
Edwina B. Coffing collection

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California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives

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2018

Descriptive Summary

Title: Edwina B. Coffing collection

Dates: 1932-1986, bulk 1948-1969

Collection Number: MS 540

Creator/Collector:

Extent: 1 half box

Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives
Sacramento, California 95814

Abstract: The collection consists primarily of correspondence between Stuart and Edwina Coffing and Emil Kopac, of Oshkosh, Nebraska. regarding their mutual interest in book collecting, Western history and the town of Julesburg, Colorado. There are several photographs and clippings related to Julesburg, as well as activities and people who were important to its history. The collection also includes a few hand-drawn maps of the town.

Language of Material: English

Access

This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Edwina B. Coffing collection. California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives

Acquisition Information

Gift of Edwina Coffing, 1996

Biography/Administrative History

•Edwina and Stuart Coffing met in Sacramento, California at Sacramento Junior College, now Sacramento City College. They were married in 1931 and had one child, Gavin. The Coffings lived in various California cities, and for a time in Oregon, but returned to Sacramento in 1958 to make their permanent home. •A college course in California history inspired Mrs. Coffing to read extensively about her native state and inspired her to assemble an extensive library of Western Americana. In 1996, Mrs. Coffing donated her collection of over 1,700 volumes to the California State Railroad Museum Library. Of particular interest to Mrs. Coffing were accounts by early Westward travelers, recorded in diaries and letters home. This may explain her keen interest in Julesburg, since it was a point along several key routes west, including the Pony Express.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection consists primarily of correspondence between Stuart and Edwina Coffing and Emil Kopac, of Oshkosh, Nebraska. regarding their mutual interest in book collecting, Western history and the town of Julesburg, Colorado. There are several photographs and clippings related to Julesburg, as well as activities and people who were important to its history. The collection also includes a few hand-drawn maps of the town.
