Finding aid for the Foley and Sepulveda family papers 7042

Foley and Sepulveda family papers

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USC Libraries Special Collections
2017 September
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URL: http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: Foley and Sepulveda family papers
creator: Morrow, Zelinda
creator: Foley, William I.
creator: Morrow, Bernard
creator: Morrow, Viola Lillian Foley
Identifier/Call Number: 7042
Physical Description: 8.17 Linear Feet10 boxes
Date (inclusive): 1850-1953, undated
Abstract: The Foley and Sepulveda family papers consists of letters, diaries, photographs, photograph albums, books, legal documents and ephemera, 1850-1953 and undated, created and collected by various members of the Sepulveda and Foley families. The bulk of the collection consists of materials created and collected by William I. (W.I.) Foley and his daughter Viola Lillian Foley Morrow. Also included are some items from Foley's wife Sara Dolores Sepulveda, their children Zoraya, Rupert, and Elsa Zelinda, Sara's parents Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo, his granddaughter Zelinda Morrow, and various relatives of Foley's. The Sepulveda and Foley families became connected through the marriage of William I. Foley and Sara Dolores Sepulveda. Foley was the son of a 49er, Francis Foley, who settled in San Francisco. He was schooled in San Francisco and New York, where he earned a law degree from Columbia University. He opened his first Southern California law office in Pomona in 1884, and moved his practice to Los Angeles in 1887, where he met future Governor Henry Tifft Gage. When Gage was elected Governor in 1899, Foley accompanied him to Sacramento as his private secretary. Foley and Gage would later open a law practice together in Los Angeles, with offices in the Central Building. Foley married Sara Dolores Sepulveda, daughter of Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo, in 1889. The couple had four children, Zoraya Filema, Rupert, Elsa Zelinda, and Viola. Sara died tragically in a street car accident in 1906.
Language of Material: The material is in both English and Spanish. Some materials are in French.
Historical note
The Sepulveda and Foley families became connected through the marriage of William I. Foley and Sara Dolores Sepulveda. Foley was the son of a 49er, Francis Foley, who settled in San Francisco. He was schooled in San Francisco and New York, where he earned a law degree from Columbia University. He opened his first Southern California law office in Pomona in 1884, and moved his practice to Los Angeles in 1887, where he met future Governor Henry Tifft Gage. When Gage was elected Governor in 1899, Foley accompanied him to Sacramento as his private secretary. Foley and Gage would later open a law practice together in Los Angeles, with offices in the Central Building. Foley married Sara Dolores Sepulveda, daughter of Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo, in 1889. The couple had four children, Zoraya Filema, Rupert, Elsa Zelinda, and Viola. Sara died tragically in a street car accident in 1906.
Content Description
The Foley and Sepulveda family papers consists of letters, diaries, photographs, photograph albums, books, legal documents and ephemera, 1850-1953 and undated, created and collected by various members of the Foley and Sepulveda families. The bulk of the collection consists of materials created and collected by William I. (W.I.) Foley and his daughter Viola Lillian Foley Morrow. Also included are some items from Foley's wife Sara Dolores Sepulveda, their children Zoraya, Rupert, and Elsa Zelinda, Sara's parents Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo, his granddaughter Zelinda Morrow, and various relatives of Foley's.
Arrangement
Conditions Governing Access
Advance notice required for access.
Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Manuscripts Librarian. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.
Preferred Citation
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Purchased from The Bookshop, January 6, 2017.
The papers originally come from the estate of Zelinda Morrow, daughter of Viola Foley Morrow, great granddaughter of Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda.

Related Materials
Zoraya Filema Foley journal, Collection no. 6076, Special Collections, USC Libraries

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- History -- Archival resources
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Social life and customs -- Archival resources
Books
Cabinet photographs
Cartes-de-visite (card photographs)
Clippings
Correspondence
Drawings (visual works)
Ephemera
Legal documents
Photograph albums
Photographs
Realia
Textiles
Foley family -- Archives
Sepulveda family -- Archives
Barry, James H., 1855-1927 -- Archives
Foley, Elsa Zelinda -- Archives
Foley, Sara Dolores Sepulveda -- Archives
Foley, William I. -- Archives
Foley, Zoraya Filema -- Archives
Gage, Henry Tifft, 1852-1924 -- Archives
Morrow, Bernard -- Archives
Morrow, Viola Lillian Foley -- Archives
Morrow, Zelinda -- Archives
Sepulveda, Jose Dolores de Jesus -- Archives
William I. Foley 1874-1921, undated

Biographical / Historical

William I. (W.I.) Foley was born in San Francisco in 1861, son of 49er Francis Foley. He attended Saint Ignatius Jesuit College in San Francisco, and then earned his law degree from Columbia University in New York. He practiced law first in San Francisco, then Seattle, and eventually opened his first Southern California office in Pomona in 1884. In 1887 he opened an office in Los Angeles, and there met future Governor Henry Tifft Gage. When Gage was elected Governor in 1899, Foley accompanied him to Sacramento as his private secretary. Gage offered him a judgeship on the state Supreme Court, which he declined, but he did eventually serve as Attorney for the State Board of Health, in which position he drafted many acts which would be included in the state's health laws. Foley and Gage would later open a law practice together in Los Angeles, with offices in the Central Building.

In 1889, Foley married Sara Dolores Sepulveda, daughter of Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo. The couple had four children, Zoraya Filema, Rupert, Elsa Zelinda, and Viola. In 1908, Foley built a family home at 751 South Catalina Street, designed by architect B. Cooper Corbett.

Foley was also an amateur poet, and collaborated on an opera with Mario Hediger (a copy of the libretto can be found in the collection). The two also composed some patriotic songs during World War I. Foley's daughter Elsa Zelinda, who made her career in music as a coloratura soprano, also collaborated with Hediger on a patriotic World War I song.

Sara died tragically in a street car accident in 1906; Foley died in Los Angeles in 1921.

Scope and Contents

This series contains correspondence, photographs, clippings, manuscripts, and legal documents. Of particular note are the letters from Foley to his future wife, Sara Dolores Sepulveda, which are in Spanish; Foley's manuscripts of poetry; deeds to various mining claims in which he was involved; and letters to Commodore James Barry, who was a personal friend.

Arrangement

The series is arranged chronologically.

Box 2, Folder 1  Clippings 1874-1914

Scope and Contents

Miscellaneous clippings collected by (?) W.I. Foley. Includes three issues of the San Francisco Star, the newspaper published by Foley's friend James H. Barry.

Box 1, Folder 1  Correspondence 1882-1910

Scope and Contents

Miscellaneous correspondence between Foley and various family and friends. Includes telegram from Foley to Francis Foley announcing the death of Sara Sepulveda Foley.

Box 1, Folder 2  W.I. Foley to Sara Dolores Sepulveda 1884 July-1886 April

Scope and Contents

Letters in Spanish to Sara prior to their marriage.

Box 1, Folder 3, Box 5, Folder 1, 6  Photographs 1887, undated

Scope and Contents

Photographs of Foley, Sara, Foley and Sara's wedding portrait, and houses on Menlo Street, Boyle Heights, and Central Avenue.

Box 2, Folder 2  Lease document for Maria Antonia Lugo de Sepulveda 1896 December 31

Scope and Contents

Lease document made by Maria Antonia Lugo Sepulveda to rent a portion of Rancho San Antonio to a farmer of barley crops; Rancho San Antonio now encompasses the cities ofd Bell, Bell Gardens, Vernon, Huntington Park, South Gate, and Commerce.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 3</td>
<td>Foley family members--drawings 1901, 1916, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 4</td>
<td>W.I. Foley and Sara Foley obituaries 1906, 1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 5</td>
<td>Letters to &quot;Commodore&quot; James H. Barry 1913, 1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 4</td>
<td>Manuscripts and typescripts 1916, 1918, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 5</td>
<td>Mining deeds and placer claim 1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 6</td>
<td>Los Angeles Times obituary 1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 7</td>
<td>Henry Tifft Gage undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 7</td>
<td>Typewritten biography of Gage and inscribed photograph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 8</td>
<td>Composition books undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Photograph album</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9</td>
<td>W.I. Foley's copper engraved calling card plate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Viola Lillian Foley Morrow 1902-1944, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6</td>
<td>Biographical note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>Photograph album depicting the family of W.I. Foley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>Autograph/friendship book 1902 November-December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 8</td>
<td>Emile Choffet 1909-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 7</td>
<td>Letters and postcards, in French. Includes an inscribed photograph of Choffet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 7</td>
<td>Zoraya Foley 1910-1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9</td>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9</td>
<td>Letters to Viola.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Finding aid for the Foley and Sepulveda family papers 7042**
Box 1, Folder 8  
**Mario Hediger 1916-1917**  
Scope and Contents  
Letters to Viola in Spanish. Also includes photographs of Hediger, some in costume, some inscribed to Viola. Hediger was a composer who worked with both William I. Foley and Elsa Zelinda Foley.

Box 1, Folder 9  
**Ephemera 1922, undated**  
Scope and Contents  
Viola's calling card and wedding announcement.

Box 1, Folder 10  
**Unidentified letter 1923**  
Scope and Contents  
Photographs undated  
Group photograph of Viola, Bernard (Morrow), Elsa, and Mr. I.E. Levi. Portrait photographs of Viola.

Box 2, Folder 9  
**Bernard Morrow correspondence 1919-1921**  
"Wedding Memories" scrapbook 1921 April  
Scope and Contents  
Viola's wedding scrapbook, containing notes, clippings, guest lists, honeymoon itinerary, and photographs.

Box 3  
**Photograph albums 1923-1944**  
Scope and Contents  
Two photograph albums in which photographs of Zelinda Morrow as a baby and young girl feature prominently. Probably compiled by Viola who also featured prominently in both. Two photograph albums of Viola and family and friends.

Box 6  
**The Longfellow Year-book**  
Scope and Contents  
"A Year Book of Quotations from the writings of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow with spaces for autographs and records", annotated with notes by Viola.

Box 9  
**Bernard Morrow realia**  
Scope and Contents  
Bernard's naval epaulettes; copper engraved plate for Bernard's calling card.

Box 1, Folder 17  
**Elsa Zelinda Foley**  
Biographical / Historical  
Elsa Zelinda Foley (1904-1953), sister of Viola and daughter of W.I. and Sara Sepulveda Foley, was a singer who began her career as a young child. She often sang on the radio in Los Angeles, and made many public appearances in Los Angeles. She married Frank Carlson.

Scope and Contents  
Hand written biography; photograph of Zelinda with Viola and Rupert, and unidentified individuals.
### Zelinda Morrow 1920s-1945, undated

**Biographical / Historical**

Zelinda Morrow was the daughter of Viola Foley and Bernard Morrow, granddaughter of W.I. Foley and Sara Dolores Sepulveda, and granddaughter of Jose Dolores De Jesus Sepulveda and Maria Antonia Lugo.

**Scope and Contents**

This series consists primarily of photographs, with some clippings and other ephemera. The photographs of Zelinda range in age from infant to young woman. Included are photographs of Zelinda as a young child when she performed as a gypsy girl at the Ebell Theater in 1929.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 19</th>
<th>Photographs 1920s-1945</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Box 2, Folder 10</th>
<th>Clippings, photographs and ephemera 1928-1940, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Clippings of Zelinda as a child performer; photographs of a performance; 1 postcard; high school diploma.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5, Folder 5</th>
<th>Studio photographs</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10</th>
<th>Foley family 1850-1953, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

This series consists primarily of photographs, but also includes some letters and printed ephemera created and collected by various members of the extended Foley family. Included are items created by Zoraya Filema Foley, W.I. Foley and Sara Sepulveda Foley's eldest daughter, who died in 1911 at age 18.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10</th>
<th>Hanora Foley's Ursuline Manual (prayer book) 1850</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Inscribed "Hanora Foley/San Francisco/1856" on front flyleaf. Inside front cover is inscribed (in a different hand) "Hanora Godfrey Foley/Buried San Francisco/Mission Dolores Cemetery/1856".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10</th>
<th>Foley family [?] Catholic devotional prayer book 1862</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 12</th>
<th>Reverend William Foley 1871</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Printed letter to Reverend Foley from citizens of San Francisco regarding his trip to the city to collect funds to complete the cathedral in Cloyne, Ireland; "Oration Delivered by Rev. William Foley at the California Theater, on St. Patrick's Day, 1871".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 16, Box 9</th>
<th>Zoraya Foley 1902, 1911, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Zoraya's calling card; letter to Rupert; letter to William I.; handwritten and illustrated poem. Box 9 contains the original copper plate for Zoraya's card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 18, Box 5, Folder 2-4</th>
<th>Foley family photographs 1953, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Elizabeth Foley (Sister Mary Perfecta); Francis Foley. Unidentified individuals, presumably Foley family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 20</th>
<th>Foley family ephemera</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Calling cards for Francis Foley, Mrs. W.I. (Sara Sepulveda) Foley; invitation to the Woman's Christian Temporance Union gathering; miscellaneous printed ephemera; Irish-related items.
Foley family 1850-1953, undated

Box 1, Folder 21, Box 4, Box 5, Folder 7, Box 7, Box 8

Unidentified family photographs and photograph albums

Box 8

Commercial photographs and postcards

Embroidered silk portrait of Charles Steward Parnell, M.P.

Sepulveda family 1870-1902, undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains printed ephemera, photographs, some letters and a diary, created by various members of the Sepulveda family. Of particular note is the daily diary of Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda, which contains notations on the births of various members of the extended Sepulveda family, as well as a letter (in Spanish) from W.I. Foley to Jose Dolores de Jesus Sepulveda.

Box 10

Maria Antonia Lugo de Sepulveda prayer book 1870

Scope and Contents

Includes a small envelope encasing a lock of hair; envelope is inscribed "Your Dear Departed Mother's Hair".

Box 1, Folder 13

Death announcements for Vicente Lugo and Maria Albertina Sepulveda 1879, undated

Box 1, Folder 14

Jose Dolores Sepulveda 1884, undated

Scope and Contents

Pocket diary with entries in Spanish detailing births; letter to William I. Foley (in Spanish); 2 photographs.

Box 1, Folder 15

Albertina Sepulveda--Rupert Sepulveda [Foley] 1902 June 28

Scope and Contents

Letter to Albertina Sepulveda from Rupert Sepulveda [Foley].

Box 9

A. [Albertina?] Sepulveda handkerchiefs