

Nell Murbarger holdings at the Costa Mesa Historical Society

This summary was provided by Mary Ellen Goddard, Archivist, Costa Mesa Historical Society, in an email on January 29, 2025.

We have both a large (67) collection of processed Nell's materials, and a smaller collection -- delivered over a number of years and only a small amount is processed (13 BIG boxes) -- of Nell's materials.

First, we have diaries from the time she was about 11 until 1979 and was no longer able to write. We have other biographical material, photos, correspondence, records, clippings on Nell and her mother. We have personal scrapbooks, travel journals, travel photos. In the unprocessed collection there are materials (I believe) from her trip with her mother in the 50's. She wrote a book about it, took lots of photos etc. ("30,000 miles in Mexico"). Some of this is processed -- a few of the photos which are 2-1/2 x 2-1/2 inch slides. We have 13 boxes of these (large boxes).

We have some of her manuscripts, "Memoirs of a Black Sheep," "Sod Buster," "Exploration of San Clemente Island," and photos of same, some of her books, lots of clippings and other materials on Orange County, 13 CA counties, Riverside Co., San Bernardino Co., Imperial Co., Texas, Washington and the Old West, Death Valley, Big Bear, White Mountains.

We have only 2 boxes of Native American artifacts.