- West Fairmount Park (Philadelphia, Pa.)

#### **Subject(s)**

- Fairmount Park (Philadelphia, Pa.)--History.