



# ArchivesSpace

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## **Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer papers9559724**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

[burke@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burke@library.columbia.edu)

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
<b>Creator:</b>	Mugrauer, Bertha, 1907-1968
<b>Title:</b>	Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer papers
<b>ID:</b>	9559724
<b>Date:</b>	1950
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer was a professor at Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, and founded a chapter of Caritas, a women's religious organization including women of all races dedicated to working and living among the poor. The collection contains six microcards of Mugrauer's 1950 dissertation "A Cultural Study of Ten Negro Girls in an Alley."

### Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL10: Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer Papers, 1950, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer was a professor of sociology at Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, a member of the Commission on Human Rights (now Human Rights Commission), and the founder of Caritas, an interracial women's organization dedicated to serving the poor. Mugrauer's life work was largely devoted to fighting segregation and poverty. Born in 1907, Mugrauer grew up in Philadelphia in a relatively poor Catholic family, the daughter of a streetcar conductor. She joined but then was asked to leave the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament as a young woman. Mugrauer earned a Bachelor's degree from Loyola University in 1945 and studied at the graduate level at the Catholic University of America, earning her Master's degree in 1947 and a doctorate in 1949. Her dissertation, entitled "A

Cultural Study of Ten Negro Girls in an Alley," focuses on the social conditions of African Americans in the United States. According to the microcards in the collection, Mugrauer's dissertation was published in 1950. Mugrauer founded Caritas in New Orleans shortly after earning her doctorate. Through this women's organization, she dedicated herself to living and working among the poor regardless of race. As part of Caritas missions, Mugrauer lived and worked in New Orleans, Mexico, and Guatemala. Mugrauer died in 1968.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains six 3 by 5 inch microcards that contain Mugrauer's entire 239 page dissertation, "A Cultural Study of Ten Negro Girls in an Alley," published in 1950. Bibliographic information is included at the top of each card.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in one series in original order.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2020-07-17

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Formerly part of the independent Missionary Research Library (MRL), these records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976.

## Processing Information

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. The finding aid was created by Leanora Lange in 2012 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2020.

## Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Louisiana
- Missionaries
- Mugrauer, Bertha, 1907-1968

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## Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

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This collection consists of microcards. Access to these materials may be limited depending on availability of appropriate viewing equipment. Please contact the archives for details.

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## Burke Library record group:

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Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL10, North America

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## Collection Inventory

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### Bertha Mary Magdalen Mugrauer papers, 1950

Physical Description: 0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box

#### Arrangement

This series is arranged in original order.

#### Conditions Governing Access:

#### Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

#### Scope and Contents

This series contains six 3 by 5 inch microcards that contain Mugrauer's entire 239 page dissertation, "A Cultural Study of Ten Negro Girls in an Alley," published in 1950. Bibliographic information is included at the top of each card.

Title/Description	Instances
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"A Cultural Study of Ten Negro Girls in an Alley" microcards, 1950	box 1
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