



Guide to the Syphus-Bunker Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Syphus, Mary Etta, 1871-1895
Creator:	Bunker, John Mathieson, 1870-1946
Title:	Syphus-Bunker Papers
ID:	MS-00169
Date [inclusive]:	1891-1994
Date [bulk]:	1891-1895
Physical Description:	1.65 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Physical Description:	1.5 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Syphus-Bunker Papers date from 1891 to 1994, with the majority of the collection consisting of correspondence between Mary Etta Syphus and John Mathieson Bunker from 1891 to 1895. The collection also contains correspondence from friends and relatives, and documentation related to Mary Etta Syphus' attendance at Brigham Young Academy Church Normal Training School. Other materials include family history information and two color photographs of family homes. The collection also includes typed transcripts of the correspondence.

Preferred Citation

Syphus-Bunker Papers, 1891-1994. MS-00169. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Mary Etta Syphus (1871-1895) was born January 5, 1871 one of ten children born to Luke and Christiana Syphus. Luke and Christiana converted to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) and left England to settle in Utah. After a series of moves, the family settled in Panaca, Nevada in 1867. Mary Etta Syphus attended Brigham Young Academy Church Normal

Training School and graduated in 1893. She taught school in Panaca intermittently between 1892 and 1895. She married John Mathieson Bunker in the St. George, Utah Temple on September 12, 1895. Mary Etta Syphus Bunker passed away just two months later on November 30, 1895 in St. Thomas, Nevada.

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Biographical

John Mathieson Bunker (1870-1946) was born September 12, 1870 to Edward Bunker and Mary M. McQuarrie in Santa Clara, Utah. In 1877, the Bunker family moved to the Virgin Valley of Nevada and settled in what became known as Bunkerville. John Mathieson Bunker lived and worked in the mines of El Dorado Canyon, Nevada. He attended the Agricultural College of Utah in Logan, Utah for one year. He married Mary Etta Syphus in the St. George, Utah Temple on September 12, 1895. After her passing on November 30, 1895, John Mathieson Bunker served a mission to the Southern United States from 1896-1899. He married Eloise Turnbaugh in 1906 and fathered six children. He passed away on July 31, 1946.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Syphus-Bunker Papers date from 1891 to 1994, with the majority of the collection consisting of correspondence between Mary Etta Syphus and John Mathieson Bunker from 1891 to 1895. Much of their correspondence is from 1891 and 1892, while Bunker lived and worked in El Dorado Canyon, Nevada, and Syphus lived in Panaca, Nevada. In later years, the two corresponded while Bunker was in Logan, Utah, and Syphus attended the Brigham Young Academy Church Normal Training School. The collection also contains correspondence from friends and relatives, and documentation related to Mary Etta Syphus' attendance at Brigham Young Academy Church Normal Training School. Other materials include family history information and two color photographs of family homes. The collection also includes typed transcripts of the correspondence.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1977 and 1983; accession numbers 1977-95 and 1983-063.

Processing Note

In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, John A. Heldt processed the collection and he and Angela Moor entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resource may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Levi Walter Syphus Papers, 1889-1930. MS-00228. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Panaca (Nev.)
- Mormons
- Women
- Pioneer (Nev.)
- Correspondence

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Correspondence between Mary Etta Syphus and John M. Bunker, correspondence to Mary Etta Syphus from friends and family, invitations and announcements, 1891-1895, 1947	box 01
"History of George Burton Whitney and Lovina Syphus, his wife, and Luke Syphus and Christiana Long, Lovina's Parents," photocopy, undated	box 01
Correspondence about transcription of correspondence, 1977	box 01
Two color photographs of Syphus home in Panaca, Nevada, approximately 1973	box 02
Transcribed copies of correspondence, undated	box 02
Family Group Record-568, Syphus Family, printout, 1992 January 06	box 02