

Kate O. Sessions Collection

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San Diego City Clerk's Archives

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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/inforecords/archive.shtml>

2020


Descriptive Summary

Title: Kate O. Sessions Collection

Dates: 1891-1957

Collection Number: Kate O. Sessions Collection

Creator/Collector: Kate O. SessionsK. O. SessionsFred SessionsJean KenneallyF. H. DixonDuncan MacKinnonF. M. LockwoodWilliam Templeton JohnsonWilliam T. JohnsonSessionsOlmstedDixonJohnsonCity Clerk Archives, City of San Diego
Common Council of the City of San DiegoU. S. Post OfficeBoard of Public WorksSunset Telephone and Telegraph Co.Department of EducationBoard of Education, City of San DiegoCity SchoolsMunicipal FarmCity FarmSan Diego
NurseryHillcrest GardensCemetery Commission, City of San Diego

Extent: 69 documents including 2 photographs, sketches, maps
Online items available  <http://www.sandiego.gov/digitalarchives/>

Repository: San Diego City Clerk's Archives

San Diego, California 92101

Abstract: A collection of document archives relating to Kate O. Sessions, horticulturist, landscaper, city gardener, and nursery and cut flower business owner in San Diego, dating from 1891-1940, from the City Clerk's Archives, City of San Diego, CA. Miss Sessions is considered the mother of San Diego's Balboa Park, formerly known as City Park or the Fourteen Hundred Acre Public Park; and the location of the 1915 Panama- California Exposition, the 1916 Panama-California International Exposition and the 1935-1936 California Pacific International Exposition. Documents consist of those Miss Sessions personally submitted to the City of San Diego, as well as those submitted by others but referencing her. The collection features a 1891 letter by Frederick Law Olmsted (considered the father of U. S. landscape architecture) responding to Miss Sessions' inquiry regarding the planning of City Park accompanied by her handwritten notes presenting his letter to the Common Council of the City of San Diego.

Language of Material: English

Access

public documents

Preferred Citation

Kate O. Sessions Collection. San Diego City Clerk's Archives

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection contains submissions by Kate O. Sessions to the City of San Diego in the form of petitions, reports, memoranda, handwritten notes and other correspondence, as well as grant deeds, contracts, agreements, new clippings, correspondence, and city ordinances and resolutions concerning or relating to her. The date range of the collection is 1891-1940. In addition, two photos of Miss Sessions supplement the document archives. Please see Supplemental File below for a detailed description of each archive in the collection.

Indexing Terms

City Park, San Diego

1400 Acre Park, San Diego

Balboa Park, San Diego

Landscape Architecture

Horticulture

Gardening

Plants, Trees and Scrubs

Flowers

Parks

Frank N. Meyer Medal for Plant Genetic Resources recipient 1939

Botany

Mission Hills

Nursery

Plants

Planting

Soledad Terrace

Kate Sessions Park
San Diego Floral Association
Squatters on City Park
The Country Club
University Heights
Eucalyptus trees
Barns and cottages on City Park
Trees on City Park
olive trees
Telephones
Kitchen Telephones
City Schools
Municipal Farm
City Farm
Monterey Cypress trees
Acacia Verticillata
Pelargoniums
Zonal Geraniums
School gardens
Hillcrest Gardens
San Diego Nursery
Mission Hills Cars, 1428 West Lewis St.
Sidewalks
Parking
North Florence Heights
Mission Hills
Frances Parker School
Mission Hills street cars
John Nolen of Boston
W. Templeton Johnson of New York
Street planning
grading
sidewalking
street drainage
private contracts for city streets
K. O. Sessions in Mission Hills
Frank S. Sessions in Mission Hills
Cocos Plumosa
Erythea Edulis
street palms
Guadalupe Fan Palm
Hooker Street
Lark Street
Montecito Way
Randolph Street
Broadway Street
Palmetto Street
Calhoun Street

Catholic Cemetery
Pioneer Park
City road planning
Arnold & Choate Addition
Washington Heights
North Florence Heights
Poinsettia commercial nursery
Mission Hills poinsettias
Cemetery plot care and maintenance
Sewer lines
Kate O. Sessions
Kate Olivia Sessions
Kate Sessions
Frederick Law Olmsted
Dorothea Sanford
Benjamin McLaren, Civil Engineer
John L. Springer, expressman
Mrs. Holt
Mrs. Mary Woodard
Mr. Starbird
Mr. Morse
Mr. Martinez Click
Park Superintendent Belden
Mrs. Boceh
Mr. John Gay
L. H. Jacobi
F. M. Lockwood
William Templeton Johnson
John Nolen
Lida Scripps
Mattie Bowerstock
Chas, F. O'Neill
H. G. Purcell
J. T. Ledell
J. N. Howard
Geo Houck
G. C. Arnold
C. Wellborn
A. Thieme
W. M. Rumsey
Mary C. Bleifuss
Charles Gunn
M. E. Kelly
J. L. and R. J. Kelly
Elizabeth A. Gunn
F. Jane Pritchard
Frances J. Hruska
A. Schreiber

Miss Alice Lee
Miss Lida Scripps
Mrs. F. Sandford
John H. Ferry
Mary J. Hill
Mary C. Hamilton
Mrs. E. Reid
John Long
Sarah M. Utt
George W. Marston
Ralph M. Ward
Rebecca F. Doyle
John Dement
Frank S. Sessions
Ellen Sessions
Sessions
Olmsted
Click
Morse
Starbird
McLaren
Woodard
Holt
Springer
Belden
Boceh
Gay
McClenaghan
Rhodes
Lockwood
Scripps
Marston
Lee
Bowerstock
O'Neill
Purcell
Level
Howard
Houck
Wellborn
Thieme
Rumsey
Bleifuss
Nolen
Templeton Johnson
Gunn
Kelly
Pritchard

Hruska
Schreiber
Sandford
Ferry
Hill
Hamilton
Utt
Engler
Ward
Doyle
Dement
Salmons
Frederick Law Olmsted & Co.
Cut Flower Depot, San Diego
F. L. Olmsted & Co.
San Diego Floral Association
Board of Public Works
Sunset Telephone and Telegraph
Pacific Telephone and Telegraph
Duncan MacKinnon
San Diego Nursery
Hillcrest Gardens
Hillcrest Residence
Utt Investment Company
Security Savings Bank & Trust Co.
Streets Department
Operations Department
City Engineering
Cemetery Commission
Water Department, Water Commissioners
San Diego, California
San Diego, CA
Mission Hills
Soledad Terrace
Soledad Terrace Park
Mission Hills Nursery
Pacific Beach
Kate Sessions Park
City Park
1400 Acre Park
Balboa Park
Florence Heights
Stephens Street
Stockton Street
The Country Club
University Heights
Juniper Street
Park Blvd.

San Francisco
City school gardens
North Florence Heights
Palmetto Way
Arbor Way
Ft. Stockton St.
Mission Hills Cars, 1428 West Lewis Street
Calhoun St.
Los Altos Road, Pacific Beach
Hooker Street
Lark Street
West Montecito Way
Broadway Street
Fort Stockton Street
Hunter Steet
Stevens Street
Plumosa Way
deep canyon
Getti Street
Catholic Cemetery
5 acre City Park
San Diego Nursery
Arnold & Choate Addition
Randolph Street
Hermosa Way
Cliff
Hawk Street
Lewis Street
Washington Heights
Mount Hope Cemetery
Ivy Place
Public Documents
Photographs
Letters
Annual Report
Petitions
Memoranda
Notes
Deeds
Resolutions
Report
Lot map
Communication
Advertisement
recommendations
park plan
park sketch
street lot sketch

*Superintendent City Gardener Engineer Secretary of Board of Public Works President Councilman Manager of Operations
Superintendent of City School, Department of Education Supervisor of Agriculture and Horticulture in the San Diego School
Department Manager Operations Department Property Owner Secretary of Cemetery Commission*

report

petition

resolution

communication

deed

contract

grant

sketch

note

recommendation

letter

park plan

parking sketch

parking plan

street map

sweet lot map

City Gardener

Florist

Landscaper

Landscape Architect

Businesswoman

City Planner

Horticulturist

Botanist

Nursery owner

Property owner

Squatter

Board of Public Works Secretary

Expressman

Superintendent of City Schools, Department of Education

Supervisor of Agriculture and Horticulture in City School, Department of Education

Manager, Operations Department

resident

Secretary, Cemetery Commission

[Kate O. Sessions Collection Document Descriptions](#)
