

Kathy Groehn Cosseboom El-Messidi Papers

2 linear feet
1960s-1970s

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Aimee Ergas on July 12, 2010.

Accession Number: 686

Creator: Kathy Groehn Cosseboom El-Messidi

Acquisition: The Kathy Groehn Cosseboom El-Messidi papers were deposited at the Reuther Library in 1974 and 1980.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “Kathy Groehn Cosseboom El-Messidi Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: One magnetic audio tape labeled “Glenn Brown, Grosse Pointe Study Interview,” one cassette tape labeled “WWJ-Radio interview, Detroit, 9-12-79” and five photographs from this collection were transferred to the Reuther A-V Department.

One copy of El-Messidi’s book, “Grosse Pointe, Michigan: Race Against Race,” was transferred to the Reuther Library.

PLEASE NOTE: Material in this collection has been arranged by series ONLY. Folders are not arranged within each series – we have provided an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout several boxes within any given series.

Abstract

Kathy Groehn was born in 1946 and grew up in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. She graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1963, then from the University of Michigan (B.A. 1967) and Southern Oregon College (M.A.). During the 1960s she was a reporter for the *Grosse Pointe News* and used her experiences as a basis for research on her book, *Grosse Pointe, Michigan: Race Against Race*, by Kathy Cosseboom (Michigan State University Press, 1972). The book deals with racial and social attitudes in the Detroit suburb of Grosse Pointe as revealed in education, school-community relations, housing discrimination, and religious institutions. It won the American Pen Women's first prize for information books in 1974. As Kathy El-Messidi, she earned a Ph.D. in American history from the University of Oklahoma. Her Ph.D. dissertation was published as *The Bargain: The Story behind the 30-Year Honeymoon of GM and the UAW*, by Kathy Groehn El-Messidi (Nellen Publishing Co. 1980). This book deals with the history and politics behind the 1948 collective bargaining agreement between General Motors and the UAW. As the daughter of Thomas Groehn, former news relations director for GM, El-Messidi had special access to materials and individuals at GM for this study. In the 1990s, Dr. El-Messidi was associate director of the Center for Research on Parallel Computation at Rice University in Texas and more recently has worked as an education consultant and market intelligence specialist in Texas.

This collection contains the files and research materials for both of Kathy Groehn Cosseboom El-Messidi's books.

Important Subjects:

General Motors
Grosse Pointe, Michigan
Race relations 1960s
Walter Reuther
UAW
C. E. Wilson

Arrangement

This collection is divided into two series.

Series I: *Grosse Pointe, Michigan: Race Against Race*

Series II: *The Bargain: The Story behind the 30-Year Honeymoon of GM and the UAW*

Folders in each series are listed by their location within each box and are derived from El-Messidi's original description. They are not necessarily arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout several boxes within each series. Folder titles

Series I

Box 1

1. Articles on various topics
2. Blakely, Miss Faye, interview
- 3-4. Clippings
5. Contract and Reviews
6. Correspondence
7. Hate Letters
- 8-11. Interviews, various
12. Manuscript draft
13. Miscellaneous
- 14-15. Page proofs with editing
16. Plan for Grosse Pointe
17. Significant Bulletins

Series II

18. Communist columns
19. Correspondence, Labor and GM, 1940s
20. Dissertation, organization
21. Dissertation, second chapter
22. General Motors
- 23-24. GM Bibliography material
25. GM PR bulletins
26. GM-UAW agreements
27. Interviewees, names and addresses
- 28-30. Magazine articles
31. Miscellaneous
32. Nat Ganley Collection

Box 2

- 1-4. Newspaper articles
5. Non-government studies
6. Organization, Morgan letter
7. Page proofs

8. Pamphlets
9. Record of index cards
10. Scholarly studies
- 11-12. Speeches and articles by C.E. Wilson and others
13. Thomas Groehn labor columns
- 14-15. UAW proceedings
16. UAW publications
- 17-18. U.S. government publications