Sailer-Holmes Family Papers  
(CG0069)

Collection Number: CG0069

Collection Title: Sailer-Holmes Family Papers

Dates: 1865-2006

Creator: Holmes, Mary E. (1920-2008)

Abstract: The Sailer-Holmes Family Papers contains personal papers, correspondence, and photographs collected by three generations of the family mainly in the cities of Cape Girardeau and Rolla, Missouri.

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic feet  
(2 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English and German.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center - Cape Girardeau. If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shs.mo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The donor has given and assigned to the State Historical Society of Missouri all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the State Historical Society from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Sailer-Holmes Family Papers (CG0069); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mark C. Stauter on November 17, 2022 (Accession No. CGA0064).

Processed by: Processed by Erika Kemp, May 2023.

Historical Note:
Emma Johanna Rabich (also Stodtmeister) was born on May 6, 1860 or 1861, in Missouri to German immigrants Heinrich Wilhelm Rabich and Johanna Hartman Rabich. She wed Wilhelm Johann Sailer, also known as William J. Sailer, in 1886. They had two children, Edith Louise Holmes (1888-1981) and Edward Louis Sailer (1892-1963). Emma died on April 24, 1947, at age 86. She resided in Cape Girardeau, Missouri for her entire life.

Edith Louise Sailer worked as a public-school teacher in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. She wed Oliver Wendell Holmes (1885-1940) in 1916 and moved to Blackwell, Oklahoma. Oliver Wendell Holmes and Edward Louis Sailer, her brother, were both graduates of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy. They had three children: Sarah Joan Katz (1918-1966), Mary Edith Holmes (1920-2008), and William Oliver “Bill” Holmes (1925-2009). By the birth of their son, the Holmes family had relocated to Rolla, MO. She died on January 9, 1981, at age 93.

Mary Edith Holmes attended Southeast Missouri State Teachers College in Cape Girardeau, Missouri and graduated in 1941. She wed Nicholas Mushovic (1918-2002) in 1943 and resided in Peoria, Illinois for a short time. By 1950, she separated or divorced from Mushovic and moved back to Rolla, Missouri to live with her mother. At that time, she was working as a secretary for the U.S. Geological Survey. She had no children and passed away on April 8, 2008, at age 87.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

**Personal Papers and Correspondence**

**Photographs**

**Scope and Content Note:**

**Personal Papers and Correspondence**

This series contains materials related to the personal papers and correspondence of Emma Johanna Rabich/Stodtmeister, Edith Louise Sailer, and Mary Edith Holmes. Materials were mainly collected in Cape Girardeau and Rolla, Missouri between 1865 and 2006. Included are pressed flowers that were enclosed in the marriage announcement of Edith Sailer and Oliver Wendell Holmes.

**Photographs**

This series consists of a photograph negative, a tintype photograph, and two photograph postcards. One postcard is dated to 1939, and the other items are undated.

**Container List:**

- f. 1  Personal Papers and Correspondence (1865-2006)
- f. 2  Photographs (1939, n.d.)

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