

Deyo, Mildred Diaries

Mildred Deyo Diaries

1908-1914



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Title Statement

Deyo, Mildred Diaries Guide to the Mildred Deyo Diaries MS 00124

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS 00124

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/1043

Unit Date

1908-1914

Language

English

Creator

Deyo, Mildred, 1884-1982

Extent

0.30 Linear Feet

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

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Acquisition Information:

Purchase. Originally Mss. Acc. 2010.098.

Processing Information:

Accessioned and minimally processed in February 2010 by Ute Schechter, Warren E. Burger Archivist.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains the diaries of Mildred Deyo (1884-1982) of Newburgh, New York. The entries describe her daily life, social activities, travels, and in some cases views on social and political issues.

At the time she wrote her diaries, Mildred Deyo lived at home with her father and sister. The family was well-off; Mildred did not have to work. She is on the board of directors of a Day Nursery, puts on fundraisers, and regularly spends time at the local tennis club.

Mildred Deyo wrote a total of 30 volumes of diaries, dating from 1904-1914, but only 7 of those are present here. Included with the diaries is a copy of her 1982 obituary from The Times Herald and several pages of handwritten notes about the diary, provided by a previous owner.

Keywords

Diaries

New York (State)--Social life and customs

Leisure--United States--1910-1920

Women--Diaries

Women--Social life--1900-1920

Description of Subordinate Components

Diary

Unit ID id66025

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/100564

Unit Date 1908 September-December

Mixed materials 1 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)

Scope and Contents

This diary dates from September 16, 1908 to December 31, 1908. It is the thirteenth diary in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. Mildred Deyo was a twenty-four-year-old woman living in Newburgh, New York, with her sister, Edith, and their widowed father. Mildred Deyo lives a life of leisure in the early 20th century. Her days are filled with visiting friends and family, going to the tennis club to watch matches or play cards, and driving around the Hudson Valley. Mildred also takes numerous trips to New York, where she shops at stores such as Tiffany's and attends theater shows such as Lady Frederick. Mildred goes to church every Sunday and is on the board of the Day Nursery. The diary is a good insight into the lives of the upper or upper middle class in the early 1900s.

Diary

Unit ID id66026

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/100565

Unit Date 1909 August-December

Mixed materials 1 (Box)

Container 2 (folder)

Scope and Contents

This diary dates from August 7, 1909 to December 13, 1909. The diary is the 16th in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. The majority of the diary recounts Mildred's summer at Bass Rocks in Massachusetts. Mildred stayed at a hotel surrounded by family and friends. She writes of playing tennis, sun bathing, and taking walks on the beach. She also attends many dinners and dances throughout her summer there. After the vacation is over, Mildred's daily activities include visiting family and friends, going to the tennis club, participating in church and Sunday School events, and going into New York City on shopping trips. The diary also mentions Columbus Day as a new holiday and describes Mildred's Thanksgiving holiday. The diary exemplifies life in the early 20th century for an upper middle class woman.

Diary

Unit ID id66027

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/100566

Unit Date 1909 December-1910 March

Mixed materials 1 (Box)

Container 3 (folder)

Scope and Contents

This diary dates from December 14, 1909 to March 25, 1910. The diary is number seventeen in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. Mildred spends a good deal of time visiting her family in New York City. She goes to tea at the Manhattan, shops, attends plays, and goes to the opera. Mildred also goes into New York City to shop for Christmas gifts during the holiday season. When she is not visiting New York, Mildred Deyo writes of playing bridge, meeting with a card club, and going automobiling. Mildred is very involved in church and attends services every Sunday. Her diary represents the life of an upper middle class lady during this time period.

Diary

Unit ID id66028

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/100567

Unit Date 1910 March-June

Mixed materials 1 (Box)

Container 4 (folder)

Scope and Contents

This diary is dated from March 26, 1910 until June 15, 1910. The diary is 18th in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. During this time period, Mildred Deyo spends a great deal of effort and time organizing and performing a dance for a Kirmess, or festival. She also visits her family in New York City, goes for drives, and plays bridge at the club. Mildred attends the wedding of a close friend. Mildred Deyo also witnessed the first successful flight of an "air-ship" in the Hudson Valley. The diary exemplifies life in the early 20th century for an upper middle class woman.

Diary**Unit ID** id66029**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/100568**Unit Date** 1912 September-1913 February**Mixed materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 5 (folder)**Scope and Contents**

This diary dates from September 8, 1912 until February 5, 1913. The diary is number 25 in a series of 30 written by Mildred Deyo. In this diary, Mildred Deyo spends most of her time visiting family and friends, going to the tennis club, and playing bridge. She also bakes and tidies the house where she, her sister, and their father live. Mildred Deyo goes to visit family in Boston. In Boston, she goes to Harvard football games, visits Copley Square, shops, goes on automobile rides, and attends the symphony. Mildred also takes trips into New York City to go shopping and visit family or friends. She attends the play "Little Women." In addition, she goes to a Vaudeville performance and other shows. The diary is an exhibition of life in the early 20th century for an upper middle class woman.

Diary**Unit ID** id66030**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/100569**Unit Date** 1913 February-May**Mixed materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 6 (folder)**Scope and Contents**

This diary is dated from February 5, 1913 to May 25, 1913. The diary is 26th in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. In this diary, Mildred Deyo writes of everyday activities such as playing bridge, visiting family and friends, and going to church. Mildred also spends a good deal of time in New York where some family members live. She goes shopping, goes to tea, dances, and sees plays and the opera. Mildred talks about her dismay at "machines" or cars, and states that she prefers horses. Mildred, her sister, and some family members take a trip to Washington, D.C. In Washington, they visit Mount Vernon, the National Treasury, Ford's Theater, the White House, and the Capitol Building. They also spend some time in Richmond, where they visit the Capitol Building and the Confederate Museum. The diary gives a strong insight into the life of an upper middle class woman in the early 20th century.

Diary**Unit ID** id66031**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/100570**Unit Date** 1914 June-September**Mixed materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 7 (folder)**Scope and Contents**

This diary is dated from June 18, 1914 to September 9, 1914. It is the last volume in a series of thirty written by Mildred Deyo. Mildred Deyo's days are filled with playing bridge, watching tennis matches at the local tennis club, going for walks, and going to church. Mildred often visits family and friends. She also travels to New York City to shop. In her diary, she writes about the outbreak of World War I. She states that Germany will fight anyone, and has declared war on France and Russia. She says it is only a matter of time before England is forced into the war. During the summer, Mildred and her family spend time in upstate New York at Twilight Lake. They take walks in the woods, tour the mountains, play bridge, and go to movies in the local town. Mildred decides to finish her diary after this trip to Twilight Lake.