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Patricia McCormack papers12444665

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Repository: | Rare Book and Manuscript Library |
| Creator: | McCormack, Patricia |
| Title: | Patricia McCormack papers |
| ID: | 12444665 |
| ID: | MS#1831 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1950-2010 |
| Physical Description: | 18 linear feet 13 Record storage cartons |
| Language of the Material: | English . |

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Patricia McCormack Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Beginning in 1949 and continuing until the 1980s, McCormack wrote about domestic matters, healthcare, and home economics. Her comments discussed issues serious - "Leftover Medicine is Danger" - and not-quite-so serious - "Dumb Jock Jokes May Become Thing of Past." Opening with a sprightly and colloquial lead-in her articles usually turned to medical or professional opinion, providing readers a combination of entertainment and expert advice.

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Biographical / Historical

McCormack worked for various publications and syndicates during her career, including the International News Service, United Press International, the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, and the Greenwich Citizen.

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Biographical / Historical

"Patricia McCormack, at age 75 or thereabouts, was among my first hires as editor of the fledgling Greenwich Citizen" said founding editor Don Harrison. "Her credentials over a lengthy journalistic career were impeccable and she quickly established herself as our star reporter. Pat could be gruff on occasion, but she was an indefatigable worker and she had a warm heart."

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Biographical / Historical

An individual McCormack column might track the career of 1,258 geniuses or serve as a celebration of the humble office memo. But most often she wrote about family matters, delving into the stresses involved with creating a household in the modern world. "Infants Pull Wool Over Parents' Eyes" "Tiny Tots Fracture Language" "New Father Needn't be Fifth Wheel" "Teenagers Sound Off About Adults' Habits" - these were characteristic topics for her typewriter.

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Biographical / Historical

"McCormack's writing offers discrete spotlights on midcentury America" said Thai Jones, Herbert H. Lehman Curator for U.S. History at Columbia University's Rare Book & Manuscript Library. "Her work offers insights into the minor fascinations and nagging fears of a generation, while largely avoiding the existential threats that shadowed Cold War society. For researchers,

these papers will be a fascinating resource for investigations into journalism, gender, and domesticity."

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Summary

The Patricia S. McCormack papers - consisting of 18 linear feet of correspondence, story drafts, and printed materials - join the RBML's already-significant holdings in the history of journalism. Other important Columbia collections in this field include materials related to editors Marie Mattingly Meloney, Joseph Pulitzer, and John Oakes, as well as such journalistic organizations as the Woman's Press Club of New York City, the Overseas Press Club of America, and Committee to Protect Journalists. The library's collections also include materials collected by distinguished columnists, correspondents, and reporters, including Ernestine Evans, Walter Lippmann, Lincoln Steffens, Benjamin Stolberg, Herbert Matthews, and Harrison Salisbury.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Material is unprocessed. Boxes 1, 5, and 11 can be served without further intervention, although users should be cautious of fragile newsprint and folded proofs. Please contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Processing Information

Collection-level record describing unprocessed material made public in summer 2018 as part of the Hidden Collections initiative.

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

2013.2014.M160: Source of acquisition--Christopher P. McCormack. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--3/4/2014.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Journalism
- Journalists
- McCormack, Patricia

- United Press International

Collection Inventory

| Patricia McCormack papers - unprocessed box list, 1950-2010 | |
|--|------------------|
| Title/Description | Instances |
| Clippings, newspapers, journalistic work products, correspondence. 1980s-2000s | box 1 |
| UPI News Features (1950s-1960s), clippings, memoranda, journalistic work products, Hartford Courant | box 2 |
| UPI News Features (1960s), clippings, memoranda, journalistic work products, research materials (memoranda, brochures) | box 3 |
| Media kits, research materials, journalistic work products, "work documents," hearing transcripts, photos. 1950s-1980s | box 4 |
| Clippings, journalistic work products, drafts, research materials. 1960s-1970s | box 5 |
| Clippings, journalistic work products, drafts, research materials. 1970s-1980s | box 6 |
| Clippings, journalistic work products, research materials, correspondence. 1970s-1980s | box 7 |
| Clippings, journalistic work products, correspondence (1970s-1980s). Awards (1960s) | box 8 |
| Primarily clippings; some photographs, contact sheets, journalistic work products, 1970s | box 9 |
| Photographs, negatives, journalistic work products, clippings, newspapers. 1970s-2000s. | box 10 |
| Newspapers, clippings, journalistic work products, style guide, scrapbooks 1950s-2000s | box 11 |
| Newspapers, correspondence, press releases, research materials. 1980s | box 12 |
| 2 copies of Down to the Wire by Gordon and Cohen; 7 plaques from civic or professional origins | box 13 |

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