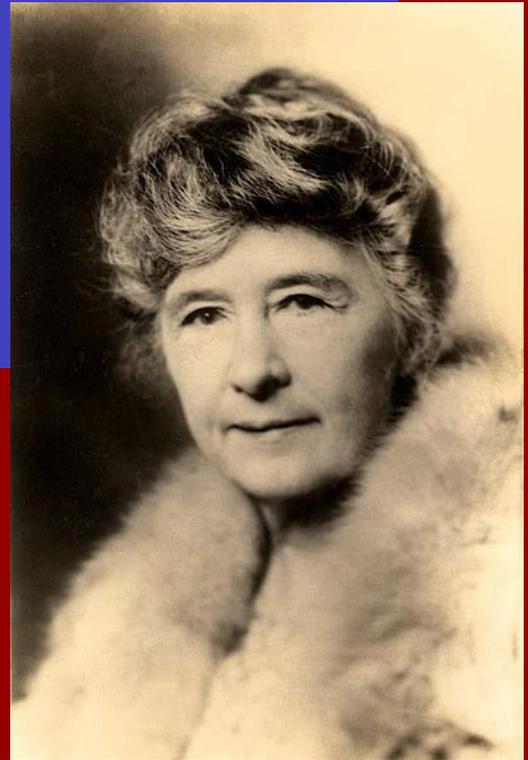


The Feminist Research Institute

presents

Ghosts in the Archive: Recovering the Work of Adina De Zavala



Erin Murrah-Mandril

Department of English

Tuesday, March 11, 12:30 PM

SUB Cherry/Silver

Adina de Zavala saved the Alamo building from demolition in the early 20th century by barricading herself in the mission's long barracks for three days. Her participation in Alamo preservation fell subject to historical erasure by Texas historians and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, yet the 1996 recovery of her work and her book *History and Legends of the Alamo* is also troubling in its portrayal of de Zavala as an ethnically repressed *mexicana* whose identity has been displaced onto Spanish and Anglo artifacts. Erin Murrah-Mandril argues that both the historical erasure and the Freudian paradigm of historical recovery of de Zavala arise from a form of linear time that structures narratives of national and personal development. In contrast, de Zavala's own work presents a model of time that is multiple and non-linear. In this way, de Zavala's own methodology of historical recovery can act as model for the recovery of her work.



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