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Guide to MS423 Maud Durlin Sullivan Papers

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Guide to

MS 423

Maud Durlin Sullivan Papers

Span Dates: 1783, 1872 – 1977
Bulk Dates: 1926 – 1943,

8 feet, 5 inches (linear)

Processed by Abbie Weiser
March 19, 2007

Donated by Kurt and Doris Goetting in 2006.

Citation: Maud Durlin Sullivan Papers, MS 423, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Biographical Sketch

Born in Wisconsin, Maud Durlin Sullivan (1870 – 1943), served as librarian of the El Paso Public Library for over thirty years where she became one of the most important public librarians in the Southwest. She mentored and helped the careers of El Paso artists and writers, such as Tom Lea and Carl Hertzog, and provided the city of El Paso with a culturally rich, functional, and public-oriented library. The daughter of the Reverend Fayette Durlin and Anna Locke Root, Sullivan was educated by her father in the local Episcopal rectory along with her siblings and a few other neighborhood children. She attended the School of Applied Design for Women in New York City from 1895 – 1896 and Pratt Library School in Brooklyn from 1905 – 1906. In 1912 Sullivan married John Kevin Sullivan (1878 – 1943), a mining engineer and Harvard graduate.

Sullivan began her long and interesting library career as an assistant at the Eau Claire Public Library in Wisconsin in 1904, and later as a librarian at the Oshkosh Public Library, also in Wisconsin, from 1905 – 1908. In 1908 Sullivan came to El Paso, Texas and became librarian of the El Paso Public Library – a position she held from 1908 – 1912, and from 1917 – 1943. In particular, Sullivan concentrated on making the public library functional and able to help El Pasoans with research needs and provide reading material relevant to the El Paso region. These concerns were evident in her work to acquire textbooks on many technical subjects, such as mining, Spanish language material, and books on southwestern archaeology and history. Sullivan especially worked to develop and increase the library's collection of art and art history texts, resulting in a nationally and internationally known and well-regarded library collection. As a result of her efforts, the Carnegie Foundation presented the El Paso Public Library with a Carnegie Collection of Art award – one of only two public libraries in Texas and one out of thirty in the United States to receive this honor, which consisted of books and prints valued at thousands of dollars. Sullivan also developed the Friends of the Library group, and became a friend and mentor to several young El Paso artists, in particular Tom Lea, and often exhibited their works in the library.

In addition to her career at the library, Sullivan was highly involved in the field of librarianship and served as president of the Texas Library Association (TLA) from 1923 – 1925. In 1925 she started the TLA's official bulletin, *News Notes*, and became its first editor. And in 1928 the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace sponsored her to guide six Mexican librarians on a tour of libraries throughout the United States. Sullivan's national and international reputation grew when the Carnegie Foundation again sponsored her to make a survey of Puerto Rico's libraries in 1932, and when she attended the International Congress of Librarians and Bibliographers in Spain in 1935. One of only four librarians representing the United States, Sullivan met with President Zamora of Spain and spoke to the Congress. She also wrote several articles for the *El Paso Times* and the *El Paso Herald-Post* about the library and her experiences in Puerto Rico and Spain. Sullivan's other interests included art and

archaeology, and she served as treasurer and secretary of the El Paso Archaeological Society from 1922 – 1938 and lectured on art at the Art Study Club of the Woman's Club of El Paso. In recognition of her career and contributions to El Paso, the El Paso Historical Society posthumously inducted Sullivan into their Hall of Honor in 1962.

Series Description or Arrangement

The Maud Durlin Sullivan papers are arranged in six series:

Series I. Biographical information

Series is arranged chronologically by date.

Series II. Career

Series is arranged chronologically by date.

Series III. Correspondence

Series is arranged chronologically by date.

Series IV. Photographs

Series is arranged chronologically by date.

Series V. Publications

Series is arranged by type of material and then chronologically by date.

Series VI. John Kevin Sullivan

Series is arranged chronologically by date.

Scope and Content Notes

Born in Wisconsin, Maud Durlin Sullivan (1870 – 1943), served as librarian of the El Paso Public Library for over thirty years where she became one of the most important public librarians in the Southwest. The Maud Durlin Sullivan papers date 1783, 1872 – 1977, bulk 1926 – 1943. Types of records include correspondence, notes, clippings, speeches, programs, photographs, proclamations, publications, and other printed material. Arranged in six series (Biographical information, Career, Correspondence, Photographs, Publications, and John Kevin Sullivan), these papers document Maud Sullivan's life, personal

and professional relationships in Wisconsin and El Paso, activities and interests, and career in librarianship.

The Biographical information series covers Sullivan's recollections of her childhood in Wisconsin, articles about her life and obituaries, and accounts of her life by Tom Lea and Betty Mary Goetting. The Career series documents Sullivan's varied activities as librarian at the El Paso Public Library, her involvement in the Texas and international librarianship field, and her speeches, articles, lectures, travels, and contributions to the public library and El Paso. The Correspondence series covers personal and professional relationships, and includes letters from J. Frank Dobie, Tom Lea, Carl Hertzog, and Richard Burges. This series also helps document her work as a librarian in El Paso and other professional contacts and activities. The Photographs series includes images of Sullivan, John Kevin Sullivan, her travels, the El Paso Public Library, and professional activities. The Publications series contains works about Maud Sullivan, issues of *News Notes* (journal of the Texas Library Association), and other works collected by Sullivan. The John Kevin Sullivan series consists of information and material relating to his life, travels, and mining engineer career.

Provenance Statement

Donated by Kurt and Doris Goetting in 2006. The papers were saved by Betty Mary Smith Goetting (the mother of Kurt Goetting) who was a close friend and protégé of Maud Durlin Sullivan. The posthumous materials about Maud Durlin Sullivan and the El Paso Public Library were collected by Betty Mary Goetting.

Restrictions

No restrictions.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Maud Durlin Sullivan papers must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Maud Durlin Sullivan papers, MS423, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

Some of the Maud Durlin Sullivan papers are fragile and brittle. Please handle with care. Photocopying of materials in poor condition might be restricted.

Related Collections

Burges-Perrenot Family Papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Betty Mary Smith Goetting Papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

J. Carl Hertzog Papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Tom Lea Papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Eva Ross Women's History Collection, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

John Kevin Sullivan Collection at the El Paso Public Library.

Maud Sullivan Collection at the El Paso Public Library.

Container List

Series I. Biographical information

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
9	1	Address book with notes	about 1912 – 1932
1	1	"A Wisconsin Childhood" by Maud Sullivan, typed copies	Summer 1938
9	2	Possible loose scrapbook pages with clippings (photocopies), 1 of 2	about 1930s
9	3	Possible loose scrapbook pages with clippings (originals with envelope), 2 of 2	about 1930s
1	2	"Who's Who in Library Science," application	about 1940
1	3	Clippings, obituaries and other articles about Maud Sullivan	1941, 1943, about 1944
8	4	Obituaries (originals)	1943
1	4	News stories from KTAM and KROD on death of Maud Sullivan	December 1943

1	5	“Maud Durlin Sullivan, Pioneer Southwestern Librarian” by Tom Lea (with drafts and typed copies)	about 1944, 1962
1	6	“Maud Durlin Sullivan” by Betty Mary Goetting on induction into El Paso County Historical Society Hall of Honor	about 1962
1	7	“Maud Durlin Sullivan, Librarian, El Paso Public Library, 1908 – 1912, 1917 – 1943”	about 1962
9	4	Short biography and tribute to Maud Sullivan (draft versions	about 1962

Series II. Career

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
7	1	Love letter from Ebenezer Emmons to Susanna Tracy (from the Jenkins Family Papers in the care of Maud Sullivan), original and typed transcription of letter	1783, 1896, about 1930s
1	8	Papers, notes, and other material, 1 of 3	about 1907 – 1908, 1923 – 1941
1	9	Papers, notes, and other material, 2 of 3	about 1907 – 1908, 1923 – 1941
1	10	Papers, notes, and other material, 3 of 3	about 1907 – 1908, 1923 – 1941
1	11	Scrapbook with loose material separated, 1 of 2	about 1920 – 1941
1	12	Scrapbook with loose material separated, 2 of 2	about 1920 – 1941
8	4	Scrapbook with loose material separated (original clippings)	about 1920 – 1941
1	13	Maud Sullivan, clippings on her career	about 1926 – 1944, 1963, 1972
8	2	Clipping, *New York Times Book Review*, and article “*La Serpiente y El Lebrel del Pirata*” by Rafael Heliodoros Valle	1928, 1939, about 1930s

1	14	El Paso Public Library reports (booklets)	about 1929, 1931, 1938 – 1939, 1942
1	15	Book with literary excerpts and notes	about 1920s – 1930s
2	1	El Paso Public Library pamphlets	about 1920s – 1940s
2	2	El Paso Public Library clippings	about 1920s – 1950s, 1968
2	3	Other news and current events clippings	about 1930, 1932, 1939, 1944
Map Drawer W1		Article by Maud Sullivan on Sidney Carleton Newsom, *El Paso Times* (original clipping)	May 1, 1932
2	4	Notes from trip to Puerto Rico	1932
2	5	Articles by Maud Sullivan for the *El Paso Herald-Post* and *El Paso Times*, clippings	1932 – 1935
7	2	Jenkins family papers (copies)	about 1932
2	6	El Paso Public Library financial papers, 1 of 2	1933 – 1941
2	7	El Paso Public Library financial papers, 2 of 2	1933 – 1941
2	8	Typed copies and drafts of articles by Maud Sullivan, 1 of 2	June – July 1935, July 1937
2	9	Typed copies and drafts of articles by Maud Sullivan, 2 of 2	June – July 1935, July 1937
2	10	International Congress of Librarians and Bibliographers in Spain, clippings, correspondence, notes, and other material, 1 of 2	1935
2	11	International Congress of Librarians and Bibliographers in Spain, clippings, correspondence, notes, and other material, 2 of 2	1935
2	12	“The Dedicatory Service for the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Las Cruces, New Mexico,” program	1935
7	3	Clippings, El Paso County Historical Society Hall of Honor, International Congress of Librarians and Bibliographers, memorial to Maud Sullivan, and other articles	1935, 1939, about 1940s, 1961 – 1962, 1977
8	4	Other news and current events clippings, clipping on Enrique Sobal (original)	March 4, 1939

7	4	Abstract of talk, “Outside the Walls,” given by Maud Sullivan	about 1930s
10		A Librarian’s Log (scrapbook)	about 1930s
2	13	Address book with notes and cards	about 1930s – 1940s
2	14	Maud Sullivan personalized bookplates and bookmark	about 1930s – 1940s
2	15	Various prints	about 1930s – 1940s
2	16	Art and architecture notes	about 1940 – 1941
3	1	Notes and program for the Art Study Club of the Woman’s Club, 1 of 2	about 1940 – 1941
3	2	Notes and program for the Art Study Club of the Woman’s Club, 2 of 2	about 1940 – 1941
3	3	El Paso Public Library, book selection information with correspondence	1940 – 1941
3	4	Hospital poem by Maud Sullivan	December 24, 1943
8	3	Proclamation honoring Maud Sullivan from the Board of Directors of the El Paso Public Library	December 28, 1943
3	5	Memorial resolution for Maud Sullivan from the American Association of University Women, El Paso chapter	about 1944
Map Drawer W1		Clipping on library bond vote (original)	April 7, 1951
7	5	Clippings of dinner for Tom Lea	1957
8	4	Clipping of dinner for Tom Lea (original)	1957
Map Drawer W1		Book review for *The King Ranch* by Tom Lea, clipping (original)	about 1957
3	6	El Paso County Historical Society Hall of Honor, clippings and invitation	1962
8	4	El Paso County Historical Society Hall of Honor, clippings (originals)	1962
Map Drawer W1		El Paso County Historical Society Hall of Honor, clippings (originals)	1962
3	7	Other material, unidentified scraps of paper	after 1870

Series III. Correspondence

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
3	8	General correspondence, 1 of 3	1906 – 1929
3	9	General correspondence, 2 of 3	1906 – 1929
3	10	General correspondence, 3 of 3	1906 – 1929
3	11	J. Frank Dobie correspondence	1929 – 1937, 1958 – 1959
3	12	General correspondence, 1 of 5	1930 – 1939
3	13	General correspondence, 2 of 5	1930 – 1939
3	14	General correspondence, 3 of 5	1930 – 1939
3	15	General correspondence, 4 of 5	1930 – 1939
3	16	General correspondence, 5 of 5	1930 – 1939
3	17	General correspondence	1940 – 1943, 1956, 1962, 1975
3	18	Blank note card	after 1870

Series IV. Photographs

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
4	1	Maud Sullivan	1872, 1894, 1898 – 1899
9	5	Maud Sullivan (in frame)	June 1899
4	2	Maud Sullivan and others	1909 – 1910
8	1	New Mexico landscapes and the El Paso Public Library	about 1912, about 1930s – 1940s
4	3	John Kevin Sullivan?	About 1910s
4	4	Maud Sullivan (framed)	about 1910s
4	5	Men on horses, not identified	about 1910s
4	6	Maud Sullivan	1921
4	7	Maud Sullivan	about 1920s
9	6	Dorothy Stephenson Gau?	December 25, 1933
4	8	Photographs for visa for trip to Spain	about 1935
4	9	Maud Sullivan with J. Frank Dobie and Tom Lea	about 1939
4	10	Group photograph with Maud Sullivan	about 1930s
4	11	Maud Sullivan	about 1930s
4	12	Maud Sullivan	about 1930s
4	13	Maud Sullivan (framed)	about 1930s
4	14	Plaque from El Paso Historical Society Hall of Honor	November 1962

Series V. Publications

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
5	1	About Maud Sullivan – "*A Wisconsin Childhood*," by Maud Durlin Sullivan (photocopy)	Summer 1938
5	2	About Maud Sullivan – "*El Paso Public Library*," with note from Carl Hertzog	about 1954
5	3	About Maud Sullivan – "by Tom Lea	1962
9	7	About Maud Sullivan – *History of El Paso Public Library*	1973
5	4	About Maud Sullivan – *"Great Constellations*," by Lawrence Clark Powell	1977
5	5	About Maud Sullivan – "*Great Constellations*," by Lawrence Clark Powell (typed copy)	about 1977
5	6	*News Notes*, bulletin of the Texas Library Association	April 1933
5	7	*News Notes*, bulletin of the Texas Library Association	February 1944
5	8	Other publications – *Godey's Lady's Book*	about 1880s
5	9	Other publications – *The Meredith Pocket Book*	1906
5	10	Other publications – *Album del Palazzo Ducale Di Mantova*	about 1906
5	11	Other publications – *The Bible in Spain; or, The Journeys, Adventures, and Imprisonments of an Englishman in an Attempt to Circulate the Scriptures in the Peninsula* by George Borrow	about 1910
7	6	Other publications – *The International Studio*, John Lane Company, with note	January 1914, about 1918
5	12	Other publications – "*The Living Age*"	May 27, 1922
9	8	Prayers (signed by Maud Sullivan in 1940)	1924
5	13	Other publications – "*The Genius of Gusto*," by J. Frank Dobie	1925
6	1	Other publications – *Archivo General de Indias*	about 1926
6	2	Other publications – Iron and Steel Institute Presidential Address by Professor Henry Louis	May 1929

6	3	Other publications – *Elements of Ornamentation, XVI Siecle*	about 1920s
6	4	Other publications – *Elements of Ornamentation Pour L'EnLuminare*	about 1920s
6	5	Other publications –"*Mexican Arts*," Catalogue of an Exhibition Organized for and Circulated by the American Federation of Arts	1930 – 1931
6	6	Other publications – *New Mexico Historical Review*	April 1933
6	7	Other publications – Dawson's Book Shop Sampler	October 1934
6	8	Other publications – "*Weekly Courier*," Launceston, Tasmania	January 24, 1935
6	9	Other publications – *New Mexico Historical Review*	April 1935
6	10	Other publications – "*The Library, An Address by Robert M. Hutchins, University of Chicago*"	1936
6	11	Other publications – *The Wisconsin Magazine of History*	December 1939
6	12	Other publications –"*La Mesa Morena,*" by Joaquin Mendez Rivas	about 1930s
6	13	Other publications –*R.L.S.* by A.E. Housman	about 1930s
6	14	Other publications – Dawson's Book Shop book catalog	April 1940
6	15	Other publications – *A Wisconsin Parish, The History of Saint Peter's Church, Ripon, Wisconsin, 1860 – 1940* by The Reverend James T. Golder, S.T.M.	about 1940
6	16	Other publications – Flag Day essay reprinted from the *New York Times*	1943
6	17	Other publications – *Library Journal*	March 15, 1944
6	18	Other publications – *It's Fun to Write Letters* by Jane Eaton	1956
6	19	Other publications – Texas Library Association Library Conference at El Paso, Texas, program	1961

Series VI. John Kevin Sullivan

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
6	20	Travel permit, application, short biography, and other material	1920, about 1927, about 1943