

Baylor University . The Texas Collection

Ney-Montgomery Papers. Inclusive: 1836, 1856-1913, Bulk: 1867-1909

Summary Information

Creator	Ney, Elisabet, 1833 - 1907 Montgomery, Edmund, 1835 - 1911
Extent (quantity/size)	2 document boxes and 1 oversized box
Language	English; German; Portuguese
Abstract	The Ney-Montgomery materials consist of literary materials, manuscripts, correspondence, legal documents, and photographic materials relating to Elisabet Ney and Edmund Montgomery.

Subjects

Biology--Philosophy. / Montgomery, Edmund, 1835-1911. / Ney, Elisabet, 1833-1907. / Philosophers--Texas. / Sculptors--Texas.

Administrative Information

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Preferred Citation When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is:

Ney-Montgomery Papers, Accession #60, Box#, Folder#, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Processing Information Described by Mchelle Herbelin and released on 2013-04-03.

Scope and Content

This collection on Edmund Montgomery and Elisbeth Ney ranges from 1836 to 1913. An engraved portrait of Edmund Montgomery's natural father was received in a different transaction. Series I, consisting of Literary Productions, fills two boxes and is by far the largest series. Dr. Montgomery's writings consist of published materials as well as notebooks and manuscripts concerning his biological and philosophical theories. Elisabet Ney's literary productions consist of a travel diary from her trips to Egypt and Turkey, a notebook entitled "My Time with General Garibaldi," and two editorials. Other literary material includes various prints and a pamphlet about Walt Whitman's funeral. The photographs include images of Ney, her sculptures, and her Austin studio. The legal documents contain European passports, some of Montgomery's naturalization papers, a transcription of his father's will, and land deeds. The correspondence consists of letters to Dr. Montgomery, some in German from Ney, and a letter from the Roosevelt Rough Rider Association concerning their son Lorne, a former Rough Rider. The biographical material consists of obituaries of Elisabet Ney, biographical sketches of both Ney and Montgomery, and Ney's calling card.

Administrative/Biographical History

Elisabet Ney was born on 1833 November 26 in Westphalia (present-day Germany.) Her parents were Johann Adam, a stonecarver, and Anna Elizabeth Wernze Ney. At the age of 17, Elisabet went to Berlin to study art, a rare occurrence for a young woman of her time. She continued her studies in Munich under eminent sculptor Christian Rauch. During this period she established her reputation as a sculptor and made portrait busts and statues of many influential military, political, and intellectual figures throughout Europe. A passport from her travels is included in the collection. Elisabet became close friends with Scottish physician Edmund Montgomery while in Italy. They were married in Madeira on 1863 November 7, but Elizabeth continued to use her maiden name for the rest of her life. They would have two children. Their son, Lorne Ney-Montgomery, survived to adulthood; their daughter died in childhood. In 1870, Ney and Montgomery moved from Germany to the United States, first settling in Georgia and later in Texas. They settled in Hempstead, eventually purchasing the Liendo Plantation. Her most famous work in Texas includes statues of Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston on display in the State Capitol, a statue of Albert Sidney Johnston at the Texas State Cemetery, and portrait busts of several governors. The Texas Fine Arts Association was established in her honor after her death on 1907 June 29. Her Austin studio is now a museum dedicated to her artwork, and this collection includes several photographs of the studio.

Edmund Duncan Montgomery was born on 19 March 1835 in Edinburgh, Scotland, the son of Scottish noble Duncan McNeill and Isabella Davidson Montgomery. He was reared by his mother in Paris and Germany, at the age of 13 participating in the 1848 uprising in Prussia. He studied medicine in Germany, receiving his M.D. in 1858. He established a reputation for himself as a scientist and philosopher, and numerous essays were published in the leading journals of the day. His biological research fed into his philosophy, and his publications include titles such as *Philosophical Problems in the Light of Vital Organization* and "The Vitality and Organization of Protoplasm." Numerous manuscripts of his essays and speeches are included in the collection. He survived Elisabet by almost four years, dying on 1911 April 17.

Related Resources

Related citations

Emily F. Cutrer, "NEY, ELISABET," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fne26>), accessed March 18, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Loggins, Vernon. *Two Romantics and Their Ideal Life*. New York: Odyssey Press, 1946.

I. K. Stephens, "MONTGOMERY, EDMUND DUNCAN," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmo10>), accessed March 17, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Taylor, Bride Neill. "Elisabet Ney, Sculptor." *The Open Court* XXI, no. 10 (October 1907): 592-608.

Archival Arrangement

The Ney-Montgomery Papers were organized previous to this finding aid, with much of the original order kept. The collection was inventoried but was not described through a finding aid. Currently, the Ney-Montgomery Papers are arranged in five series: Series I: Literary Productions, Subseries 1: Edmund Montgomery, Subseries 2: Elisabet Ney, Subseries 3: General; Series II: Correspondence; Series III: Photographic Materials; Series IV: Legal Documents; Series V: Biographical Materials.

Series 1: Literary Productions. 1856-1896, undated

Administrative/Biographical History

Series I consists of the manuscripts, notebooks, and published materials of Dr. Edmund Montgomery, those of Elisabet Ney, and general literary productions.

Series 2: Correspondence. 1863(copy)-1913

Administrative/Biographical History

Series II consists of correspondence in English, German, and Portuguese concerning Dr. Edmund Montgomery, Elisabet Ney, and a letter concerning their son Lorne Montgomery.

Item List

Box 3. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1863-1902, 1863(copy)-1902
Box 3. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1906-1913, 1906-1913

Series 3: Photographic Materials. 1836-1899, undated

Summary Information

Extent (quantity/size)	One folder in oversized.
Media	Photographic print; Portrait photograph; Postcards

Administrative/Biographical History

Series III consists of photographic materials of Elisabet Ney, her studio and sculptures, and various people and places.

Item List

Box 3. Folder 5. General, undated
Box 3. Folder 6. Portrait Photographs of Elisabet Ney, undated
Box 3. Folder 7. Studio of Elisabet Ney, 1 of 2, 1893, undated
Box 3. Folder 8. Studio of Elisabet Ney, 2 of 2, 1899, undated
Box 3. Folder 9. Works of Elisabet Ney, 1 of 3, undated
Box 3. Folder 10. Works of Elisabet Ney, 2 of 3, undated
Box 3. Folder 11. Works of Elisabet Ney, 3 of 3, undated
Box 4 OVZ. Folder 1. Oversized Materials, 1836, undated

Series 4: Legal Documents. 1869-1909

Administrative/Biographical History

Series IV consists of legal documents including European passports, documents in German, naturalization papers, a transcription of the will of Dr. Montgomery's natural father, and a land deed.

Item List

Box 3. Folder 12. Legal Documents, 1869-1878, 1869-1878
Box 3. Folder 13. Legal Documents, 1879-1909, 1879-1909
Box 4 OVZ. Folder 2. "Extracts from Lord Colonsay's Settlement", 1871

Series 5: Biographical Materials. 1907, undated

Administrative/Biographical History

Series V consists of biographical materials including sketches of both Elisabet Ney and Edmund Montgomery, Elisabet Ney's calling card, and newspaper clippings about Elisabet Ney's death.

Item List

Box 3. Folder 14. General Biographical Materials, 1907, undated