**Grace E. Barneberg Papers**

Special Collections and Archives Department

Robert E. Kennedy Library  
1 Grand Avenue  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

**Contact Information**

Special Collections and Archives Department  
Robert E. Kennedy Library  
1 Grand Avenue  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
Phone: 805/756-2305  
Fax: 805/756-5770  
Email: archives@calpoly.edu  
URL: http://www.lib.calpoly.edu/specialcollections/

Processed by:  
Catherine J. Trujillo  
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Byte Managers, 2013

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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Grace E. Barneberg Papers  
**Date (inclusive):** 1912-1953  
**Date (bulk):** (bulk 1920s)  
**Collection number:** MS 002  
**Creator:** Barneberg, Grace Elizabeth, (1883-1970)  
**Extent:** 1 document box (.5 linear feet)  
**Repository:** Special Collections and Archives, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California 93407

**Abstract:** Papers of San Luis Obispo civic leader Grace E. Barneberg, comprised of correspondence, organizational records, legal documents, newspaper clippings, photographs, and ephemera. The collection documents her official activities as president of the Monday Club and activities in regional and statewide women's and service organizations, including the California State Hospital Libraries, San Luis Obispo Free Public Library, Board of Women's Prisons, San Luis Obispo Dental Clinic, San Luis Obispo Mitchell Park, County Health Center, and the Red Cross. Also included are Barneberg family records.  
[http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/rekl-barneberg-ms002](http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/rekl-barneberg-ms002)

**Provenance**

Gift, 1981.

**Restrictions on Access**

Collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only. For more information on access policies and to obtain a copy of the Researcher Registration form, please visit the Special Collections Access page.

**Restrictions on Use and Reproduction**

In order to reproduce, publish, broadcast, exhibit, and/or quote from this material, researchers must submit a written request and obtain formal permission from Special Collections, Cal Poly, as the owner of the physical collection.
Grace Elizabeth Barneberg was born in San Luis Obispo, California on September 24, 1876, the daughter of Sarah E. Barneberg (1857-1936) and John Wesley Barneberg (1851-1930). She attended San Luis Obispo High School, graduating in 1897. She received her A.B. in History from Stanford University in 1901 and a high school teaching credential from the University of California, Berkeley in 1902.

Returning to San Luis Obispo to an appointment at East Santa Fe School District teaching high school, she became a prominent organizer and member of many women's and civic improvement organizations regionally as well as throughout the state of California. Notably, she established the Monday Club in 1925, a women's organization promote civic, social and cultural welfare.

In addition to her local civic duties, Barneberg lectured throughout California on behalf of women's causes, including the Women's Prison Board and Free Public Library initiatives. Remaining unmarried, she assisted her parents in raising her niece and nephew. She died on February 23, 1970.

**Barneberg Family**

John Wesley Barneberg & Sarah E. Barneberg

John Wesley Barneberg (1851-1930) was born in Iowa and arrived in San Luis Obispo in 1868. He had several business endeavors, including farming, hardware, and banking. Barneberg was a prominent financial figure in the county, having served as president and vice-president of several of San Luis Obispo banks, including Commercial Bank, and Security-First National Bank. He was elected as the City Tax Collector of San Luis Obispo in 1883. He served on the committee to establish California Polytechnic School (1901) and in 1912 he served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. He married Sarah E. Barneberg (1857-1936). They had three children: John Frederick Barneberg (1874-1935), Grace Elizabeth Barneberg (1876-1970) and Chester Harry Barneberg (1880-1944.). John W. Barneberg died in March 1930, in San Luis Obispo.

John Frederick Barneberg

John Frederick Barneberg (1874-1935), son to John W. Barneberg and Sarah E. Barneberg, was a prospector having claims in the Klondike region, Dawson City, and the Yukon Territory in Canada. He and his wife, Ruby Barneberg, had one daughter, Jane Barneberg.

Chester Harry Barneberg

Chester H. Barneberg (1880-1944) married Emelinda Estella Dana on April 19, 1901. Emelinda was the daughter of Charles William Dana (1837-1890) and Blandina Esquerra Dana (1845-unknown.) The Barnebergs had a daughter, Helen Maxine Barneberg (Vanschaick) (1901-1989) and a son, John Chester (Jack) Barneberg (1903-1977). Little is known about Chester Barneberg's occupation. He had a tragic accident in 1899, resulting in the amputation of his foot. He is noted as divorced in the 1910 census. His children were raised by his parents and his sister, Grace Barneberg.

Sources

San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 29 May 1897
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 27 July 1897
*The San Francisco Call*, 5 August 1897, pg. 2
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 10 February 1899
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 11 June 1899
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 11 June 1899
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 30 July 1899
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 3 August 1899
San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune, 28 July 1901
San Luis Obispo Daily Tribune, 13 March 1930
California Death Index (1940-1997), Ancestry.com
1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 Census of the United States, Ancestry.com
Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.com
World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Ancestry.com

Scope and Content Note
The Grace E. Barneberg Papers contain correspondence, organizational records, legal documents, newspaper clippings, photographs, and ephemera documenting the activities of San Luis Obispo resident Grace E. Barneberg. The collection documents her role as president of the Monday Club and activities in regional and statewide women's and service organizations including California State Hospital Libraries, San Luis Obispo Free Public Library, Board of Women's Prisons, San Luis Obispo Dental Clinic, San Luis Obispo Mitchell Park, County Health Center, and the Red Cross. The collection includes papers of her father, John W. Barneberg, and the Barneberg family. Donated in 1981.
Where possible, the provenance, or original organization, of the papers has been preserved. However, in order to simplify access to the collection for researchers, some materials in specific formats and topics were reorganized and refoldered to more accurately reflect their contents.
The Grace E. Barneberg Papers are divided into 3 series:
Series 1: Personal Papers 1912-1953
Series 2: Professional Papers 1918-1944
Series 3: Monday Club Papers 1924-1983
The collection is housed in one document box with the Professional Papers and Monday Club Papers containing the most extensive and unique portions of the collection.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Barneberg, Grace Elizabeth, (1883-1970)
San Luis Obispo (Calif.)--History.
San Luis Obispo County (Calif.)--History
Societies--California--San Luis Obispo.
Women in charitable work--California--San Luis Obispo
Women civic leaders--California--San Luis Obispo.
Women--California--San Luis Obispo.
Women--Societies and clubs.
Women-- Suffrage.
Correspondence.
Clippings.
Documents.
Holographic notes.
Photographs.
Secondary sources.

Related Material
Related Collections:
Sinsheimer Collection 1868-1997 (MS 036)
Jack Family Papers (MS 014)
Monday Club Records (MS 087)
1. Personal Papers 1912-1953

A. Biographical Information

Scope and Content Note
Contains reproductions of ancestry records for the Barneberg family, unarranged. 1 folder.

Box 1, Folder 1
Reproductions of census, death records, and ancestry records, for the Barneberg family.

Scope and Content Note
(John W. Barneberg Senior, Sarah E Barneberg, John R. Barneberg, Chester H. Barneberg, Grace E. Barneberg, Helen Maxine Barneberg Vanschaick, and John C. Barneberg.)

B. Family Records

Scope and Content Note
Contains newspaper clipping and rendering, unarranged. 2 folders.

Box 1, Folder 2
Obituary, John Barneberg March 13, 1930

Scope and Content Note
(San Luis Obispo Morning Tribune)

Box 1, Folder 3
Beach Cottage, Floor plan no date

C. Correspondence

Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence arranged chronologically, from circa 1912-1953 (gaps). 2 folders.

Box 1, Folder 4
Unattributed correspondence, Economic Aspects of the Liquor Problem circa 1912.

Box 1, Folder 5
Warren, Earl Chief Supreme Court Justice to Barneberg, Grace 1953

D. Photographs circa 1900-1930

Scope and Content Note
Contains photographs of Grace E. Barneberg and family and local citizens of San Luis Obispo, arranged chronologically. 5 folders.

Box 1, Folder 6
Barneberg, Grace circa 1900-1930s.
Barneberg, (Helen) Maxine, Marcella Fitzgerald, Mable Weathers, Helen Palmer, Helen Shipsey, San Luis Obispo 1918

Box 1, Folder 7
Chinese Parading in San Luis Obispo (copyprint) no date

Box 1, Folder 8
Vachell, Horace (?) circa 1890.

Box 1, Folder 9
Unidentified Photographs no date

E. Booklets

Scope and Content Note
Contains booklets, unarranged. 2 folders.
1. Personal Papers 1912-1953

E. Booklets  http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/islandora/search/002-1-e?type=dismax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 11</th>
<th>Bylaws of the Mitre Club, San Luis Obispo circa 1892</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 12</td>
<td>Eugenics: A Journal of Race Betterment, Volume II, No. 3 March 1929</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Professional Papers 1918-1944

Scope and Content Note

A. Speeches  http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/islandora/search/002-2-a?type=dismax

Scope and Content Note
Contains typescript relating to county homes for the aged with accompanying photographs relating to the topics. Unarranged, no date 3 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 13</th>
<th>Typescript, &quot;A Friendship Christmas&quot; By Grace E. Barneberg, Chairman Division of Institutional Relations no date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 14</td>
<td>Unidentified group of men, Laval Company, Inc., Fresno no date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 15</td>
<td>Unidentified group of women with holographic note by Grace Barneberg &quot;...the Dream has departed.&quot; Laval Company, Inc., Fresno no date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence and documents, unarranged. 1929. 2 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 16</th>
<th>Correspondence from Robert Rea, San Francisco Public Librarian to Grace Barneberg 1929</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 17</td>
<td>California State Hospitals, library inventory questionnaires 1929</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence and documents, unarranged. 1939-1944. 3 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 18</th>
<th>Correspondence from W.T. Shipsey, attorney, to Grace Barneberg 1944</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 19</td>
<td>Typescript, Poem to Mrs. Kellogg, Librarian no date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 20</td>
<td>Free Public Library, Annual Reports 1939-1942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Scope and Content Note
Contains documents and holographic notes, unarranged from 1921-22. 2 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 21</th>
<th>San Luis Health Center 1921-1922</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 22</td>
<td>Holographic notes, loan closet inventory, and work records, County Dental Clinic 1921-1922</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. Women's Prison Board, Tehachapi  http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/islandora/search/002-2-e?type=dismax

Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence, unarranged from 1928. 1 folder.

| Box 1, Folder 23 | Correspondence and reports 1928 |
### 2. Professional Papers 1918-1944


**Scope and Content Note**
Contains brochure and photographs, unarranged, from 1928. 2 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 24</th>
<th>Brochure &quot;World Friendship Among Children&quot; New York, NY 1928</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 25</td>
<td>Photographs, &quot;Felix and Josephine Abcede&quot; no date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Scope and Content Note**
Contains typescripts of addresses and holographic notes arranged in original order, 1941. 3 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 26</th>
<th>Typescript, List of Officers [sic] Wives of the 40 th Division no date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 27</td>
<td>Typescript and holographic notes, Directory of Officers Living off Post March 28, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 28</td>
<td>Typescript, Address List of Officers' Families Residing in the Vicinity of Camp San Luis Obispo no date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### H. Red Cross, San Luis Obispo

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains programs and photographs, unarranged from 1918. 2 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 29</th>
<th>Program, Junior Red Cross Lunch Room 1918</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 30</td>
<td>Photographs, Red Cross parade, San Luis Obispo 1918</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Monday Club Papers 1924-1983


**Scope and Content Note**
Contains correspondence and documents relating to the Monday Club's request to join the California Federation of Women's Club, unarranged from 1924-1926. 3 folders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 31</th>
<th>Correspondence, Lorbeer, Mrs. J.B., to Grace Barneberg 1924</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 32</td>
<td>Correspondence, Toll, Mrs. Eleanor J., California Federation of Women's Clubs to Grace Barneberg 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 33</td>
<td>Monday Club directory listing, California Federation of Women's Clubs 1926</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B. Monday Club meeting notes [http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/islandora/search/002-3-b?type=dismax](http://digital.lib.calpoly.edu/islandora/search/002-3-b?type=dismax)

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains holographic meeting notes, unarranged, 1927. 1 folder

| Box 1, Folder 34 | Holographic notes, Barneberg, Grace 1927 |
### C. Programs

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains programs and typescripts of performances, unarranged, 1929, 1983. 4 folders

| Box 1, Folder 35 | Monday Club Building Fund card, San Luis Service Station no date |
| Box 1, Folder 36 | Second Community Artist Series March 13, 1929 |
| Box 1, Folder 37 | "Clubhouse 50th Anniversary" Monday Club May 22, 1983 |
| Box 1, Folder 38 | Typescripts, "Where Yesterdays Look Backward with a Smile" intermittent music to accompany a descriptive monologue, and "Street Cleaners" lyrics no date |

### D. Speeches

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains typescripts with holographic notes, unarranged from 1934. 2 folders.

| Box 1, Folder 39 | Typescript, "Address Given by Miss Grace E. Barneberg at the Convention of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, Riverside May 9, 1934 |
| Box 1, Folder 40 | Typescript with holographic notes, "Pundita Ramabai," no date |

### E. Mitchell Park Square, San Luis Obispo

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains documents, reports, and correspondence regarding advocacy efforts on behalf of Monday Club members to found a park in the City of San Luis Obispo. Arranged chronologically from 1927-1928. 3 folders.

| Box 1, Folder 41 | Motions and City agreements circa 1927 |
| Box 1, Folder 42 | Correspondence, Shepard, H. W. Professor Landscape Design, Berkeley to Mrs. Helen Latimer 1927 |
| Box 1, Folder 43 | Report on proposed site for park square in the City of San Luis Obispo, California, Monday Club 1928 |

### F. Photographs, Monday Club

**Scope and Content Note**
Contains photographs of club activities, unarranged, circa 1930s. 4 folders.

| Box 1, Folder 44 | Groundbreaking for Monday Club, Mrs. Jane L.T. Curtright, Grace E. Barneberg, and James Jepson, Contractor circa 1933 |
| Box 1, Folder 45 | Exterior building and rendering, Monday Club circa 1932 1934 |
| Box 1, Folder 46 | Interior building, Monday Club members no date |
| Box 1, Folder 47 | Lower Higuera, San Luis Obispo City Limit, "Monday Club paid for the city entry sign..." no date |