

## **The Mary Ann Neeley Collection**

Processed and arranged in 2019  
Montgomery County Archives, Courthouse Annex III, Montgomery, Alabama, 36104, (334)-  
832-7173

Processed by:  
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**Collection Creator:** Mary Ann Neeley

**Collection:** The Mary Ann Neeley Collection

**Collection Dates:** ca. 1899-1985

**Collection Size:** 21 linear inches

**Abstract:** The Mary Ann Neeley Collection consists of photographs, maps, governmental records, and court transcripts related to cases tried in Montgomery County, Alabama.

**Repository:** Montgomery County Archives, Courthouse Annex III, Montgomery, Alabama, 36104, (334)-832-7173

**Reference Code:** 2018.004

**Languages and Scripts:** The entire collection is recorded in English.

**Administrative/Biographical History:** A local historian in Montgomery, Alabama, Mary Ann Neeley was born on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1932. In 1954, Neeley earned her bachelor's degrees in English and History from Huntingdon College. Shortly after earning her undergraduate degrees, Neeley earned her master's degree in history from Auburn University. After receiving her master's degree Neeley became an adjunct instructor at Huntingdon and Auburn University. In 1979, Neeley was hired as executive director of Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery. As executive director of Landmarks, Neeley worked at Montgomery's Old Town Alabama until 2003. Neeley also authored and co-authored many books about Montgomery local history, such as *Old Alabama Town: An Illustrated Guide* and *Montgomery in the 20th Century: Tradition & Change, 1880-2010 (Community Heritage)*. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Neeley passed away. Mary Ann Neeley's life work to unceasingly learn as much as possible about Montgomery history and share her knowledge with as many people as possible had a major impact on Montgomery through her numerous publications, talks, and extensive professional network. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, the City Council of Montgomery voted to rename College Street Park to Mary Ann Neeley Park in honor of Mary Ann Neeley. [1]

**Scope and Content:** The Mary Ann Neeley collection is a series of documents and photographs that focus on Montgomery and Montgomery County, Alabama. This collection contains photographs of streets in Montgomery before and during road paving projects in 1958. The collection also includes a wide and seemingly unrelated range of records related to local topics, including: documents pertaining to a murder case, real estate title opinions, scrapbooks, and family history. The collection also includes maps of the city and county of Montgomery. The collection also includes three 1920s yearbooks (1921-1923) from Montgomery, Alabama's Sidney Lanier High School. In series III, the Bryon Hayes Collection includes scrapbooks from Sidney Lanier High School and World War I, postcards of the city of Montgomery, and assorted property deeds. In series IV, the John Gindrat Correspondence and Business Paper (ca 1828-1832) contains various amounts of documents of letters and cotton sales that relate to the city of Montgomery.

**System of Arrangement:** This collection is organized into two series:

#### Series I: Bound Volumes

The bound volumes in this collection consist of records related to a murder case, real estate title opinions, and family history.

- Sub-Series 1: Maps

The maps in the Neeley Collection focus on the city of Montgomery and Montgomery County, Alabama. One pocket map, in particular, depicts the city of Montgomery in 1898.

- Sub-Series 2: Senior Issues

Series 2 contains three yearbooks from Montgomery, Alabama's Sidney Lanier High School. The yearbooks include the 1921, 1922, and 1923 issues.

#### Series II: Photographs

Series two primarily consists of photographs taken between 1952 and 1958 that document landscapes and streets before and after road construction projects in Montgomery County. In particular, the photographs depict road construction in the Highland Park, Centennial Hill, and Highland Gardens neighborhoods of Montgomery, Alabama.

#### Series III: Bryon Hayes Collection

##### Sub-series I: Scrapbooks

This sub-series consists of two scrapbooks dating to 1918-1920 created by Eugenia McGough. The Girl Graduate's Record Book is a recollection of scrapbook memories of McGough's senior

year at Sidney Lanier High School. The World War I scrapbook of Alabama soldiers, McGough collected newspaper clippings, photographs, letters, and ephemera. McGough was a sponsor appointed for the 167<sup>th</sup> regiment by William P. Screws.

#### Sub-series II: Postcards

Postcards 001-006

The postcards consist of photographs of the city of Montgomery.

#### Sub-series III: Deeds

Assorted property deeds related to Montgomery County; John Graham, Mary a Holt and E.R. Holt, and Maximilian Calm.

#### Series IV: John Gindrat Correspondence and Papers

Sub-series I: Bundled Letters, 8 folders

This sub-series consist of 8 folders of bundled letters circa 1829.

Sub-series II: Sales of Cotton, John Gindrat (in MAN's file "Cotton Documents"), 2 folders

This sub-series consist of 2 folders of cotton sales between John Gindrat and Geage Krayy (Kragg?), circa 1828.

Sub-series III: Daniel Buchanan/John Gindrat Letters (in MAN's file "Cotton Documents"), 1 folder

This sub-series consist of business letters between Daniel Buchanan and John Gindrat. These letters, circa 1830-1831.

Sub-series IV: Business Letters. 19 folders

These letters consist of business papers related to John Gindrat, circa 1829-1832.

#### Series V: Blueprints

This series contains the original blueprints of the Montgomery City-County Public Library.

**Location of Originals:** Montgomery County Archives; 116-10B ; 121

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:** The collection consist of newspapers, paper-based government files, paper-based photographs.

**Access Points:**

Montgomery (Ala.)  
Alabama  
Photographs  
School Yearbooks  
Trails  
Road maps  
Pocket maps  
Manuscripts  
Church Publicity  
Land titles  
Advisory opinions  
Road design and construction  
Scrapbooks  
Deeds  
Military  
Correspondence  
Letters

**Conditions Governing Access:** This collection does not contain any access restrictions.

**Accruals:** Future accruals are expected.

**Acquisition Info:** Donated by Mary Ann Neeley's family after her death.

**Alternative Forms:** None

**Additional Finding Aids:** None

**Appraisal Process:** The Montgomery County Archives' mission statement notes that the MCA collects non-government records, as long as they pertain to the history of Montgomery County. Throughout this process, deaccession did occur to documents that had multiple copies that are publicly available at other intuitions. The documents were appraised consisted of newspapers, maps, magazines,

**Custodial History:** These records were in possession of Mary Ann Neeley and her family until they were donated by the Neeley family to the Montgomery County Archives in 2018.

**Preferred Citation:** (Name of record cited, type of record, date of record,) Mary Ann Neeley Collection, Montgomery County Archives.

**Processing Information:** In May 2019 Montgomery County Archives intern Amanda Strength processed the collection.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:** It is presumed corporate and individual copyrights have been retained by copyright owners. Copyright restrictions apply. Users of materials should seek necessary permissions from the copyright holders to comply with U.S. copyright laws.

**Separated Materials:** None

**Bibliography:**

[1] Edwards, Brian. "Montgomery Historian Immortalized along Those She Sought to Remember." Montgomery Historian Immortalized Along Those She Sought to Remember. October 03, 2018. Accessed May 16, 2019.  
<https://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/2018/10/02/mary-ann-neeley-park-city-council-montgomery-history-richard-bailey-todd-strange/1496556002/>.

Inventory

**Series I: Bound Volumes**

Box # 1

Title Opinions 1944-1945

St. John's Episcopal Church Montgomery, Alabama

Build Me a City: The Life of Reverend Harold Purcell

The Oracle: Senior Issue 1921-1923

State of Alabama v. Grover L. McCall (Murder)

Adams, Wright and Gossett v. W.T. Robertson

Hardy Wilkins and his Descendants

Champion Map of Metropolitan Montgomery, Alabama

Pocket Map of the City of Montgomery, Alabama

Themis: Creating the Sculpture for the Fountain at the United States Courthouse

Fountain and Sculpture Proposal

**Series 2: Photographs**

Box # 2

Photographs 001-344

**Series 3: Bryon Hayes Collection**

Box#3

Sub-series I: Scrapbooks

Scrapbook I: The Girl Graduate's Record Book of Eugenia McGough

Scrapbook II: World War I scrapbook of Alabama soldiers

Sub-series II: Postcards

Postcards 001-006

Sub-series III: Deeds of John Graham, Mary a Holt and E.R. Holt, and Maximilian Calm

**Series 4: John Gindrat Correspondence and Business Papers**

Box #4

Sub-series I: Bundled Letters, 8 folders

Sub-series II: Sales of Cotton, John Gindrat (in MAN's file "Cotton Documents"), 2 folders

Sub-series III: Daniel Buchanan/John Gindrat Letters (in MAN's file "Cotton Documents"), 1 folder

Sub-series IV: Business Letters, 19 folders

**Series 5: Blueprints**

Box # 1: Montgomery City-County Public Library Blueprints [Located in vault 121]

