



Guide to the Jeanette Reid Healy Papers, 1920-1922

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Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	3
Administrative Information	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary

Collection Title:

Jeanette Reid Healy papers, 1920-1922

Abstract:

Diaries from Jeanette Reid Healy's honeymoon, 1920-1922, kept as she and her husband Augustine Healy traveled around the world. Countries visited include Japan, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, India, Pakistan, and Kenya. Includes 169 photographs of the couple's safari in Kenya, including images of William Judd, their guide.

Extent:

1.0 Linear Feet

Language:

English

Language:

Materials in English

Collection ID:

RL.11092

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/healyjeanette/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Jeanette Reid Healy Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

Diaries of Jeanette Reid Healy, of Chicago, Ill., describing her two-and-a-half-year honeymoon with husband Augustine Healy touring Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, India, Pakistan, and Kenya, principally describing the tourist sights and places they visited. Jeanette includes her impressions of the local landmarks, temples, museums, scenery, and people, often describing native dress, hairstyles, and

appearances. The Healys were passionate hunters, particularly Augustine, so the diaries include detailed descriptions of their tiger and bear hunting in India, as well as their three-month African safari with extensive big game hunting of elephants, lions, rhinoceros, and large deer. They were guided by William Judd; a clipping of his death notice is included. Included are 169 photographs from their safari, as well as the diaries' original book sleeve, bound in zebra skin.

Biographical/Historical

Jeanette Reid Healy married Augustine (Gus) Healy on April 28, 1920, in Chicago. The couple then took a two year honeymoon trip around the world (1920-1922). New York Passenger Lists record that the couple returned to New York on Dec. 27, 1922.

According to Augustine's 1920 passport application for the trip, he was born in Chicago on Dec. 17, 1894. He was 26 when he married Jeanette. He served in the U.S. Army during World War I, and was stationed in France. At the time of their honeymoon, in 1920, he was a businessman.

Jeanette Reid Healy was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 18, 1891, to parents William J. Reid and Jeanie Lockard. She was 29 when she married Augustine.

After the conclusion of their wedding trip, the couple became interested in equine sport, particularly foxhunting. In 1923 they built Firleigh Farms, a winter foxhunting retreat in Moore County, North Carolina. They appear to have split their time between Chicago and North Carolina. The 1930 census shows that they lived in Moore County, where Augustine's occupation was listed as "farmer." The Healys were leaders in the Moore County Hounds hunting club, which formally incorporated as the Moore County Company, Inc., in 1929. Augustine Healy conveyed Firleigh Farms to Jeanette Reid Healy in 1934, presumably as part of the couple's divorce settlement. She continued to live at least part-time at Firleigh Farms for the duration of her life. Augustine Healy remarried twice: Eulalia Sceeley (married 1939, divorced 1957) and Harriet Pardridge Healy, his brother's widow (married 1957). According to his death certificate, Augustine died on February 2, 1975 in Palm Beach, Florida; he was survived by his wife, a son, and two grandchildren. According to Jeanette's death certificate, she died on November 19, 1961 in Southern Pines, North Carolina. She had no children.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Acquisition Information

The Jeanette Reid Healy Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 1965.

Processing Information

Processed by Meghan Lyon, November 2015

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Safaris -- Kenya -- History -- 20th century
- Kenya -- Description and travel
- India -- Description and travel
- Japan -- Description and travel
- Kenya -- Description and travel
- China -- Description and travel -- 18th Century
- Hong Kong (China) -- Description and travel
- Women travelers
- Women travelers -- Diaries
- Healy, Augustine
- Judd, William C. (Bill)

Collection Inventory

Vol 1, 1920 May 6-1920 Dec. 18 (online item available)

Box 1

Digital Object: [Jeanette Reid Healy diary, May 1920-December 1920](#)

Scope and Contents

Contains Healy's description of the couple's tour of Japan, from May through October 1920. Includes her visit to the following places, among others: Yokohama, Tokyo, Kawakura, Matsushima, Aomori, Sappora, Nikko, Nagano, Mt. Fuji, Nara, Kyoto, and Kobe. Healy writes about her encounters with various aspects of Japanese culture and people, particularly geisha, public baths and onsen spas, cuisine, kimonos, Mikimoto pearls, temples, and the Ainu people.

The couple left Japan for Korea on Oct. 5, 1920. They spent time in Seoul, visiting with the YMCA hospital and colleges there. Healy also writes about attending a baseball game, and summarizes her interactions with various members of the Korean Independence Movement, including the Radical and Conservative independence parties.

They left Korea after about a week and went to Peking, China, arriving Oct. 11, 1920. Healy writes about visiting the Temple of Heaven, the Western and Ming Tombs, the Great Wall, and Taianfu. They set up a house near the Marine base and lived in Peking for about a month. She describes the process of establishing a house with servants. Finally, the couple departed for Manila at the end of 1920, arriving Dec. 15. The volume ends on Dec. 18, 1920.

Vol. 2, 1920 Dec. 19-1921 Apr. 25 (online item available)

Box 1

Digital Object: [Jeanette Reid Healy diary, December 1920-April 1921](#)

Scope and Contents

The diary is labeled "Jeanette Reid Healy, Pekin, Nov. 1920," but actually begins with an entry from Dec. 19, 1920, while the couple is in Hong Kong. Healy's entries in Hong Kong frequently mention playing golf and shopping. They also took a side trip to Macao before leaving for Saigon on Jan. 6, 1921.

Their trip to Saigon was largely centered around planning a trip to Angkor Wat. The Healys traveled to Phnom Penh on Jan. 9, 1921, and toured the palace of Sisovah I before heading to Siem Reap and the temples of Angkor. Healy writes about visiting Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, and Ta Prohm.

Later in January the couple went to Bangkok, Thailand, and toured the temples there, and then toured Johar Bahru, Singapore, and Penang in Malaysia. Healy describes acquiring a Hindu slave; it is unclear how long he accompanied the couple.

The couple arrived in Darjeeling, India on Feb. 20, 1921, and then traveled through Tibet and the Kanchenjunga mountains. Healy writes about seeing Mt. Everest, as well as hunting and hiking in the region. They visited the following places: Gangtok, Kalimpong, Ghat, Agra and the Taj Mahal, Delhi, Kalka, and Srinagar in the Kashmir Valley. The volume ends on Apr. 25, 1921.

Vol. 3, 1921 May 15-1921 Nov. 21 (online item available)

Box 1

Digital Object: [Jeanette Reid Healy diary, April 1921-November 1921](#)

Scope and Contents

The volume is titled "Jeanette Reid Healy, Srinagar, Apr. 1921," and begins with an entry dated May 15, 1921. This volume describes the Healys' journeys around India and Pakistan, including the following places: Kuari Pass, Deosai Plains, Shizar, Khalatse, Himis, Nimu, Leh, Nurla, Kharbu, Pahalgam, Bawar, Bemi Sama, Kanabal, the Pir Panjal mountain range, and ending in Peshawar. The majority of the diary discusses their travel conditions, with some description of Augustus's hunting expeditions for ibex, bear, marmots, and red fox (of which he was largely unsuccessful). While in Bemi Sama, the couple participated in a bear beating: villagers beat the brush and forest, driving the bear toward the hunters. Healy describes this event in great detail. The volume ends on Nov. 21, 1921.

Vol. 4, 1921 Nov. 22-1922 Oct. 6 (online item available)

Box 1

Digital Object: [Jeanette Reid Healy diary, November 1921-October 1922](#)

Scope and Contents

The volume's first entry is Nov. 22, 1921, in Srinagar, Kashmir. Locations visited between November 1921 and June 1922 include: Peshawar, Tope, Bhopal, Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore, Mysore, Srinangapatna, Ooty, Kadur, and Madras. While in Ooty, Augustus went on several tiger hunts, but was unsuccessful. Healy also describes visiting the museum in Bangalore. While in Madras, the couple toured tea plantations, the jungle, gardens, and visited the city's museums and aquarium. They sailed from Bombay on Jun. 14, 1922.

The Healys arrived in Nairobi and then traveled to Simba Station, Kenya, meeting with several notable Westerners including Major Radclyffe Dagmore, Leslie Tarlton, and William Judd. They hired Judd to be their safari guide on July 5, agreeing to a sum of 1000 pounds for 3 months. Pages 128-222 describe their safari in the lands of the Maasai tribe, which included hunting lions, zebra, rhinoceros, leopards, all sorts of deer, and elephants. Healy describes her own successful shots, as well as Gus's big kills. They returned to Nairobi on Oct. 6, 1922, when the diary abruptly ends.

Zebra-skinned diary case, 1922

Box 1

Photographs of the Healys' safari, 1922 (online item available)

Box 2

Digital Object: [Photographs of the Healys' safari, 1922](#)

Scope and Contents

169 photographs of the Healys' safari, guided by William Judd in Kenya, 1922. The photographs document their big game kills, including elephants, lions, rhinoceros, leopards, and assorted deer. Also includes photographs of Maasai people, who appear to have been employed as guides and servants for the Healys, as well as images of the Healys' camp; their guide, William Judd; and a few assorted photographs of a ship, presumably taken during their journey back to the United States.