



Guide to the Sloan Simpson Papers

Collection Overview

Identifier	2019.16
Creator	Simpson, Sloan, 1916-1996
Title	Sloan Simpson papers
Dates	1885-1993
Extent	0.84 linear feet (3 boxes)
Language	The materials are in English.
Repository	Dallas Historical Society
Source	Gift of Thomas and Anna Bentson, 2016.

Abstract

The Sloan Simpson collection is made up of photographs, documents, and ephemera relating to Sloan Simpson and her family. Additionally, the collection contains various printed material such as postcards, programs, and newspaper clippings.

Biographical Note

Elizabeth Sloan Simpson was born in Dallas, Texas in 1916 to Eleanora Myer Simpson and William Sloan Simpson. She attended Catholic boarding schools before attending Highland Park High School in Dallas. After receiving an undergraduate degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, she moved to New York to pursue a modeling career. In her childhood, she went by the name Betty, but as an adult began going by the name Sloan (after her father), and later added an "e" to the end of her name. Her father befriended Teddy Roosevelt during his time as a Rough Rider in the U.S. Army.

Simpson was primarily known for her work in fashion and modeling. She was also known for her film roles, including titles such as *The Pusher* and *The Phil Silvers Show*. Simpson married former New York Mayor William O'Dwyer in 1949 and served as First Lady of New York until their divorce in 1953.

Sloan Simpson died in Dallas, Texas in 1996.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of materials pertaining to the personal life and career of model and actress Sloan Simpson. It spans from 1885-1993, with the bulk of the materials documenting Simpson's family and career.

The collection is made up of photographs, negatives, scrapbooks, handwritten notes, correspondence, programs, and newspaper clippings. The collection includes many Simpson family photographs as well as Simpson's modeling headshots and portraits.

Subjects

People

Simpson, Elizabeth Sloan, 1916-1996

Simpson, William Sloan, 1876-1946

O'Dwyer, William, 1890-1964

Topics

Models (Persons)

Military bases--Texas

20th Century (1900-1999), United States--Texas

Organizations

Braniff Airways

Places

Dallas, Texas--History

Highland Park (Tex.)--History

New York (State)--New York

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in six series:

Series I. Genealogy Records, undated

Series II. Correspondence, 1885-1993

Series III. Photographs, 1945-1962

Series IV. Scrapbooks, 1909-1940

Series V. Newspaper Clippings, 1923-1993

Series VI. Miscellaneous, 1946-1994

Access Restrictions

Open for research by appointment only.

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Preferred Citation

This collection should be cited as: [Identification of Item], Sloan Simpson collection, 2019.16, Dallas Historical Society.

Revision Note

Revised finding aid created by Keaton Calhoun.

Container List

Series I: Genealogy Records, undated

This series contains handwritten and typed genealogy records related to the Simpson family.

Box 1, Folder 1: Genealogy records, undated

Box 1, Folder 2: Genealogy records, undated

Series II: Correspondence, 1885-1993

This series consists of the correspondence of Sloan Simpson and the Simpson family.

Box 1, Folder 3: Correspondence, 1885-1993, undated

Series III: Photographs and Postcards, 1945-1962

This series contains photographs of Sloan Simpson and her immediate and extended family. There are also photos of Simpson with friends and at social engagements. There are also some postcards and prints.

Box 1, Folder 4-6: Simpson Family, undated

Box 1, Folder 7: Headshots and portraits, 1945-1948

Box 1, Folder 8: Headshots and portraits, undated

Box 1, Folder 9: Headshots and portraits, undated

Box 1, Folder 10: Headshots and portraits, undated

Box 1, Folder 11: Headshots and portraits, undated

Box 1, Folder 12: Personal life, 1949-1959, undated

Box 1, Folder 13: Miscellaneous photos, 1962, undated

Box 1, Folder 14: Negatives, undated

Series IV: Scrapbooks, 1909-1940

This series consists of five scrapbooks related to Sloan Simpson and her family.

Box 2, Folder 1: Camp Mabry and School of Fire for Field Artillery, 1909-1918

Box 2, Folder 2: Camp Mabry and School of Fire for Field Artillery, 1909-1918

Box 2, Folder 3: Simpson Family, 1911-1936, undated

Box 2, Folder 4: Simpson Family, 1930

Box 2, Folder 5: Simpson Family, 1941, undated

Box 2, Folder 6: Kamp Kabl XVIII, 1934

Series V: Newspaper Clippings, 1923-1993

This series consists of newspaper clippings from Dallas newspapers.

Box 3, Folder 1: Newspaper clippings, 1923-1971, undated

Box 3, Folder 2: Newspaper clippings, 1990-1993

Series VI: Miscellaneous, 1946-1994

This series is made up of handwritten recipes, programs, ephemera, and miscellaneous printed material.

Box 3, Folder 3: Miscellaneous printed material, 1946-1991, undated

Box 3, Folder 4: Miscellaneous printed material, undated

Box 3, Folder 5: Magazines, 1946, 1994

Box 3, Folder 6: Magazine clippings, 1948, undated

Box 3, Folder 7: Recipes, undated

Box 3, Folder 8: Recipe book, undated