Descriptive Summary

Title: Lucile Selk Edgerton Papers
Dates: Approximately 1905-1962
Bulk dates: 1936-1962
Collection Number: mssEdgerton Lucile papers
Creator: Edgerton, Lucile Selk
Extent: 141 items
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org

Abstract: The collection consists of the professional papers of California writer Lucile Selk Edgerton (1896-1987) including manuscripts of unpublished novels, original sketches, assorted printed magazines, copies of her published novels, California research notes, some printed items, and ephemera.

Language of Material: The records are in English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Lucile Selk Edgerton Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance
Purchased from Elliott Mittler, December 1, 2010.

Biographical Note
Lucile Selk Edgerton (1896-1987) graduated from East High School in Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1915. She attended the University of Wisconsin School of Journalism and was an art critic for the Milwaukee Sentinel. By 1937 she was living in Los Angeles. She was a prolific writer of short stories and novels, many of them with Western themes, during the 1930s and 1940s. She was the author of two published novels, In Walked Anny (1940) and Pillars of Gold (1941), a romance set in Civil War California.

Scope and Content
The collection consists of writer Lucile Selk Edgerton's professional papers, including the manuscripts of unpublished novels, original sketches meant to accompany her works of fiction, assorted printed magazines containing her published stories, copies of her published novels Pillars of Gold and In Walked Anny, some printed items, and ephemera. Part of the collection consists of essays, correspondence, and research notes related to California history, and includes essays on Charles F. Wells, Thomas H. Blythe, Earl Rogers, Charlie Utting, C.E. Wells, and 'Wild Horse Bill,' as well as a variety of essays on the history of the Palo Verde Valley, the City of Blythe, and water reclamation around Isabella Lake. Many of the California research notes were compiled by Edgerton's son, Dean Edgerton, Jr. Also included is a bound volume with notes on his World War II experiences.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in six boxes by series:
• Correspondence, essays and notes, printed items, and ephemera (Box 1)
• Manuscript: Pillars of Gold (Box 2)
• Publications (Box 3)
• Unpublished novels (Boxes 4-5)
• Sketches (Box 6 and oversize folder)
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Personal Names
Edgerton, Lucile Selk.
Rogers, Earl, 1870-1922.

Subject
Fiction--20th century--Periodicals.
Western stories--Periodicals.
Women authors, American--20th century.

Geographic Areas
Blythe (Calif.)--History.
California--History--1850-1950.
Palo Verde Valley (Calif.)--History.
West (U.S.)--History--1890-1945.

Genre
Essays--California--20th century.
Letters (correspondence)--California--20th century.
Novels--California--20th century.
Periodicals--United States--20th century.
Short stories--California--20th century.
Sketches--California--20th century.

Box 1
Correspondence, essays and notes, printed items, and ephemera.

Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6

Folder 7
Edgerton, Dean Jr. Notes on WWII experiences. Undated.

Folder 8

Folder 9
Alice Hanlin's History of the P.V.V. [Palo Verde Valley]: essay. Undated.

Folder 10

Folder 11
History of the City of Blythe: essay. Undated.

Folder 12
Copies of letters on the Blythe Tract. Approximately 1905.

Folder 13

Folder 14

Folder 15

Folder 16

Folder 17
"Utting": [essay on Charlie Utting]. Undated.

Folder 18

Folder 19
"C.E. Wells": essay. Undated.

Folder 20
"Wild Horse Bill": essay. Undated.

Folder 21
Essays and notes on water reclamation. Undated.

Folder 22
Miscellaneous notes on California history. Approximately 1950s.

Folder 23

Folder 25
Printed ephemera on the Palo Verde Valley. Undated.

Folder 26
Printed pamphlet on Green Bay, Wis. Approximately 1923.

Folder 27
Miscellaneous printed pamphlets.

Folder 28
Newspaper clippings. 1950s.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 29</td>
<td>Photograph of unknown man and woman. Undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 30</td>
<td>Stamps/ephemera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Manuscript: <em>Pillars of Gold</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Edgerton, Lucile Selk. The Cowards Never Started: novel. [Note: This is a manuscript of <em>Pillars of Gold</em> written under its alternate title. Continued in next folder.] Undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>Publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Unpublished novels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Edgerton, Lucile Selk. All <em>This Lovely Land</em>: novel. Also titled <em>La Marquise de Sora</em> and <em>The Coveted Garden</em>. Continued in next folder. Undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Edgerton, Lucile Selk. All <em>This Lovely Land</em>: novel. Continued from previous folder. Undated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Edgerton, Lucile Selk. <em>The Bride Carried Mesquite</em>: novel. Also titled <em>Gamble on the American Nile</em>. [Note: see Sketches in Box 6 for original drawings meant to accompany the manuscript.] Undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Unpublished novels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Edgerton, Lucile Selk. <em>Squawky the Bad, Bad Jay</em>: children's book. [Note: see Sketches in Box 6 and Oversize for original drawings meant to accompany the manuscript.] Undated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Sketches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Sketches for The Bride Carried Mesquite. 19 sketches. Undated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Miscellaneous sketches and maps. 6 sketches. Undated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oversize Folder</td>
<td>Sketches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sketches for &quot;Squawky the Bad, Bad Jay.&quot; 5 sketches. Undated.</td>
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</tbody>
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