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## **Finding Aid to the Kate Sessions Papers LA.2010.0810.001**

San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park

San Diego, CA 92101

library@sdnhm.org

URL: <http://sdnhm.org/science/research-library>

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**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library

**Title:** Kate Sessions Papers

**creator:** Sessions, Kate Olivia, 1857-1940

**Identifier/Call Number:** LA.2010.0810.001

**Physical Description:** 1 Linear Feet

**Date (inclusive):** 1879-1940

**Abstract:** The Kate Sessions Papers contain one box of archival material, mostly manuscript notes, drafts, and typescripts relating to horticulture and landscaping. Includes notebooks, news clippings, and a small amount of correspondence.

**Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open to researchers by appointment. Contact the Research Library Director, San Diego Natural History Museum.

**Conditions Governing Use**

Copyright may be reserved. Consult the San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library Director for more information.

**Preferred Citation**

*[Identification of item]*, Kate Sessions Papers. Research Library, San Diego Natural History Museum.

**Scope and Contents**

The collection consists of 36 folders and 1 scrapbook. Includes two volumes of class notes from Sessions 1879 undergraduate courses at the University of California, Berkeley. Correspondence with botanists, including Alice Eastwood.

**Biographical / Historical**

Kate Sessions was a horticulturalist and landscape architect. Born Katherine Olivia Sessions in San Francisco, California on November 8, 1857, she attended the University of California, Berkeley (A.B. 1881), and moved to San Diego, teaching briefly at the Russ School before purchasing a nursery in 1885. She contracted with the city of San Diego to lease property in Balboa Park in exchange for tree planting in the park, ultimately becoming known as the "Mother of Balboa Park." She co-founded (with Alfred D. Robinson) the San Diego Floral Association in 1907. Sessions died on March 24, 1940 in San Diego.

**Processing Information**

This is an unprocessed collection in the archives of the San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library; not all of the contents of this collection have been fully inventoried.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Botany -- California

Horticulture

Horticulture -- California -- San Diego County

Landscape gardening

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Box 74

**Box Inventory**

**Scope and Contents**

36 folders and 1 scrapbook. Includes research, correspondence, drawings, news clippings, article manuscripts, speech notes. Two bound volumes of 1879 course notes from Sessions undergraduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley. One scrapbook (with alphabetical index tabs) of plant species notes.

Artifact Shelf

**Kate Sessions Herbarium 1875** 

**Scope and Contents**

Herbarium given to Kate Sessions by her mother.