Finding Aid to the
Alice Meckley Papers, 1987-2004

Summary Information
Title: Alice Meckley papers
Creator: Alice Meckley (primary)
ID: 118.10130
Date: 1987-2004 (inclusive); 1990-1994 (bulk)
Extent: 6 linear feet
Language: The materials in this collection are in English.
Abstract: The Alice Meckley papers contain original dissertation research data, notes, recordings, and other professional papers from Dr. Alice Meckley. The bulk of the materials are from 1990-1994.
Repository:
   Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
   One Manhattan Square
   Rochester, New York 14607
   585.263.2700
   library@museumofplay.org

Administrative Information
Conditions Governing Use: This collection is open for research use by staff of The Strong and by users of its library and archives. Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, she has given permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.
Conditions Governing Access: Audiovisual materials and floppy disks in this collection require advanced notice for access.
Custodial History: The Alice Meckley papers were donated to The Strong in November 2018 as a gift of Alice Meckley. The papers were accessioned by The Strong under Object ID 118.10130 and were received from Meckley in 3 boxes and 1 bin.
Preferred citation for publication: Alice Meckley papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
Processed by: Julia Novakovic, April 2023

Controlled Access Terms
Personal Names
- Meckley, Alice
- Sutton-Smith, Brian

Corporate Names
- Millersville University of Pennsylvania
- TASP
- University of Pennsylvania. Department of Folklore and Folklife

Subjects
- Child development
- Early childhood education
- Education, Preschool
- Emotions and cognition
- Games
- Human development
- Learning
- Play
- Play -- Research
- Play -- Social aspects
- Preschool children
- Social interaction in children
- Universities and colleges -- Graduate work

Biographical Note

Alice Meckley, PhD, is a Professor Emerita of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at Millersville University in Millersville, Pennsylvania. She has been in the early educational field for more than three decades.

Meckley received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1994 under the mentorship of Brian Sutton-Smith. She worked at Millersville University for 30 years, where she served as an academic advisor, supervised student field experiences, and made valuable contributions to the Millersville community. Meckley retired in 2010 but remains active as a teacher, scholar, and consultant on play and children. She has been a committed member of the International Council for Children's Play (ICCP), the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and The Association for the Study of Play (TASP).

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Alice Meckley papers are a compilation of original recordings, research, observations, notes, charts, data, and other information created or recorded by Dr. Alice Meckley during her career in early childhood education and play studies. Original research data includes video- and audio-recordings of preschoolers at play, along with associated surveys, field notes, and charts. The bulk of the materials are dated between 1990 and 1994, during Meckley's PhD dissertation research project and subsequent thesis.

The Alice Meckley papers have been arranged into two series. The materials are housed in four archival document boxes, one oversized document box, three floppy disk boxes, and two audiovisual storage boxes.

System of Arrangement
   Series I: Dissertation research and data, 1990-1994
   Series II: Organizations and other professional materials, 1987-2004 and n.d.

Contents List

Series I: Dissertation research and data, 1990-1994

> **Scope and Content Note:** This series holds original recordings, research, observations, notes, charts, data, and other information related to Meckley's research project culminating in her 1994 PhD dissertation, *The Social Construction of Young Children's Play* at the University of Pennsylvania (advised by Brian Sutton-Smith). Media formats in this series include audiocassettes, VHS tapes, and floppy disks.

Box 1

Folder 1	Research and data – "I. Fieldnotes 109-327" – notes, 1990 and n.d.
Folder 2	Research and data – "II. Fieldnotes & Tape Sum. & Interview records" – notes, summaries, and memos; 1990 and n.d.
Folder 3	Research and data – Field notes and observations, 1990-1991 and n.d.
Folder 4	Research and data – Field notes and observations, handwritten and typed, 1990-1991 and n.d.
Folder 5	Research and data – "Play themes and times" – notes, 1990 and n.d.
Folder 6	Research and data – Descriptive summaries notecards, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Box 2

Folder 1	Research and data – Parental consent forms and home play surveys, 1990
Folder 2	Research and data – "Parents meeting, parent comments 5/20/90 + BLKFLD CLOWNS" – notes, 1990
Folder 3	Research and data – "PTO meeting, May 31st, June 6, 1990, Alice Meckley discusses PLAY" – notes, 1990
Folder 4	Research and data – "Children – Players" – notes, codes, and data; 1990-1994 and n.d.
Folder 5	Research and data – "Absentees" – notes and chart, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 6	Research and data – "Children Arrivals, Daily Order" – notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 7	Research and data – "Play themes and lists; names, labels" – theme codes, notes, and data; 1993-1994 and n.d.
Folder 8	Research and data – "Blaster play events" – notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 9	Research and data – "Blocks themes area" – play events and notes, 1993 and n.d.
Folder 10	Research and data – "Bomb play theme analysis" – play charts and notes, 1992 and n.d.
Folder 11	Research and data – "Castle play event theme" – play event chart and notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 12	Research and data – "Cops and Guns theme analysis" – notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 13	Research and data – "Disappearing Pegs theme analysis" – play charts and notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 14	Research and data – "Housekeeping Play" – observations, reflections, and notes; 1993 and n.d.
Folder 15	Research and data – "Squirrels theme" – observation notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]
Folder 16	Research and data – Index cards, "Day, Events, Players, by real time" notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 17   Research and data – "Code: Objects" – objects list and code keys, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 18   Research and data – "Codes: Setting Physical" – list, play events, and setting codes; n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Box 3

Folder 1   Research and data – "Play Events – full descriptions" – details and notes, 1993 and n.d.

Folder 2   Research and data – "Charts – play events" – notes, charts, and data; 1993-1994 and n.d.

Folder 3   Research and data – "Concurrent events mapping" – notes and diagrams, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 4   Research and data – "Confrontation events" – notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 5   Research and data – "Early summary of days with 'Episodes,' 'Place,' 'Actions + Words'" – observation summaries and notes, 1992 and n.d.

Folder 6   Research and data – "Events/activities, Teacher-directed" – chart and notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 7   Research and data – "Mapping play" – notes, charts, and data; n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 8   Research and data – "Object play" – notes, 1993 and n.d.

Folder 9   Research and data – "Physical Setting + Play Events, Includes days + # of times" – notes and codes, 1991 and n.d.

Folder 10   Research and data – "Play strategies by Children" – notes, templates, and data; n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 11   Research and data – "Playtime circle, time segments" – notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 12   Research and data – "Transition & misc. events" – notes, 1993 and n.d.

Folder 13   Research and data – "Words stated through 327" – notes and data, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 14   Research and data – "Original figures" – event occurrences chart, events charts, and notes; 1994 and n.d.

Folder 15   Research and data – "Figures overheads" – diagrams and notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 16   Research and data – "Observations" – chart template, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 17   Research and data – "Time Data Charts" – chart templates, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Folder 18   Research and data – "Copied event chart 109-327" – chart and notes, n.d. [c. 1990-1993]

Box 4

Folder 1   Research and data – "Event/activity" – charts and notes, January-April 1990

Folder 2   Research and data – "Play themes/duration" – charts and notes, 1990

Folder 3   Research and data – "Play themes/events" – charts and notes, 1990

Folder 4   Research and data – "Play themes – time/minutes" charts and notes, 1990

Box 5

Object 1	Research and data – "Disserta.old 11-01-94, Chart 05-11-92, Codes.txt 01-01-80…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1992-1996 and n.d.
Object 2	Research and data – "Disserta.tx2 03-16-94, Disserta.txt 02-20-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 3	Research and data – "Themes 07-10-92" – 3.5" floppy disk. 1992
Object 4	Research and data – "Intervw 01-09-94, Results 02-11-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 5	Research and data – "Analysis.2 01-01-80, Play 11-01-94, Analysis.3 01-01-80" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994 and n.d.
Object 6	Research and data – "Disserta txt 02-18-94, Title pge 02-28-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 7	Research and data – "Chapters 01-01-80, Disserta txt 01-01-80, Florio 01-01-80" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994?]
Object 8	Research and data – "Analysis 01-01-80, Analysis 3 01-01-80, Themes 01-01-80, Themes COD 02-03-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994 and n.d.
Object 9	Research and data – "Context 2 02-26-94, Method txt 02-26-94, Refer 2 02-26-94, Referenc es 02-26-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 10	Research and data – "Codes txt 01-07-93" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1993
Object 11	Research and data – "Playform 01-01-80" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 12	Research and data – "Analysis 01-01-80, Analysis 2 01-01-80" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 13	Research and data – "Players 2 03-04-93, Naeyc93 01-06-93, Naeyc92 01-01-80, E 03-05-93 …" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1993 and n.d.
Object 14	Research and data – "Desevnt 01-01-80, Theme for 03-25-93, Theme des 03-16-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1993-1994 and n.d.
Object 15	Research and data – "Comm 515 05-21-93, Objects 02-25-93, Method txt 01-01-80, Events 2 02-28-94 …" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1993-1994 and n.d.
Object 16	Research and data – "Aera 94 02-11-94, Play 02-17-94, Results 02-11-94, Title pge 02-18-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 17	Research and data – "Disserta.txt 02-20-94, WP]WP[RJ.2 03-11-94, Events.3 04-25-94 …" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 18	Research and data – "Intervw 02-20-94, Analysis.4 01-05-95, Results 2 03-02-94…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994-1995
Object 19	Research and data – "Results 3 01-06-95, Method.txt 04-25-94, Title.pge 04-25-94…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994-1995
Object 20	Research and data – "Context.2 04-25-94, Events.3 04-27-94, Referenc.es 04-17-94…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 21	Research and data – "Analysis.4 04-25-94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 22	Research and data – "Disserta txt 01-01-80" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 23	Research and data – "Interview results 2/13/94, Analysis 4" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994
Object 24	Research and data – "Dissterta.tx2 copy disserta 2/20" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 25	Research and data – "Disserta.tx2, Disserta.txt 2/94" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994

Object 26   Research and data – "Play old! Analysis.2, Analysis.3" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 27   Research and data – "Analysis.4" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 28   Research and data – "Brian, Codes, France, Forum (Ethnography), Disserta.old" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994]
Object 29   Research and data – "Themes (for dissertation)" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994?]
Object 30   Research and data – "Referenc.es (copy), Context.2 (copy), Method.txt (copy), Title.pge (copy), Results3. (copy)" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994?]
Object 31   Research and data – "Referenc.es, Context.2, Method.txt Chapter 3 & 4, Events.3, (old) Appendix" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1994?]
Object 32   Research and data – "Formatted 1/93, Misc., Players.2, Themes.cat…" – 5.25" floppy disk, 1992-1993 and n.d.
Object 33   Research and data – "Playform new" – 5.25" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1993-1994?]
Object 34   Research and data – "A. Analysis copy, Analysis 2" – 5.25" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1993-1994?]
Object 35   Research and data – "Objects, Method.txt, Typical day, Events.2, Comm.515, Playtime, Intervw" – 5.25" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1993-1994?]
Object 36   Research and data – "Theme.DES, Theme.FOR, desevnt, formatted 1/93" – 5.25" floppy disk, 1993
Object 37   Research and data – "A: Disserta. No methods, 2/94, title.pge, formatted 1/93" – 5.25" floppy disk, 1993-1994
Object 38   Research and data – "Intervw (copy of Players friend nomination/Parent/Teacher play interviews) results copy from 2/12/94" – 5.25" floppy disk, 1994

Box 6
Folder 1   Dissertation floppy disk notes, n.d. [c. 1993-1994]

AV Box 1
Object 1   Research and data – "2/22/90 Ch. commentary on day's play" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 2   Research and data – "4/3/90" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 3   Research and data – "405 Audio A & B" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 4   Research and data – "4/10/90, 1:15-2p.m., 4/12/90" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 5   Research and data – "4/12/90 continued from other tape, 4/12/90 ch. reactions brief" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 6   Research and data – "4/17/90" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 7   Research and data – "4/19/90" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 8   Research and data – "4/24/90 Nick & JS reaction 4/19, 4/24/90 end of play" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 9   Research and data – "4/26/90, 5/8/90 commentary" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 10   Research and data – "5/3/90 Crystale reading/Amber commentary, pudding painting" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 11   Research and data – "5/10/90 girls housekeeping" – audiocassette, 1990
Object 12   Research and data – "5-15-90 A commentary B blank" – audiocassette, 1990

Object 13   Research and data – "5/21/90 PTO on Play, 5/24/90 Children's commentary" –
                audiocassette, 1990

AV Box 2
Object 1   Research and data – "3/27/90" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 2   Research and data – "4/3/90 p.m. 2/3 Hershey" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 3   Research and data – "4/3/90 p.m. 4s Hershey" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 4   Research and data – "4/5/90 2nd camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 5   Research and data – "4/5/90 Miss Hershey p.m., main camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 6   Research and data – "4/10/90 Hershey p.m., E.C.E. camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 7   Research and data – "4/12/90 Hershey p.m., AV camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 8   Research and data – "4/17/90 Hershey p.m., E.C.E. camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 9   Research and data – "4/19/90 Hershey p.m., Main camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 10   Research and data – "4/19/90 Hershey p.m., E.C.E. camera (wider view of room),
                & 4/24/90" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 11   Research and data – "4/26/90 1 of 2, 30 min only" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 12   Research and data – "4/26/90 2 of 2, table" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 13   Research and data – "5/1/90 Hershey ECE" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 14   Research and data – "5/1/90 Hershey E.C.E. Camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 15   Research and data – "5/3/90 Hershey" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 16   Research and data – "5/3/90 100 min." – VHS tape, 1990
Object 17   Research and data – "5/8/90 Hershey p.m. ECE Camera" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 18   Research and data – "5/8/90 Hershey p.m." – VHS tape, 1990
Object 19   Research and data – "5/10/90 Hershey p.m. circle after 1st circle, 5/15/90 Jon &
                Vu" – VHS tape, 1990
Object 20   Research and data – "5/10/90 Hershey p.m., 5/15/90 & 5/17/90" – VHS tape,
                1990

Series II: Organizations and other professional materials, 1987-2004 and n.d.
                Scope and Content Note: This series houses information relating to Meckley's
                professional career as a play scholar, including documentation from her position
                at Millersville University in Pennsylvania and her leadership roles with The
                Association for the Study of Play (TASP). Floppy disks are included as a media
                format in this series.
Box 6
Folder 2   "Play Symposium at U of Penn, Sutton-Smith, Garvey, Greta Fein, 5/18/1990"
                recording with partial transcript by Meckley, 1990 and n.d. [contains
                audiocassette, 1990]
Folder 3   Correspondence between Brian Sutton-Smith and Meckley, 1995
Folder 4   TASP preliminary program and final program, Annual Meetings, St. Paul,
                Minnesota, 22-24 April 1993, with annotations by Meckley; 1993
Folder 5   TASP logo recollections, Phillips Stevens, n.d.

Box 7
Object 1   [taped directory] "Clay.txt, Cncptched.txt, War.txt …"– 3.5" floppy disk, 1987-1988 and n.d.
Object 2   [taped directory] "Contents.txt, Litrvw.txt…"– 3.5" floppy disk, 1992 and n.d.
Object 3   [taped directory] "Litrvw.txt, Mcdonald.txt, Mcrough.txt…"– 3.5" floppy disk, 1992 and n.d.
Object 4   [taped directory] "Sibiblio.txt, Socinter.txt," 1992
Object 5   [taped directory] "Aera 094, Brian, Castle.txt …"– 3.5" floppy disk, 1993 and n.d.
Object 6   [taped directory] "Sibiblio.txt, Socinter.txt," 1994
Object 7   [taped directory] "Aera 94, Article.txt, Cognito.txt…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994 and n.d.
Object 8   "TASP2.rvw + TASP news.rvw, Advance 1.95…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994-1995
Object 9   "England, Aera 94, Aera 96…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1994-1996
Object 10   "NCATE, Promotion, Vitae, Sabbatical…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 11   "England, Aera 94, Aera 96, Readings from Australia…" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 12   "Dr. Meckley course syllabi & selected ref. …" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 13   "Dr. Meckley '99 references, misc." – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1999?]
Object 14   "References Pt. I, My documents, 9/00" – 3.5" floppy disk, 2000
Object 15   "Dr. Meckley Play Ref list" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 2000?]
Object 16   "ICCP 2001 Germany paper: Play Communities" – 3.5" floppy disk, 2001
Object 17   "A: research plan.doc, Sabbatical.doc, Sanctuary Point School…" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.

Box 8
Object 1   "Play & Circles" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.
Object 2   "Publications, NAEYC, Playform" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.
Object 3   "Dr. Meckley, Tasp News, Faculty Accomplishments, 1995-1996, Semester schedule…" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1997?]
Object 4   "1997 TASP letter, TASPtime 99" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 1999?]
Object 5   "Dr. Meckley, Tasp 98 (ref) list, backup disk, PSED/ECHD Kim Biblio, 3/99" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 6   "A. Traceton, Play in Lower Primary School, Tasp 1999" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 7   "A. Traceton, Theme-Organized Learning Play and Physical Env., Tasp 1999" – 3.5" floppy disk, 1999
Object 8   "My Documents, Tasp I, 9/00" – 3.5" floppy disk, 2000
Object 9   "My Documents, Tasp II, 9/00" – 3.5" floppy disk, 2000
Object 10   "TASP 2000 context coding, TASP 1998 Kim Biblio SPED-ECHD, TASP 2002 Symposium papers…" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 2002?]
Object 11   "TASP 2003" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 2003?]
Object 12   "2002 TASP, 2004 TASP, Lauren Horton" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 2004?]
Object 13   "TASP 2-m 1feb162004.xls, Board Meet minutes…" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d. [c. 2004?]
Object 14   "Membership list exL (with circular reference)" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.
Object 15   "TASP files" – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.
Object 16   [unlabeled] – 3.5" floppy disk, n.d.