



**Noelle Louise Soren Papers
(K0525)**

Collection Number: K0525

Collection Title: Noelle Louise Soren Papers

Dates: 1904-2008

Creator: Soren, Noelle Louise

Abstract: The papers contain research notes, photographs, correspondence, architectural drawings, and other materials related to Noelle Soren's research into the theater building careers of Carl and Robert Boller, known as the Boller Brothers. The results of her research culminated into her two-volume book, *Windows to Wonderland: The Cinespace Creations of the Boller Brothers, Architects*.

Collection Size: 3.84 cubic feet
(260 folders, 4 rolled items)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

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-Kansas City](http://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the Society 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 Society from others.

Copyright retained by the Donor for the published work *Windows to Wonderland: The Cinespace Creations of the Boller Brothers, Architects*, two-volume set.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Noelle Louise Soren Papers* (K0525); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Noelle Soren on September 24, 2008 (Accession No. KA1658).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Noelle Louise Soren Papers can be found in the following collections:

Alfred Edward Barnes Jr. Architectural Collection (K0004)

Missouri Valley Chapter-Society of Architectural Historians Architectural Records (K0006)

Boller Brothers Architectural Records (K0065)

John T. Delich Collection (K0592)

Processed by: Processed by Rachel Forester, October 2017

Historical Note:

Noelle Louise Schattyn grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1963, after graduating high school, Soren enrolled in the Central Methodist College in Fayette, Missouri, and majored in Spanish. Soren would later enroll at the University of Missouri-Columbia in the classical archaeology program under the tutelage of Professor Saul Weinberg.

In 1967, during the summer of her senior year, Soren joined an archeological team, made up of over 250 students from all over the world, digging Roman remains under Winchester Cathedral in Winchester, England. There she met her future husband, David Soren, from Dartmouth College. Later that year, Soren graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a degree in Anthropology. In December of that same year, she married David Soren.

After David graduated from Dartmouth, he was offered a scholarship at Harvard in classical archaeology. In 1972, David received his doctoral degree from Harvard, and took an appointment in the University of Missouri-Columbia's department of anthropology. This offered Noelle an opportunity to continue her education, earning a master's degree in 1977 in art history and archaeology with an emphasis in late Roman/early Christian art and architecture and architectural history from the University of Missouri-Columbia. While living in Columbia, Missouri, Noelle was employed as a historic landmark architecture specialist for the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Missouri.

Since their marriage in 1967, Noelle and David have participated in numerous archeological excavations in Turkey, Tunisia, Cyprus, Portugal, and Italy. Soren served as an archaeological assistant, conservator, technical illustrator, and photographer for a number of these archaeological excavations. In addition, Soren was also a tour planner, lecturer, and escort for the American Museum of Natural History, the Archaeological Institute of America, and other groups on over thirty tours and cruises all around the Mediterranean.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following four series with twenty-three subseries:

Research Files

Boller Research Files

Manuscript Notes

Architectural Drawings

Scope and Content Note:**Research Files**

The series consists of correspondence, newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, and other information pertaining to the theaters constructed by the Boller Brothers within a specific state and city. There are twenty-three subseries within the series that correlate to individual states where theaters were built. These files were arranged alphabetically by state and then by city by the file's creator, Noelle Soren. Folders 24-25 pertain to theaters constructed by the Boller Brothers in Canada. In addition, note that the dates are not all inclusive.

Boller Research Files

The series consists of biographical information, particularly on Robert Boller, correspondence, both from the Boller family and from Noelle Soren's research into the family, and photocopied photographs of the family. Additional materials include a death certificate for Carl Henry Boller, dated 1946, and military enlistment and honorable discharge records for Robert Boller, dated 1919. Of particular interest is a short story entitled, "Turning the Blues into Bluebirds," written by Mrs. Robert C. Boller in 1932. The short story tells of the personal experiences of the family during the prosperous 1920s and the family's financial misfortunes during the Great Depression. Mrs. Boller had submitted the short story to the *Ladies Home Journal*.

Manuscript Notes

The series contains Noelle Soren's fact sheets for each theater utilized in the writing of her book *Windows to Wonderland: The Cinespace Creations of the Boller Brothers, Architects*. The materials within this series were arranged alphabetically by state and then by city by the file's creator, Noelle Soren.

Architectural Drawings

The series consists of four sets of drawings for theaters designed by the Boller Brothers. These theaters include the Electric Theater, Theatre Emporia, and the Fox Theater, all of Kansas, and the Colony Theater with an unknown location. The drawings have been arranged chronologically by the processor.

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- Date no date

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- Location 546 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, Kansas
- Architect Boller Brothers
- Date 1922

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