

TITLE: Julia Elsing Manuscript Collection

DATE RANGE: 1919

CALL NUMBER: MS 235

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 Box, .25 linear feet

PROVENANCE: Donated by Anne Diener in December 1991

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RESTRICTIONS: There are no restrictions on this collection.

CREDIT LINE: Arizona Historical Society-Tucson, MS 235 – Julia Elsing Collection

PROCESSED BY: This collection was processed in 1992 by Joanne Callender under the supervision of Rose Byrne, Acting Head of the Archives Department.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

A native Arizonan, Julia Elsing Fuller, was born in Bisbee, Arizona, where her father, Morris Elsing, was a mining engineer for Phelps Dodge. When she was very young, the family moved to Mexico where her father was employed in developing copper mines at Cananea. She finished high school in Bisbee later, however, and by 1928 her father had moved to Tucson and was a consulting engineer here until he retired. Julia went on to higher learning at Mills College in Oakland, California, later taking graduate work at Washington University in St. Louis. She got her first real taste of social work with the Organized Charities, Tucson's first major social service organization. When the depression hit, Organized Charities went under and public welfare took over the work. Julia went to work as a case supervisor. She and her husband, the late Reed Fuller of Wisconsin, who was an accountant, started a collection on Arizona history, consisting mainly of books. Julia first became associated with the Red Cross, when she started working for them during World War II. After training in Washington, D.C., Mrs. Fuller was assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB for her first Red Cross duties. She came to the Tucson chapter as home service director, becoming manager in 1954.

Her mother was Celestine Elsing, her sister was Mary Elsing, and her brother was William Elsing, a Phoenix attorney.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

This collection consists of one box (one-twelfth linear foot) containing a thirty-two page diary (eighteen sheets) handwritten by Julia Elsing, age eleven, in 1919.

The diary describes the auto trip taken from Los Angeles, California, to her home, Bisbee, Arizona in late November. She describes the weather (cold, rain, snow), the roads (unpaved,

muddy), river crossings (being pulled by mules), getting stuck in the mud crossing a river, Thanksgiving dinner on the road, restaurant and overnight accommodations for this seven-day trip for her family of five. Julia's father, Morris Elsing, was a mining engineer for Phelps Dodge in Bisbee.

CONTAINER LIST:

Box	Folder	Description	Dates
1		Series 1, Diary	1919
	1	Handwritten diary of automobile trip from Los Angeles to Bisbee, November 26, 1919 to December 2, 1919.	1919
	2	Photocopy of the above diary	1919