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Mira Edgerly Korzybska papers4079756

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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:	Korzybska, Mira Edgerly, 1872-1954
Title:	Mira Edgerly Korzybska papers
ID:	4079756
ID:	MS#0726
Date [inclusive]:	1850-1960
Physical Description:	13 linear feet 25 boxes 2 scrapbooks 19 oversized folders
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Mira Edgerly Korzybska papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Painter of portraits on ivory. She was a self-taught artist whose career as a successful and sought after portraitist took her from San Francisco to New York, London, Washington, Latin America, and Chicago. In 1919, she married Alfred Korzybski, 1879-1950 (q.v.), and worked with him to develop and promote his theories of General Semantics.

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Summary

Correspondence, manuscripts, notes, diaries, documents, photographs, audio tape recordings, printed materials, scrapbooks, and sketches and drafts of portraits. Her finished portraits

on ivory are cataloged separately for the Art Collection (q.v.). The collection includes her correspondence with friends and clients; manuscripts of her articles, lectures, and many unpublished autobiographical drafts; pencil sketches, watercolor drafts, and photoprints of her portraits on ivory; photographs of her family and travels; clippings and other printed materials; and three scrapbooks of clippings and memorabilia. There is cataloged correspondence from Arnold Genthe, S.I. Hayakawa, Karen Horney, Burges Johnson, Dwight Macdonald, and Alice B. Toklas, etc.

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Arrangement

Selected materials cataloged; remainder arranged. Collection is in 8 series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF replaced with full finding aid, YH Restrictions expiring in 2025 on boxes 17 and 18 have been lifted. kws November 2020 2025-02-21

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Papers: Source of acquisition--Charlotte Schuchardt Read. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--11/12/1987.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Scrapbook: Source of acquisition--Read, Charlotte S. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--01/19/1993. Accession number--M-93-01-19.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Papers: Source of acquisition--Read, Charlotte S. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--02/13/1996. Accession number--M-96-02-13.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Charlotte Schuchardt Read, 1987, 1993 & 1996.

Processing Information

Papers Processed HR 03/--/1990.

Processing Information

Scrapbook Processed HR 03/11/1993.

Processing Information

Papers Processed HR 05/01/1996.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Accruals

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

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Related Materials

Related Materials

See also: Art Coll\Korzybska for her finished portraits on ivory

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Controlled Access Headings

- General semantics
- Portrait miniatures
- Portrait painters
- Portraits
- Address books
- Announcements
- Appointment books
- Articles
- Audiotapes
- Autobiographies (literary works)
- Coats of arms
- Daguerreotypes (photographs)
- Diaries
- Drawings (visual works)
- Engravings (prints)
- Essays
- Financial records
- Genealogies (histories)
- Gouaches (paintings)
- Lectures
- Lists (document genres)
- Memorandums
- Miniatures (object genre)
- Notes (documents)
- Paintings (visual works)
- Pencil drawings
- Photographs
- Photographic prints

- Scrapbooks
- Visiting cards
- watercolors (painting)
- Artists
- Miniature painters
- Painters
- Women artists
- Women painters
- Genthe, Arnold, 1869-1942
- Hayakawa, S. I (Samuel Ichiyé), 1906-1992
- Horney, Karen, 1885-1952
- Johnson, Burges, 1877-1963
- Korzybski, Alfred, 1879-1950
- Macdonald, Dwight
- Toklas, Alice B

Other Finding Aids

[Legacy Finding aid](#)

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Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged correspondence, manuscript, photographs

Title/Description	Instances
Arnold Genthe (also photographs)	box 1
Hayakawa, Samuel I.	box 1
Karen Horney	box 1
Johnson, Burges	box 1
Alfred Korzybski (typescript)	box 1
Dwight Macdonald	box 1
Alice B. Toklas	box 1

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Series II: Uncataloged correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
A-C Scope and Contents Including Caroline Douglas Stewart Corbet Astley Evelyn B. Morrison-Bell, Dion S. Birney and the Everett lawsuit, Alicia and William Busser, and Josephine Osborn Coogan	box 1
D-J Scope and Contents Including David and Marian Bell Fairchild, C. Judson Herrick, Edward V. Huntington, and Burges Johnson and Miriam Jarvis Johnson Carreker	box 2
K-P Scope and Contents Including Benjamin Kimball, Mira Edgerly Korzybska to Alfred Korzybski, Amy Edgerly Lake, Kitty Gerard-Leigh, Walter N. Polakov, and Puddefoot, Bowers and Simonett, Ltd.-Ivory Merchants	box 3
Q-Z Scope and Contents Including Minnie Edgerly Russell, Mary Van Etten Ward, John William White, and unidentified letters	box 4
Correspondence between Mira E. Korzybska and her husband, Alfred Korzybski, 1920-1950	box 17
Correspondence between Mira E. Korzybska and her husband, Alfred Korzybski, 1920-1950	box 18
General correspondence, 1924-1942; undated	box 19
General correspondence, 1943-1949	box 20
General correspondence, 1950-1952	box 21
General correspondence (including her estate), 1953-1960	box 22

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Series III: Manuscripts by Mira Edgerly Korzybska

Title/Description	Instances
Autobiography: notes and drafts	box 5
Autobiography: notes and drafts	box 6

Articles and lectures	box 7
Diaries, Address books, Appointment books, and Memorandum books	box 8
Manuscripts, diaries, and notes by Mira Edgerly Korzybska, 1924-1954	box 23

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Series IV: Subject folders, lists, memoranda, notes, etc.

Title/Description	Instances
Subject folders, lists, memoranda, notes, etc.	box 9
Financial papers, 1918-1955	box 24

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Series V: Portraits by Mira Edgerly Korzybska

Scope and Contents

Watercolor drafts, pencil sketches, drafts on ivory, and photocopies. Finished paintings on ivory have been cataloged as part of the Art Collection.

Subseries V.1: Portraits, Drafts

Title/Description	Instances
Acheles, Elizabeth A.	box 10
Astley, Constance Edith Corbet Sutton (Mrs. Herbert D.)	box 10
Bell, Sir Eustace Morrison, and family	box 10
Bell, Evelyn Morrison	box 10
Morrison-Bell, Frances Isabel Logan, Lady, and daughter (possibly Daphne Frances Morrison-Bell, or Veronica Frances Morrison-Bell)	box 10
Bliss, William H.	box 10
Besselievre, Jean	box 10
Bowen, Harry S., children	box 10
Burden, Florence Adele Sloane (Mrs. James A.)	box 10
Campbell, James Alexander	box 10
Clafin, Minietta Anderson (Mrs. Arthur B.), and daughter (unable to identify full name)	box 10
Clendening, Dorothy Hixon (Mrs. Logan)	

	box 10
Coogan, Josephine Osborn (Mrs. Jay)	box 10
Cook, Mary Hood, Lady	box 10
Coulter, Helen L. S. Trevor (Mrs. Charles), and family	box 10
Crespi, Vivian Stokes Taylor, Countess	box 10
Dalhousie, John Gilbert Ramsay, 15 Earl of	box 10
Dalhousie, Mary Adelaide Heathcote-Drummond Willoughby Ramsay, Countess of	box 10
Davidson, John	box 10
Devries, Blanche	box 10
de Wolfe, Elsie (Lady Mendl)	box 10
Dodge children (of Detroit)	box 10
Drogheda, Kathleen Pelham-Burn Moore, Countess of	box 10
Drummond, Katherine Mary Antrobus (Mrs. Laurence G.), and James Arthur Lawrence Drummond (son)	box 10
Duke, Doris	box 10
Easton, Margaret Bechstein Hays (Mrs. Charles D.), and children	box 10
Elliott, Maxine	box 10
Elmhirst, Dorothy Whitney Straight, and child	box 10
Everett, Edward H., and family (See also oversize)	box 10
Fahnestock, Snowden A., Helen Moran, and family	box 10
Fell, Mildred M. Santry (Mrs. John R.), and children	box 10
Fish, Frederick S., and family	box 10
Gambrill, Anna and Diana (See also oversize)	box 10
Gann, David B.	box 10
Gardner child (of Cleveland)	box 10
Gould, Guinevere Jeanne Sinclair (Mrs. George; Oversize only)	box 10
Grasselli, Emilie Smith (Mrs. Thomas)	box 10
Grenville-Grey, Louise Monica Morrison Bell (Mrs. Cecil E.M.)	box 10
Grosvenor, Pamela, Rose, and Anita (Oversize only)	box 10
Hamilton, Nina Mary Benita Poore Douglas-Hamilton, Duchess of	box 10

Hardwicke, Edith Mary Oswald Yorke, Countess of	box 10
Hill, Alice Hale and Nathaniel P., and daughter (unable to identify full name) (See also oversize)	box 10
Hobson, Irene	box 10
Holford, Sir George Lindsay	box 10
Howe, Mary Curzon Curzon, Countess of	box 10
Iselin, Hope Goddard (Mrs. C. Oliver), and Hope Iselin (daughter)	box 10
James, Harriet Eddy Parsons (Mrs. Arthur C.) (See also oversize)	box 10
Keyser, Cassius Jackson	box 10
Kimball, Benjamin	box 10
Korzybska, Mira Edgerly (See: Self portraits)	box 10
Korzybski, Alfred	box 10
Lawrence, Shiela Burden (Mrs. Blake L.)	box 10
Leiter, Juliette Williams (Mrs. Joseph), and children	box 10
Livermore, Philip W.	box 10
Logan, Edward Townshend	box 10
Louisa Margaret, Duchess of Connaught, Princess	box 10
McLean, Evelyn Walsh (Mrs. Edward B.), and children	box 10
Magee, Florence Seeley (Mrs. John)	box 10
Manice, Harriet Ferry (Mrs. William DeF.), and children	box 11
Manners, Mildred Mary Buckworth Buchanan-Riddell (Lady Robert), and daughter (unable to identify full name)	box 11
Martinez de Udaonda, Guillermo and Elvira de	box 11
Maynard, Walter, Jr.	box 11
Merrill, Keith, children (See also oversize)	box 11
Milbank, Katharine Schulze (Mrs. Jeremiah) (Oversize only)	box 11
Millington-Drake children (Oversize only)	box 11
Mundinger, Mrs. Robert R. (unable to identify full name)	box 11
Nicholas Nicholaevitch, Grand Duke of Russia	box 11
Oglebay, Kate	box 11
Osborn, H. Fairfield, and family	box 11

Patton, Beatrice Ayer (Mrs. George S.)	box 11
Patton, George Smith (?)	box 11
Pereyra, Eugenio	box 11
Pereyra Iraola, Helena Udoando de	box 11
Perkins, Constance	box 11
Pless, Mary Theresa Olivia Cornwallis-West von Hochberg, Princess of	box 11
Plowden, Pamela	box 11
Plummer, Mrs. Richard W. (unable to identify full name), and children	box 11
Prescott, Marjorie Wiggin (Mrs. Sherburne)	box 11
Ramsay, Lady Ida Mary (Lady Ida Johnson)	box 11
Ramsay, Lady Patricia (Princess Patricia of Connaught)	box 11
Reading, Stella Charnaud Isaacs, Marchioness of (See also oversize)	box 11
Renchard, Stellita Stapleton (Mrs. George W.)	box 11
Rogers, John Middleton, and family	box 11
Rosseter, Alice Gertrude May (Mrs. John H.)	box 11
Russell, Elizabeth Sherley Shevlin (Mrs. Marshall)	box 11
Ryan, Diana Dodge Davies	box 11
Sackville-West, Vita (Lady Nicolson)	box 11
Sands, Mrs. George Winthrop (possibly Anne Aldridge Gibson or Anna "Tayo" Johnson)	box 11
Sanford, John, and family	box 11
Santamarina, Lola Acosta de	box 11
Satterlee, Louise Pierpont Morgan (Mrs. Herbert L.)	box 11
Scherlin, Betty	box 11
Selden, Muriel Wiggin (Mrs. Lynde), and estate	box 11
Sheridan, Clare Consuelo Frewen	box 11
Smith, Virginia C. and Iris A. (See also oversize)	box 11
Spreckels, Alma de Bretteville (Mrs. Adolph B.)	box 11
Stevens, Clara Sherwood Rollins (Mrs. J. Sampson)	box 11
Strafford, Robert Cecil Byng, 7th Earl of, and George Arthur Francis Byng	box 11

Strawn, Margaret Stewart (Mrs. Silas H.)	box 11
Strong, Mrs. James A. (unable to identify full name)	box 11
Sutton, Sir Richard Vincent	box 11
Thomson, Louise Schermerhorn Little	box 11
Villiers, Katherine	box 11
Walker, Sophie Florence Lothrop Sheridan (Mrs. William H.)	box 11
Ward, Mary Van Etten (Mrs. John H.), and son	box 11
Webb, Vanderbilt and Aileen Osborn	box 11
Weddell, Virginia Chase Steedman (Mrs. Alexander W.) (See also oversize)	box 11
Weinberg, Frau von, and Vera	box 11
West, Ann Sheldon	box 11
Willoughby, Lady Florence Conyngham Heathcote- Drummond	box 11
Wilson, Mary Emma Smith (Mrs. Arthur)	box 11
Winston, Mary Dowling (Mrs. Ralph T.)	box 11
Wood family (Oversize only)	box 11
Unidentified (See also oversize)	box 12
Miscellaneous drawings	box 12
Scraps and ivory fragments	box 12
Empty frame designed by Mira Edgerly Korzybska (See also oversize)	box 120

Subseries V.2: Oversize Portraits, Drafts

Title/Description	Instances
Everett, Edward H., and family	box Art- Korzybska
Gambrill, Anna and Diana	box Art- Korzybska
Gould, Guinevere Jeanne Sinclair (Mrs. George)	box Art- Korzybska
Grosvenor, Pamela, Rose, and Anita	box Art- Korzybska
Hill, Alice Hale and Nathaniel P., and daughter (possibly Isabel Hill Knott, or Gertrude H. Hill Cuthbert)	box Art- Korzybska
James, Harriet Eddy Parsons (Mrs. Arthur C.)	

	box Art-Korzybska
Merrill, Keith, children	box Art-Korzybska
Milbank, Katharine Schulze (Mrs. Jeremiah)	box Art-Korzybska
Millington-Drake children	box Art-Korzybska
Reading, Stella Charnaud Isaacs, Marchioness of	box Art-Korzybska
Smith, Virginia C. and Iris A.	box Art-Korzybska
Weddell, Virginia Chase Steedman (Mrs. Alexander W.)	box Art-Korzybska
Wood family	box Art-Korzybska
Unidentified	box Art-Korzybska
Empty frames designed by Mira Edgerly Korzybska	box Art-Korzybska

Subseries V.3: Art Collection

Scope and Contents

Among the paintings on ivory cataloged for the Art Collection are portraits of the following.

Title/Description	Instances
Besselievre, Jean	box ArtColl
Coogan, Josephine Osborn	box ArtColl
Crespi, Vivian Stokes Taylor, Countess	box ArtColl
Drogheda, Kathleen Pelham-Burn Moore, Countess of	box ArtColl
Edgerly, Rose Haskell (Mrs. Samuel H.)	box ArtColl
Elliott, Maxine	box ArtColl
Fahnestock, Helen Moran (Mrs. Snowden A.)	box ArtColl
Fahnestock, Snowden A.	box ArtColl
James, Harriet Eddy Parsons (Mrs. Arthur C.)	box ArtColl
Keyser, Cassius Jackson	box ArtColl
Kimball, Benjamin	box ArtColl
Korzybska, Mira Edgerly	box ArtColl

Leiter, Juliette Williams (Mrs. Joseph)	box ArtColl
Livermore, Philip W.	box ArtColl
Oglebay, Kate	box ArtColl
Pereyra, Iraola, Helena Udoando de	box ArtColl
Pless, Mary Theresa Olivia Cornwallis-West von Hochberg, Princess of	box ArtColl
Plowden, Pamela	box ArtColl
Plummer, Mrs. Richard W. (unable to identify full name)	box ArtColl
Rembrandt van Rijn	box ArtColl
Rogers, Lily Eleanor Arnott (Mrs. Arthur E.)	box ArtColl
Sands, Mrs. George Winthrop (possibly Anne Aldridge Gibson or Anna "Tayo" Johnson)	box ArtColl
Santamarina, Lola Acosta de	box ArtColl
Sheridan, Clare Consuelo Frewen	box ArtColl
Strawn, Margaret Stewart (Mrs. Silas H.)	box ArtColl
Strong, Mrs. James A. (unable to identify full name)	box ArtColl
Ward, Mary Van Etten (Mrs. John H.)	box ArtColl
Webb, Aileen Osborn (Mrs. Vanderbilt)	box ArtColl
Weddell, Virginia Chase Steedman (Mrs. Alexander W.)	box ArtColl

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Series VI: Photographs and Audio Recordings

Title/Description	Instances
Mira Edgerly Korzybska, family, friends, and travels	box 13
Photographs of Mira Edgerly Korzybska, family and friends	box 24

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Series VII: Printed materials

Title/Description	Instances
Clippings, periodicals, etc.	box 14
Books bearing Mira Edgerly Korzybska's notes	box 15
Clippings, pamphlets, etc.	box 25

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Series VIII: Scrapbooks	
Title/Description	Instances
1898-1954 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 Volumes	cmibox 26
circa 1850-1940 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 Volumes	box 16
1926-1941	box 312

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