

Victoria Eugenia de Battenberg: libros y lecturas de una inglesa en la corte española

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Resumen

La biblioteca particular de la reina Victoria Eugenia de Battenberg fue trasladada a la Real Biblioteca después de que la familia real abandonara España en 1931. En el presente artículo se reconstruye la historia de esta colección, se identifican sus marcas de propiedad y se ofrece una primera aproximación sobre sus gustos literarios y lecturas, con especial atención a la literatura de entretenimiento, que constituye la parte más significativa de la colección, la historia, el arte y las obras de carácter religioso.

Palabras clave: Bibliotecas reales; Lectura femenina; Literatura de género; Lectura; Siglos XIX-XX.

Victoria Eugenia of Battenberg: the books and reading of an English lady at the Spanish court

Abstract

After Queen Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg left Spain in 1931 following the proclamation of the Second Republic, her private collection of books was transferred to the Royal Palace Library (Madrid) where it was kept in a separate section. In the present paper I first consider provenance and marks of ownership in Victoria Eugenie's books, going on to provide a provisional appraisal of her reading, mainly focusing on literature read for pleasure — something that makes up most of her collection — but also taking into account a few works on religion, history and art that she was expected to know as Queen of Spain..

Keywords: Royal book collection; Women's writing; Womens reading; Reading in the 19th and 20th Centuries.