Preliminary Guide to the Elizabeth Plowden Diaries

Preliminary arrangement and description by Special Collections staff; latest revision D. Tambo
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Preliminary Guide to the Elizabeth Plowden Diaries, 1827-1863

Collection number: Mss 97

Department of Special Collections
Davidson Library
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Processed by:
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Encoded by:
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Elizabeth Plowden Diaries

Dates: 1827-1963

Collection number: Mss 97

Creator: Plowden, Elizabeth

Collection Size: 1.2 linear feet (4 pamphlet boxes).

Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Abstract: 19 diaries, 1827-1863, of an Elizabeth [Elisabeth?] Plowden, likely English and possibly from London, since there are occasional references to London locations. The bound volumes, all published in London, contain a front printed section, followed by a diary, with handwritten entries. The 1827 volume, for example, is Thomas’s Register, with lists of government offices, tax rates, advertisements, and other reference material relating to Great Britain. Most other years are volumes of The Law and Commercial Daily Remembrancer. The diaries note daily activities, health matters, letters received and answered, visitors, trips, weather conditions, birthdays, and numerous names of relatives and friends. There is little mention of events in a larger context.

Physical location: Del Sur.

Languages: English

Access Restrictions
None.

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Preferred Citation
Elizabeth Plowden Diaries. Mss 97. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Acquisition Information
Purchase, 1968.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection contains 19 diaries, 1827-1863, of an Elizabeth [Elisabeth?] Plowden, likely English and possibly from London, since there are occasional references to London locations. The bound volumes, all published in London, contain a front printed section, followed by a diary, with handwritten entries. The 1827 volume, for example, is Thomas’s Register, with lists of government offices, tax rates, advertisements, and other reference material relating to Great Britain. Most other years are volumes of The Law and Commercial Daily Remembrancer.

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The diaries note daily activities, health matters, letters received and answered, visitors, trips, weather conditions, birthdays, and numerous names of relatives and friends. There is little mention of events in a larger context. The entries, mainly in ink, often are difficult to decipher. It is unclear why most diaries are even years, since they don’t seem to cover more than the year noted.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Plowden, Elizabeth
England.
Diaries--Women authors.

| Box 1 | 1827 |
| Box 1 | 1830 |
| Box 1 | 1832 |
| Box 1 | 1834 |
| Box 1 | 1836 |
| Box 1 | 1838 |
| Box 2 | 1840 |
| Box 2 | 1842 |
| Box 2 | 1844 |
| Box 2 | 1846 |
| Box 2 | 1848 |
| Box 3 | 1850 |
| Box 3 | 1852 |
| Box 3 | 1854 |
| Box 3 | 1856 |
| Box 4 | 1858 - Jan. 2 entry mentions her 80th birthday |
| Box 4 | 1860 |
| Box 4 | 1862 |
| Box 4 | 1863 - entries become more irregular |