



Mary Anne Sell Diaries and Social Calendars (S0054)

Collection Number: S0054

Collection Title: Mary Anne Sell Diaries and Social Calendars

Dates: 1941-1944

Creator: Pernoud, Mary Anne Sell, 1927-2017

Abstract: The Mary Anne Sell Diaries and Social Calendars consist of microfilmed diaries and social calendars owned by Mary Anne Sell Pernoud, a high school student and St. Louis socialite that attended Villa Duchesne high school during the mid-20th century.

Collection Size: (1 roll of microfilm)

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-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Mary Anne Sell Diaries and Social Calendars* (S0054). The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Mary Ann Sell Pernoud on February 16, 1981 (Accession No. SA2372).

Existence and Location of Originals: Mary Ann Seel Pernoud loaned her diaries and social calendars to the University of Missouri for microfilming. The current location of the originals is unknown.

Processed by: Processed by Reilly McDonald and AJ Medlock, August 16, 2023

Historical Note:

Mary Anne Sell was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 18, 1927, to S.E. James Sell (1878-1954) and Anne M. Sell (1896-1988). She was born into a prominent, wealthy family and attended Villa Duchesne, a private Roman Catholic high school in St. Louis, for her secondary education. During this time, Sell kept an active social life. As recorded in frequent diary entries, she often attended social outings such as basketball games, shopping trips, horseback rides, cotillion balls, and visits to the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Sell also kept a record of activities related to her education, including course examinations, festivals, clubs, and writing contests, for which she earned top marks.

Mary Anne Sell graduated from Villa Duchesne in 1944 and, in August 1948, married Michael Frank Pernoud (1919-1993), an ophthalmologist and Saint Louis University graduate. The two were wed on July 31, 1948, in a ceremony held at the Saint Louis Cathedral with several hundred guests in attendance. Following their marriage, the couple relocated to Frontenac, Missouri. They had three children, Michael J. Pernoud (1949-), Gregory J. Pernoud (1951-), Maure P. Bauer (1952-), and Maryanne P. Lottes (1953-2021). Mary Anne Sell Pernoud died at the age of ninety on July 15, 2017.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into a single series in chronological order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains two microfilmed diaries and three social calendars owned by Mary Anne Sell. Topics of interest include Villa Duchesne and the mid-20th century St. Louis social scene. The materials provide insight into the life of a young, wealthy St. Louis high school student during the mid-20th century, including school events, social outings, family affairs, and romantic endeavors. Diary entries of note include multiple accounts of dates with a young Thomas Anthony Dooley III, an American physician who gained national recognition for his humanitarian efforts, establishing hospitals in Laos and co-founding the Medical International Cooperation Organization, which dedicated itself to establishing hospitals in foreign countries, including Southeast Asia. The collection dates from 1941 to 1944 and is arranged chronologically.

Container List:

Microfilm roll 1	v. 1-2	Diary, 1941-1942
	v. 3-5	<i>Social Capers</i> calendar, 1942-1944

Index:

Index Terms	Medium
Catholic schools--Missouri--Saint Louis--History	v.1-5
Dating (social customs)--Missouri--Saint Louis--20th Century	v.1-5
Dooley, Thomas A. (Thomas Anthony), 1927-1961	v.1-2, 3-4

Index Terms	Medium
Pernoud, Michael Frank, 1919-1988	v.1
Pernoud, Mary Anne Sell, 1927-2017	v.1-5
Private schools--Missouri--Saint Louis--History	v.1-5
Saint Louis (Mo.)--History--20th Century	v.1-5
Saint Louis (Mo.)--Social life and customs--20th Century	v.1-5
Teenage girls--Family relationships--Missouri--Saint Louis--20th century	v.1-5
Teenage girls--Social life and customs--Missouri--Saint Louis--20th century	v.1-5
Villa Duchesne (Saint Louis, Mo.)	v.1-5