

# Roberts Family Collection

Collection # 7.005

Finding Aid prepared by Rebecca Damptz, CA



## DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Prepared July 2017

## COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Collection Number:** 7.005

**Collection Title:** Roberts Family Collection

**Dates:** c. 1890-1950

**Size:** 2 boxes (1 linear ft.)

**Creator/Collector:** Mabel and Eugene Roberts

**Acquisition Information:** Transferred from Macon County History Museum by Nathan Pierce, Director of MCHM, 2017.

**Accruals:** No accruals are expected.

**Custodial History:** Materials originally donated to the Macon County History Museum.

Materials were transferred to the Archives and Special Collections department at Decatur Public Library in June 2017.

**Languages:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** Local History Room, Archives and Special Collections Department, Decatur Public Library, Decatur, Illinois.

**Processed By:** Rebecca Damptz CA, 2017

**Conservation Notes:** Not applicable.

## RIGHTS AND ACCESS

### Physical Access Restrictions

None

### Technical Access Restrictions

None

### Publication Rights

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## INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

### Preferred Citation

[item identification], [collection title], [collection number], Decatur Public Library, Department of Archives and Special Collections, Decatur, Illinois.

### Related Collections

None.

### Separated Material

None.

### Published Descriptions

Not applicable

**Location of Originals**

Not applicable

**Location of Copies**

Photos added to Omeka.

**Publication Note**

Not applicable

**Subject Headings**

Mabel (Grubbs) Roberts, Eugene R. Roberts, Decatur IL

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

This collection features materials from Mabel and Eugene R. Roberts' family.

Mabel and Eugene married in 1921, and lived in Decatur for most of their lives. Mabel was the daughter of Leonard S. Grubbs and Ida Maddox, and was born around 1898. She graduated from Decatur High School, and attended Millikin Conservatory. She worked for the Decatur Daily Review, and as a stenographer at the Wabash Railroad.

Eugene was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, and was a high school basketball star and boxing champion. During World War I, he enlisted in the Navy and became a Gunner's Mate on the U.S.S. Avocet. This ship was a mine sweeper, and at one time, was stationed off the Scotland. In 1919, Gene's duties aboard the ship were primarily to explode mines that could not be salvaged.

After Gene and Mabel were married, they lived at 1985 W. Forest Ave. They had one son, Eugene Kent Roberts, who also joined the Navy, and married Carol Jayne Gregory in 1958.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains photographs, diplomas, and yearbooks from the Roberts family. The collection is 1 linear foot, and includes biographical information on the family.

The collection was originally donated to the Macon County History Museum, but upon further review, the Director there thought the collection would be a better fit for the library's Local History collection. There did not appear to be any sort of order to the collection, so it was organized with the researcher in mind

**COLLECTION INVENTORY**

**I. Biographical Information**

This series contains information on the Roberts family.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
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Roberts Family Collection (7.005)

Biography	Box 1	ff. 1
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**II. Education**

The series contains diplomas and commencement information for the Roberts family.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Mabel Grubb's High School Commencement		ff. 2
Mabel Grubb's Elementary School Diploma		ff. 3
Mabel Grubb's High School Diploma		n/a
Eugene R. Roberts' High School Diploma		n/a

**III. Photographs**

The series contains photographs of the Roberts family, including a photo album with various photos.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Photo album #1		ff. 4
Photo album #2		ff. 5
Photos		ff. 6
Photo of woman with horse		n/a
Photo of woman on horseback		n/a
Photo of Eugene R. Roberts		n/a

**IV. Books**

The series contains yearbooks, handbooks, and school books pertaining to the Roberts family.

Folder Name	Box #
1917 Decatur High School yearbook	
The Observer Commencement June 1917	
Fragments and Fantasies (1950)	
Fragments and Fantasies (1952)	
Tractor Owner's Record with news clippings	
DHS Directory '49-'50	