LOUISIANA FOLKLIFE PROGRAM PROJECT FILES

Mss. 4730

Inventory

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Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
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Search field recordings and audio tapes at http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/4730/search/

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Proper acknowledgment of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.
SUMMARY

Size. 44 linear feet of manuscript materials, 30 linear feet of sound recordings (15 linear feet of originals and 15 linear feet of copies.), 3 linear feet of video tapes.

Geographic locations. Louisiana.


Languages. English (some interviews in the *New Populations Project* conducted in Garifuna, Laotian, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese).

Summary. Records of the Louisiana Folklife Program include correspondence, field recordings and oral histories, and project files of its various programming efforts, publications, and projects designed to document and promote the folk ways of Louisiana. Included are the records of projects funded by the Program and for which the Program received funding, including the Louisiana Folklife Festival, folklife surveys of the state’s regions and parishes, participation in the Smithsonian Festival of American Folklife, the New Populations Project, the Louisiana Voices educational program, and others. Early materials relate to the establishment of the Folklife Program and include correspondence and legislation. The records also include printed items, reports, grant applications, clippings, and articles about or from agencies within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; other state agencies; various cultural institutions, programs, and festivals in the state; and out of state, national, and federal folklife-related agencies and organizations.

Source. Received from the Folklife Program, Division of the Arts, 1999.

Access. Archival copies of sound and videocassettes are restricted for public access.

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Citation. Louisiana Folklife Program Project Files, Mss. 4730, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Stack locations. 63:1-35; 33:9-13; 109:26-31; OS:L (19 folders in 3 boxes); oral history tapes L:45-50 (copies), 115:24-30 (originals); L:2a-4a (video cassettes and films).
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The Louisiana Division of the Arts is an agency within the Office of Cultural Development in the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. The Division of the Arts was created in 1977 to support established and individual artists and to stimulate public participation in the arts in Louisiana. The Division administers state and federal funds appropriated for arts grants in Louisiana through three principal mechanisms: the Statewide Arts Grants Program, the Louisiana Decentralized Arts Funding Program and Special Initiatives. The Division awards approximately $4 million in grants each year to Louisiana artists and non-profit organizations. Its programs encourage the expansion of audiences and stimulate public participation in the arts in Louisiana. The Louisiana Folklife Program is one of the programs of the Division of the Arts.

The mandate of the Louisiana Folklife Program is to identify, document, preserve, and present Louisiana’s traditional cultures. Over the past 20 years, the Program has developed numerous projects and programs to implement this mandate. Its history can be highlighted by taking note of the accomplishments of the three individuals who have held the position of Director since 1979.

The first director of the Program, Nicholas Spitzer (1979-1985) compiled the baseline research presented in *Louisiana Folklife: A Guide to the State*, assisted with four albums in the Louisiana Folklife Recording Series, had *The Creole State: An Exhibition of Louisiana Folklife* permanently installed in the State Capitol, and initiated the Louisiana Folklife Festival at the 1984 World’s Fair. He also started the statewide Louisiana Folklife Survey grew out of the Florida Parishes Folklife Project. The Florida Parishes Folklife Project, an ambitious seven-year project included a conference, survey, exhibit, festival, and publication.

Robert Gates, the second director (1986-1988), expanded the Apprenticeship Program, initiated the Delta Parishes Survey (northeast Louisiana), and coordinated the folklife component of the temporary exhibit, *1988 Annual Made in the Shade Exhibit* in conjunction with the Louisiana Crafts Council. He also moved the Louisiana Folklife Festival from Baton Rouge to Eunice in 1988 when the city of Baton Rouge was no longer able to support it.

Maida Owens (Bergeron), the third and current director of the Louisiana Folklife Program, was appointed as the director in 1989. One of her first tasks was to determine a way for the Louisiana Folklife Festival to survive. Increasingly, the Louisiana Folklife Program was less involved in the festival. The Program started to initiate fieldwork to be presented at the festival and to provide technical assistance regarding programming and the interpretive booklet. The community then became responsible for producing the festival and hiring a folklorist to program it. This created a new partnership each year between a community and the Folklife Program. After being held in New Orleans (1984), Baton Rouge (1985-87), Eunice (1988-89, 1991) and Kenner (1990), the City of Monroe now hosts the festival. While continuing the existing programs, Maida Owens (Bergeron) initiated several new ones: for example, the Open House Storytelling Program 1990 resulted in the publication of a book *Swapping Stories: Folktales*...
from Louisiana (1997) where she was co-editor. Also Maida Owens served as co-producer/researcher of the book companion video program (1997). A website with the same title was also established. The Louisiana Folklife Survey became an ongoing project to document traditional artists and communities with special focus on regions not previously documented. Also a map, Louisiana Folk Regions, showing the major subregions and ethnic groups in Louisiana was compiled by Maida Owens based on Spitzer, Kniffen, Knipmeyer, Newton, Gregory, and Roach, with cartography by Greg Wirth. Louisiana Folklife Recording Series (LFRS) developed into a program that documents traditional musicians and storytellers otherwise unlikely to be recorded by commercial labels such as African-American work songs, old time Cajun and country music. Maida Owens was a curator for the renovation of The Creole State: An Exhibition of Louisiana Folklife (1995) permanently located in the State Capitol, edited the publication Fait a la Main: A Sourcebook of Louisiana Crafts (1988), co-edited Keeping It Alive: Cultural Conservation Through Apprenticeship, A Review of the Louisiana Apprenticeship Program (1993). She also served as assistant producer and researcher for the video documentary Dance for a Chicken: The Cajun Mardi Gras (1993).

While these projects represent the highlights of the initiatives undertaken in the past 20 years, the attached “History of the Louisiana Folklife Program 1977-1991" provides a more detailed description. This description is based on the Minutes of the Louisiana Folklife Commission Meetings and other collection documents.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Louisiana Folklife Program Project files collection includes correspondence, financial documents and papers, grant drafts and completed applications, minutes and other materials of the Folklife Commission and Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission, correspondence, documentation, and related oral history recordings of various folklife projects and festivals (the latter primarily related to the Louisiana Folklife Festival), correspondence related to and drafts of Folklife Program publications (Louisiana Folklife Guide, Swapping Stories files), printed materials, newspaper clippings, posters, photographs, videos spanning 1979 to 1996 documenting the creation, development and work on different projects of the Louisiana Folklife Program, Division of the Arts.

The correspondence discusses development of the Folklife Program; initiation and development of different folklife projects and festivals; grant applications; financial and personnel matters. There is correspondence with the Governor and Senators and National Endowment for the Arts; and reading files. The bulk of the correspondence is that of the three Folklife Program directors: Nick Spitzer, Bob Gates, and Maida Owens Bergeron.

Included is Folklife Commission correspondence, minutes of meetings, bylaws spanning 1982-1991. Folklife Program, Division of the Arts official correspondence, goals of the Division, folklife plan of the State of Louisiana, proposal for Louisiana Folklife Program 1984-1985. Materials on Louisiana Folklife Festivals include detailed description of organization of Louisiana Folklife Pavilion at Louisiana World Exposition 1984, and Louisiana Folklife Festivals from 1985 to 2000 (Festival Board/Advisory Committee minutes of meetings and correspondence, financial records, NEA, DOA, and LEH grants materials and applications, contracts, correspondence, festival evaluations, press releases and publicity plans, materials on sponsorship and volunteers, posters, photographs, videos).

The records also include files of correspondence, printed items, reports, grant applications, clippings, and articles about or from agencies also within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; other state agencies; various cultural institutions, programs, and festivals in the state; and out of state, national, and federal folklife-related agencies and organizations.
LIST OF SERIES AND SUBSERIES

Series I. Correspondence, 1979-2001 (boxes 1-3c)

Series II. Folklife Commission, 1982-1999 (box 3c-4a)

Series III. Folklife Program/Division of the Arts, 1979-2000 (box 4a-4b)


Series V. Louisiana Folklife Festival (LFF)/Site Selection, 1990-1993 (box 5)

Series VI. Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission (LMDDC), 1989-1990 (box 5)

Series VII. Crafts, 1979-1998 (box 6a-6c)

Series VIII. Florida Parishes Folklife, 1981-1989 (box 6d)

Series IX. Folklife Recording Series, 1981-1984 (box 6d)

Series X. Institute of Texan Cultures of the University of Texas at San Antonio (Inst. of Texan Cultures, UTSA), 1977, 1981 (box 6d)

Series XI. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, 1979-1985, 1995/96 (box 6d)


Series XIII. National Council for Traditional Arts (NCTA), 1979-2001 (box 7b)

Series XIV. National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), 1975-1999 (box 7b-7c)


Series XVI. Perique Tobacco, 1987, 1989 (box 7c)

Series XVII. Smithsonian Institution, 1976-1999 (box 7c-8)


Series XIX. Louisiana Folklife Festival Pavilion (LFFP)/Louisiana World Exposition (LWE) 1984, 1982-1984 (boxes 9-10)
Series XX. Louisiana Folklife Festival (LFF), 1983-2001 (boxes 11-15b)


Series XXIII. Swapping Stories Files, 1994-1999 (box 16-17)

Series XXIV. Oral History, 1973-1999 [includes recordings from projects from other series] (boxes 18-21 and 1-26 at L: 45-L: 46)

Series XXV. Videotapes and Films, 1982-1996 (L:2a-L:4a)

Series XXVI. Posters, ca. 1973-1999 (oversize folders 1-9)

Series XXVII. Originals (Artist’s Copies) (oversize folders 10-17)

Series XXVIII. Delta Parishes Folklife Project, 1987-1998 (box 22)

Series XXIX. Folk Arts in Education, 1983-1998 (box 22-23)

Series XXX. Piney Woods Folklife Survey, 1996-1999 (box 23)

Series XXXI. Miscellaneous Louisiana Folklife Program Projects (box 23)
  Subseries 1. Louisiana Folk Regions Map, undated (and OS:L)
  Subseries 2. Tri-Parish Folklife Survey, 1992

Series XXXII. Program and Agency Files, 1941, 1977-2001 (box 23-32)
  Subseries 1. Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism Agencies, 1977-1999
  Subseries 3. Louisiana Folklife Projects and Programs, date?
  Subseries 6. Topics

Series XXXIII. Fellowship and Apprenticeship Records, 1981-1996 (box 33)

Series XXXIV. Topics (box 34-38)
Series XXXV. New Populations, (box 39-40)
   Subseries 1. Celebration of La Purisima by Nicaraguans in Southeast La.
   Subseries 2. Chinese Folk Dancing in South La.
   Subseries 3. Chinese New Year in Shreveport
   Subseries 4. Cubans in Louisiana
   Subseries 5. Filipinos – New Orleans
   Subseries 6. Garifuna Music and Dance in New Orleans
   Subseries 7. Greater New Orleans German Community Documentation
   Subseries 8. Guatemalan and Latin American Musical Traditions in New Orleans
   Subseries 10. Honduran Cultural Traditions
   Subseries 12. Indian Hindu Community in South La.
   Subseries 13. Japanese Dance
   Subseries 14. Koreans in Leesville Thanksgiving
   Subseries 15. Laotian Subdivision Lanexang Documentation
   Subseries 16. Latino Music and Dance in Baton Rouge
   Subseries 17. Latinos in New Orleans
   Subseries 18. Latino Project - UNO
   Subseries 20. Mexicans in Forest Hill
   Subseries 22. Overview of the Chinese Community in Baton Rouge
   Subseries 24. Tet, The Vietnamese New Year in New Orleans
   Subseries 25. Transnational Muslim Cultural Traditions
   Subseries 26. Vietnamese Community Documentation

Series XXXVI. Louisiana Voices, (box 41-43)
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Correspondence, 1979-2001,  
4.5 linear feet, chronological arrangement

Summary: Incoming and outgoing correspondence of the Louisiana Folklife Program, Division of the Arts, bulk of correspondence is of Nicholas Spitzer, Bob Gates, Maida Owens (Bergeron). Arranged by date and personal names.

Correspondence discusses the development of the Folklife Program, initiation and development of different folklife projects and folklife festivals, grant applications, financial and personnel matters and includes correspondence with the Governor, Senators, National Endowment for the Arts, folk artists, craftsmen, and the general public. The bulk of the correspondence is of Nicholas Spitzer (1979-1985), Robert Gates (1987-1988), Maida Owens (1985-2001).

II. Folklife Commission, 1982-1999, 0.8 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder

Summary: House bill on Folklife Commission, bylaws, correspondence, minutes of the meetings, Indian tribes description, member's lists and correspondence on newly appointed members, press releases, printed materials, and lobbying campaigns.

House bill no. 1397 (House Regular Session, 1982; act no. 850) describes the Folklife Commission purpose and functions; its creation, membership, confirmation, and reconfirmation; terms; officers; vacancies; compensation; meetings; quorum. Correspondence (1982-1990) in connection with Commission work and meetings, new member appointments and re-appointments, Folklife Program projects, folklife representation during 1984 World’s Fair and other folklife festivals and cultural tourism promotion, discussion of the creation of Louisiana Folklife Center. Minutes of Commission Meetings provide information on Folklife Program projects design and development, Folklife Program updates, discussion on folklife festivals site selection and preparations.

III. Folklife Program/Division of the Arts, 1979-2000, 1 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder

Summary: Official correspondence (1982-1992) and papers on development of proposed Folklife Program (Division of Folklife), on approval of Folklife Funds and Folklife legislation and amendment; goals of the Division; folklife plan of the State of Louisiana; proposal for Louisiana Folklife Program, 1984-1985; expenditures drafts and notes; NEA grants applications; press releases; selection of an archives; the Folklife Database Project; and the Louisiana Folklife Updates newsletter.
Correspondence and narrative papers relate to a proposal to set up a new Division of Folklife in the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Program Development in the fall of 1981. Also there are letters and materials on the proposed funding and development of the Folklife Program in 1983, 1984-1985. Letters represent correspondence between members of the Louisiana State Administration, Louisiana State Legislation, State Folklife Commission and Louisiana Folklife Program, Division of the Arts. Draft materials on budgeting include expenditures in 1994 and different sources of funding. There are materials on two NEA Grant Applications that include an application on creating a position of Folk Arts Coordinator from 1979 and an application requesting support for the development and implementation of a computerized folklife database system for 1986. Press Releases include one on a preview of Joie de Cajun, a film on contemporary Cajun culture (1987), one on arts workshops scheduled for rural areas (1994), and one on an opening of the exhibit The Creole State: An Exhibition of Louisiana Folklife in State Capitol (1994).

0.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

**Summary:** The Louisiana State Guide was published in 1985 and is an important resource for anyone researching Louisiana folklife. Correspondence 1980-1985, draft outlines, table of contents, prints, publication expenses, printing drafts.

Correspondence relates to publication development and preparation of articles, photographs, and research connected with folklife in Louisiana and publishing aspects of the Guide. It includes Information Sheets and survey questions in connection with research of different aspects of folk culture for the Guide, letters to Spitzer with comments on different aspects of drafts of the articles for the Louisiana Folklife: A Guide to Sources and Resources, editing notes, correspondence with description of the work progress, requests of photographs for the Guide, financial aspects of publication, graphics for the Guide, letters of Spitzer to publishers, letters that include a plan for completion of the work on the Guide, etc. Manuscript development materials include built-in expenses, grant agreement between the State of Louisiana through the Division of the Arts and The Center for Gulf History and Culture on developmental and administrative services related to the Louisiana Folklife Guide and distribution of the responsibilities, drafts of outlines, table of contents, introduction and thanks of the Guide. There are drafts for printing, publication expenses sheets, and photograph expenses.

**V. Louisiana Folklife Festival (LFF)/Site Selection, 1990-1993,**
0.3 linear foot, chronological arrangement by year of the Festival and by format or topic for each year.

**Summary:** Letters of responses on hosting the Louisiana Folklife Festival, applications to host the 1990/1991/1992/1993 Louisiana Folklife Festival, materials on Lake Charles as a possible host of the Festival in 1991, procedures of site selection for the Festival.
Applications to host the 1990 Louisiana Folklife Festival include applications from the cities of Eunice, Kenner, Lake Charles, and Ferriday; applications to host the 1991 Louisiana Folklife Festival include the Lake Charles and Natchitoches application; applications to host the 1992 Louisiana Folklife Festival include application of the City of Eunice. Procedures for site selection materials consist of the Letter to the Mayors and lists of Mayors as possible hosts of the Festival with description of the population in each city, description of the different aspects of the Festival and hosting the Festival, application procedures and festival site selection criteria. There is also correspondence on the development and improvement of the site selection procedure during the 1990-92 period. Materials on Lake Charles’ application for hosting the 1991 Louisiana Folklife Festival provide complete information on the development of the situation with Lake Charles as possible host of the 1991 Louisiana Folklife Festival and correspondence and newspaper clippings on why and how Lake Charles was finally unable to do so.

VI. Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission (LMDDC), 1989-1990, 0.2 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Correspondence on cultural tourism and conference on Cultural Tourism materials, draft of the Commission report to the Congress, Commission Hearings (1990) on tourism development, printed interim report of the Commission.

Correspondence includes a letter to Owens (Bergeron) from Governor Buddy Roemer on the 100th Session of Congress decision to create and to mandate the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission to identify, study, and report on the problems and needs of selected counties/parishes within a seven state region; and on the need to organize special public hearings and the participation of the Folklife Program in this hearing. Correspondence of Owens (Bergeron) with Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission provides background information on the Commission that was created in 1988 by Public Law 100-460, the Delta Development Act, a bipartisan bill that was introduced in the House by Congressmen Mike Espy and Jamie Whitten and in the Senate by Senators Dale Bumpers and Thad Cochran and was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan. Materials on cultural tourism and “Preserving and Promoting Our Heritage: A Conference on Cultural Tourism in the Lower Mississippi Delta” include letters from the Commission to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; Arts Council and the Louisiana Folklife Program with the description of the conference agenda, steering committee schedule, and invitation to participate in the Conference. It also includes News Releases on the Conference, letters from Owens (Bergeron) to Leslie Tassin, assistant secretary with the reports after she attended the Conference, letters on the progress of the Delta Commission cultural tourism database and resource book. Correspondence of Owens (Bergeron) with Susan Jones (LMDDC) on various aspects of the Conference, and a survey of the Lower Mississippi Delta Region - the purpose of which was to document the traditions found within the specified area, and review conference participant goals and strategies from the preservation/
VII. Crafts, 1979-1998,
3.0 linear feet, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.


A La Main materials include an agenda, brochure, cooperative information, correspondence, flyer, grant application to the Division of the Arts (DOA), Jo-Ann Lutz's coordinator's reports, marketing agreement, minutes, standards for jurying, Catalogs are *Art Quest '87, The Buyer's Book of American Crafts* (1984), *National Lifestyle Crafts* (1994) and a brochure for the crafts book, *By Southern Hands*. Spitzer's correspondence is letters on crafts he received and wrote and newspaper clippings sent to him as the Folk Arts Coordinator (1979-1981). Directories are the Louisiana Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers' *Crafts Directory* (1979-1980), *International Directory of Resources for Artisans*, and *Yellow Pages of American Crafts* (1988). Eunice museum materials include brochures, correspondence, development report, flyers, grant agreement with the DOA, marketing workshop printed materials, Nancy Gher's contract, and planning guidelines. Foundation for Historical Louisiana Shops materials are addresses of craftspeople and sources for folklife posters, correspondence, and excerpt from "The Creole State: An Exhibit of Louisiana Folklife: A Teacher's Guide." Galleries materials are brochures and flyers from these Louisiana galleries: Galerie Melançon, Handcrafted, Inc., New Orleans Weavers Guild, RHINO, Stoner Arts Center, and Weavers Workshop. Exhibitions materials are brochures from *Dixie Frets: Luthiers of the Southeast* and Southern Regional Crafts Exhibition.

Legislature Subcommittee on Recreational and Cultural Affairs materials include correspondence of Theresa Harper Ray, Research Analyst for the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, magazine and newspaper clippings, notes, report on artist employment and unemployment from the NEA, and reports on the economic impact of art
Louisiana Artists Guild materials are a general brochure, correspondence, and a flyer, both on the online catalog. Louisiana Crafts Council materials include correspondence, *Crafts South*, Robert Gray's contract, Holiday Crafts Market materials, *The Louisiana Crafts Report*, Louisiana Craftsmen show materials, "Made in the Shade" exhibition materials and newspaper clippings.

Louisiana Crafts Program materials include addresses and mailout lists, applications, contracts, correspondence, economic impact survey, Fait à la Main, job description of program manager, marketing workshop sign-in sheet and instructional materials, Louisiana tourist information center brochure access policy, agendas, House Bill No. 2150 creating the program (1986), invoices and tear sheets from magazines and newspapers, logo competition entries, newspaper clippings, notes, grant agreements, budgets, order forms, surveys, participant information handbook, photographs, "Louisiana Celebration" map and souvenir program (1988), report to the legislature (1987), participant questionnaires, press releases, jury judging sheets, and a report on the Folklife, Crafts, and DOA activities (1995).

Louisiana Furnishing Industry Association brochure, catalog, letter, notes, and order form. Louisiana Handicrafts Exposition brochure, correspondence, marketing plan, meeting minutes form, and press releases. Louisiana Tech Arts Gallery correspondence, inventory list, newspaper clippings, and promotional materials.

National Crafts Planning Project materials are correspondence from the director of the Florida Folklife Program and John McLean, project coordinator, press releases, Report on the Project and Congress, and *Visual Arts Program/Crafts*.

Newspaper clippings include articles about the crafts industry and various Louisiana craftspeople (1981-1995). North Central Louisiana Arts Council brochures, consignment sales contract, correspondence, daily sales summary sheet, flyer, grant agreement, inventory sheet, meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, notes, recommendations by Dan Overley and workshop forms. Ozark Region marketing project proposal and reports. Photograph of man hammering wood. Provincial publications include crafts booklets and pamphlets from Nova Scotia. State publications materials include catalogs, pamphlets and booklets from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The Year of the American Craft materials include AFS notes, a Congressional proclamation, correspondence, *Craft News*, a fact sheet, form, logo design, Louisiana committee materials, Louisiana mailing list, participation guide, press packet, press release, state coordinators list, summary statement, and *Y.O.A.C News*.

**VIII. Florida Parishes Folklife**, 1981-1992,
Summary: Chronology of the project; LCH (Louisiana Committee for the Humanities)/Minigrant 1982 materials for conducting extensive field surveys and presentations in the Florida Parishes; agreements for the items on display in the exhibit Louisiana Folklife in Florida Parishes; loan agreements; correspondence on book publication; correspondence on the project development; the Florida Parishes book essays, drafts and notes; NEA grant application (1984) for book publication; book press releases; newspaper clippings on the Florida Parishes Folklife Conference in 1983, folklife seminar, Florida Parishes Folk Music and Dance Concert, folk crafts display of the people of the Florida Parishes; correspondence, list of exhibit crafts people, exhibit collection list, news release for the Florida Parishes Folklife Exhibition in 1984, contract agreement with Gordon Linge and Jill Jeskin (Jeskin & Linge); printed materials; NEA grant application (1983) and materials on “Piney Woods People” exhibit; survey of Florida Parishes materials.

The chronology of the Florida Folklife Project provides a detailed timeline of the project’s initiation and development starting from Fall 1982 through 1989. Materials on initial project planning include correspondence on minigrant and minigrant applications from 1982, proposal for a Humanist/Scholar in Residence to bring historian/folklife specialist Stephen Tucker into the Louisiana Folklife Program to carry out work and advise the Program on its interest in cultural conservation in the Florida Parishes and the Delta of northeast Louisiana, expenditures forms and records.

Preliminary proposal to NEA on Florida Parishes Folklife Project from January 1, 1983. Newspaper clippings describe project development from 1981 through 1984, and the selection of the book by the ALA for inclusion on its Notable Books list. Draft of the initial NEA grant application (1983) and final application in order to carry out a Florida Parishes Folklife Project in the eight parishes of the Louisiana “panhandle”. The Piney Woods People exhibit materials consist of project sample pages and a couple of photographs, a report on a survey of log buildings in the Florida Parishes submitted to Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, Division of the Arts by the Museum of Geoscience and School of Geoscience, LSU. There is also an article on Choctaw and other Indian tribes in Washington Parish, and an additional narrative on the Florida Parishes Folklife Project. Original retyped copies consist of different authors articles on different aspects of Florida Parishes folklife.

0.1 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Correspondence, materials on *Brownie Ford: Stories from Mountains, Swamps & Honky Tonks* album, Hezekiah and the HouseRockers album, Octa Clark and the Dixie Ramblers recording, and “The Country Three”.

Correspondence on production, editing, financial aspects, and distribution of folklife recordings, correspondence with Louisiana Folklife Center, grant agreement for distribution of folklife recording albums, labels specifications, newspaper clippings, reports on released albums, descriptions of the record collection, cover specifications for Louisiana Folklife Recording Series reissues. Press release and note on Folklife Recording Series, *Brownie Ford: Stories from Mountains, Swamps & Honky Tonks*. Materials on Hezekiah and the House Rockers include correspondence, grant agreement on production LP of traditional blues by Hezekiah and the House Rockers of Ferriday, transcripts of the interviews from 1981 with Hezekiah Early, Pee Wee Whittaker, James Baker; revised re-mastering instruction for Hezekiah and the House Rockers, notes by David Evans with band history and music description, labels, cover credits and back cover specifications. Materials on Octa Clark recordings include rough transcription for the LP Octa Clark and the Dixie Ramblers from 1978, correspondence, music notes and transcriptions, photos and revised cover information for the recording, notes and transcripts. Materials on “The Country Three” album consist of correspondence, press release and band music overview. Letters of appreciation from libraries and archives where Louisiana Recording Series were distributed. Newspaper clippings.

X. Institute of Texan Culture of the University of Texas at San Antonio, 1977, 1981,
0.05 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Materials on the conference Folk Culture in Texas (1977) include greetings and welcoming letters to members of the Conference, list of program participants and performers, printed brochure on the Texas Folklife Festival from August, 1977, correspondence with Spitzer and grant application with budget description and narrative for organization of a public forum and production of a videotape documentary on traditional Texas music.

Series XI. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, 1979-1985, 1995/96,
0.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, General Management Plan/Development Plan draft (1982). Correspondence mostly between Spitzer and James
Materials on General Management Plan for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park include letter from James Isenogle (1980); letter to planning participants and handout for Initial Public Meeting (January, 1980); description on Barataria Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park; letter to Mr. Robert De Blieux, State Historic Preservation Officer, from Regional Director, Southwest Region, National Park Service, from March, 1982; draft of General Management Plan. Materials on African American Heritage Tourism Conference, held in Baton Rouge in August 1995 consist of participant list and summary of Heritage Workshop Products. Correspondence (1979-1985) includes letters to and from Spitzer and letters to and from Isenogle on different programs developed by Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, and also jointly with the Folklife Program, and Delta Region Preservation Commission Resolution (1984). Delta Region Preservation Commission Minutes 1980, 1982-1985. Materials on an evening of traditional music from the Lower Mississippi Delta (1980). Scope of work on update and revision of the *Mississippi Delta Ethnographic Overview* (1978) and Request for Quotations. Printed materials include brochures on Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, the Lafitte Study Group Newsletter (Fall, 1980), newspaper clippings, a few issues of different bulletins and a magazine, *Cultural Resource Management (Exploring Hispanic History and Culture-A Dynamic Field*, 1997. Requests for Quotations (1984, 1985, 1994) to conduct a study of the Ethnohistory of the Irish of Southern Louisiana, to conduct a study of the Ethnohistory of the Filipinos of Southern Louisiana, to provide a history and analysis of Louisiana patterns of trade, migrations and cultural exchange with settlements in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, to conduct a study of the sites associated with 1814-1815 New Orleans, and some others. Requests for proposal include a study of the contemporary culture of the Indians of Southern Louisiana, a study of the contemporary culture of the Islenos of Southern Louisiana, and a study to identify the Afro-American communities in Southern Louisiana. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park at the 1984 World Exposition materials contain schedule of facilities and documents of signage.

0.2 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Series XIII. National Council for Traditional Arts (NCTA), 1979-2001,
0.1 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.


XIV. National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), 1975-1999
0.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

cultural programs, state folk arts coordinators questionnaire completed by Spitzer (1983).
Summaries of the various state and regional folk cultural programs. Artists and Communities
program application and booklet.

0.3 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Materials on NPR special program, “Bon Cher Comarade”, include press releases, transcripts,
tape logs, notes. Bulk of correspondence (1978-1980) is represented by letters on different radio
programs between Spitzer and Deborah Lambertson, National Public Radio. Printed materials,
guidelines for features submissions.

XVI. Perique Tobacco, 1987, 1989
0.1 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Correspondence, notes, newspaper clippings on Kentucky Museum Project and Perique tobacco
farming. Photographs and photocopies of the tobacco planting in Louisiana from the Historic
New Orleans Collection materials. Notes on tobacco planting in Louisiana. Booklets on tobacco
in Louisiana.

XVII. Smithsonian Institution, 1976-1999
0.9 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Correspondence. Directory of African-American Folklorists. Information on
Descriptive report on Oil Folklore. Printed materials. Materials on Smithsonian Festival
of American Folklore (SFAF). Folklife Fieldwork Guide - Regional America. Inventory
of Audio Recordings from Festival of American Folklife. List of Participants in the
Festival of American Folklife. Background Information on the Festival of American
Folklore

Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies materials are a list of SFAF participants
(1967-1993) and an inventory of audio recordings, folkways recordings, and special projects in
the 1994 SFAF for Louisiana. Correspondence with the Smithsonian includes letters to and from
Information on grants and fellowships from the Smithsonian. Folklife Fieldwork Guide
(Regional America) with Supplements, Policies and Procedural Information; Philosophical
Guidelines for Regional America Program; Documentation Specification and Guidelines.
2.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Materials on different folklife projects and organizations including correspondence on different projects, printed materials, photographs, notes, press releases, drafts, guidelines, minutes of meetings, lists of recordings and films, catalogs, conferences materials.


Materials on the Folklife Program participation in the celebration of the State Capitol’s 50th Anniversary consist of correspondence between Nicholas Spitzer and Governor Jimmie Davis on the proposal to present at the celebration the folk music concert series “Capitol Folks: A Wednesday Noon Concert Series of Louisiana’s Finest Traditional Musicians”, newspaper clippings, notes (1982).

Papers on participation in Cultural Outreach Project (1986) that Louisiana Folklife Program and the Office of Tourism developed in order to increase tourism, specifically from Texas include correspondence, list of participants, participant agreements, tentative itinerary of the cultural outreach tour of Texas, itinerary for entertainers, explanatory notes on different participants, groups, bands and musicians, maps of the tour.
Materials on films and videos on folk culture include catalogs, brochures, booklets, flyers, notes on different films, materials on a new eleven-program series on traditional southern music broadcast on PBS 1981. Newspaper clippings on folk arts/folk crafts 1978-1994 and issues of St. Tammany Topics (1984). There are also printed materials on how to set up a folk patterns collection center and on the program “Future Homemakers of America,” listings of different festivals. Correspondence on publication “Gifts from the Hills.” Materials with description of craft courses in John C. Campbell Folk School (1986).

Materials on the Louisiana Folk Arts Conference 1979 include proposal for a conference, conference agenda, list of panel members and guest speakers, list of participants. Newspaper clippings on Native Americans include newspaper clippings on Choctaw Tribe (1986). There are also printed materials on Native Americans. Louisiana Heritage Foundation articles of incorporation (1984).

Materials on Oklahoma Arts Institute include minutes of the Folk Arts Advisory Panel of the Institute (1991), description of Folk Arts Program Planning for the Future: Self-Study, grant application to NEA on preserving the multi-cultural heritage of the Kiowa and Cherokee tribes (1991-1992), newspaper clippings. Materials on Old Farmer Day 1982 include notes. There are materials on the Olympic Arts Committee Meeting (1985) and a printed booklet on the 1984 Olympics program. Materials on the program “Portraits of America” include correspondence, photographs, and newspaper clippings.

Materials on the Delta Folklife Festival (1991) include a letter from Gloria Powers, Festival Director, to the Delta Folklife Festival Advisory Board (Status Report on 1991 Festival), Festival Director’s Evaluation Notes for Attention of Advisory Board, press release on Delta Folklife Festival, stages schedules, bios of participants, and newspaper clippings.

Also includes Director Maida Owens’s reading file (2002-2004), Folklife Updates (1989-2004), records of the Video Reviewing Project (1999), The House That Art Built Campaign, and Hurricane Katrina Response documentation (see container list for complete record of series contents). Also includes records pertaining to the Regional Folklorist program at the University of New Orleans, Northwestern State University, and Louisiana Tech (1999-2002).

Series XIX. Louisiana Folklife Festival Pavilion (LFFP)/Louisiana World Exposition (LWE) 1984, 1982-1984,
2.0 linear feet, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Financial materials include budget notes and data, correspondence on budget, projected expenses, folklife close out-budget and other materials. Bios includes information on Patty Harrington, Ray Brassieur, Nina Solod, and Worth Long. Completed activity forms and application to participate. List of Louisiana World Exposition, Inc. Board of Directors from November 5, 1982. Materials on brochure include letter to Dark Designs to produce an informative and interpretive brochure for the Louisiana Folklife Pavilion and attached to it proposal for design specifics and expenses. List of checks received from the Festival.

Materials on consultant Gordon Linge include correspondence, labels, condition report on vitrine system for the exhibition *The Creole State - An Exhibition of Louisiana Folklife*. Materials on consultant Van Mertz include correspondence, consultation agreement. Contracts consist of engagement agreements with performers. Correspondence (1982-1984) includes letters on site selection, a folklife exhibit development, folklife pavilion programming, and other different aspects of folklife development. Materials on crafts items include correspondence, list of labels, exhibit vitrine specifications, loan agreements. Crafts store materials include correspondence and projected sales materials.

Creole State Exhibit materials include correspondence with Alexandria Museum on loaning the collection assembled for the exhibit, correspondence on loan of panoramic quilt and an Ada Thomas basket, and on relocation the World’s Fair Folklife exhibition in Baton Rouge; general description of the exhibit; materials on loans; agreement with consultants; loans agreements; labels and items descriptions. Entertainment master calendar. Florida Folklife Week materials include correspondence between Florida Folk Life Program and Louisiana World Exposition folklife program coordinators, list of suggested performers and demonstrators, photographs, newspaper clippings. Notes and materials on food-ways.

Materials on generic industry exhibit and forest industry exhibit include correspondence, description of the exhibit, Greyhound Exhibit group brochure, photocopy of Special Report Forest & People, 1979. Materials on Jean Lafitte National Historical Park include a copy of the Cooperative Agreement between Louisiana World Exposition and Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, correspondence, invoices, receiving reports, instructions on signage for use at Folklife Pavilion Louisiana World Exposition 1984. Loan agreements for objects loaned for the Louisiana Folklife Pavilion exhibit, correspondence on loan. Folklife inventory. Missouri Week materials include correspondence, list of participants, description of Missouri cultural heritage, brochures.

Materials on National Council for Traditional Arts include a status report on LWE Folklife Festival, consultation agreement between Louisiana World Exposition and The National Council
Materials on participants/presenters include list and notes on participants, participant packet materials with printed brochures, resource materials with lists of Louisiana performers and nationally based performers, lists of confirmed performers, lists of crafts, tent descriptions, notes, performer/group confirmation sheets.

Personnel materials include folklife budget information for filling 4 positions for the Fair; a letter of announcement for accepting the applications for the positions of Folklife Supervisor, Folklore Specialist (2), Craft & Foodways Coordinator, Secretary, Folklore Technician (3), and Multi-Purpose Staff (3); job descriptions for folklife positions; personnel requisition forms. There are materials on Lynn Abbot, Ray Brassieur, Lee Dishman, David Doucet, Patty Harrington, Allison Kaslow, Worth Long, Jeanette O’Rourke, Ulysses Richard, Jr., Nina Solod, John Vidrine.

Preliminary Recommendations for Louisiana Folklife Festival at LWE, Louisiana and Gulf South Folklife Festival at the 1984 LWE - A Proposal, newspaper clippings. Press Releases, standard press packet with weekly program description, press releases and schedules on Texas Week. Publicity contacts materials (public radio) include lists of people and organizations, notes. Printed materials includes magazine’s issues with original press releases, newspaper clippings, brochures.

Private funding materials include letter from Spitzer on soliciting support of Exxon Corporation, schedule of World’s Fair Folklife Pavilion, Forestry Industry Meeting, correspondence with sponsoring corporations, agreement between Louisiana World Exposition and Champion International Corporation, between LWE and Boise Southern Company, between LWE and Georgia-Pacific, between LWE and Owens-Illinois. Reports on work include correspondence (1983-1984) on Exposition’s Folklife Program development, updates on Folklife Festival, reports on consultants’ activities, progress and status reports. Rolodex of artists. Signage materials. Site development and construction materials include correspondence on possible location of the Festival, a preliminary physical plan, budget and construction schedule for the LWE Folklife Festival in the Federal Fiber Mills, street plan in front of the Federal Fibre Mills, news releases, notes. Concession agreement between Louisiana World Exposition and Southern Development Foundation. Correspondence on Folklife Staff Cuts. Weekly schedules, Folklife Festival theme weeks schedule.

**Series XX, Louisiana Folklife Festival (LFF), 1983-1998**

6.0 linear feet, arranged by year/festival, then alphabetical by format within each year; chronological within each folder.

Budget, financial records, contracts with performers, artists and craftspeople, fieldworkers, and
demonstrators, correspondence, reports, press releases and publicity, brochures, programs, festival board minutes and agendas, festival booklets and booklet development, participant packets, newspaper clippings, crafts shop procedures, NEH and LEH mini-grant applications, stage schedules and lists of participants, permits and licenses, proposals, festival evaluations, reports, and other records related to planning, producing, and putting on the Louisiana Folklife Festival. Information about host cities and agreements with them are also present. Correspondence is among the directors of the Louisiana Folklife Program, host city officials, corporate sponsors, granting agencies, fieldworkers, performers and demonstrators, the festival board, and state officials. (Note that not all of these formats/types of records are available for every year/festival. Consult the container list for specifics for each.) Fieldwork conducted and recorded in preparation for each festival, as well as recordings made at the various festival stages are found in the oral history series (Series XXIV).

Series XXI. LA Open House, 1989-1991,
0.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.

Summary: Materials on LA Open House and LA Open House/Storytelling Program. Printed materials. Correspondence. Materials on Regional Coordinators selection, appointment and work. The Storytelling Pavilion materials include calendar, guidelines, materials on interviewing recommendations.

Materials on Louisiana Open House include general materials on whole program and different aspects of the program, a final report, and materials on Storytelling Program. Between materials on the whole program there are workshops materials, printed materials, manual on LA Tourism. LA Open House Workshops materials include workshops schedule, agenda, checklist, letters of invitation, booklet Getting Your Message on the Air, Louisiana Fairs and Festival Guide, Workshop Guidebook, lists of workshops participants. Printed materials include xerox of Folk Festivals: A Handbook for Organization and Management, Manual LA Tourism, brochures with programs description, newspaper clippings, general booklets and brochures about Louisiana. Materials on LA Open House, Storytelling Program include correspondence on program development, Storytelling Pavilion and on regional coordinators selection (1989-1991) and follow-up correspondence, printed materials, materials on regional coordinators (training sessions materials, lists of organizations to work with, notes, resources for coordinators, job announcements, applications, resumes, letters to hired coordinators), materials assigned to regional coordinators fairs and festivals, materials on work of one of the coordinators (Dede Cale), storytelling pavilion materials (12-month calendar listing all fairs, festival and events for the Storytelling Pavilion, pavilion guidelines, Suggested Guidelines to Planning and Staging Storytelling Sessions, Interviewing Storytellers, photocopies of materials on interviewing, couple of photographs) and activity reports, Storytelling Program/Site Selection Committee materials, materials on storytellers.

Series XXII. Storytelling Book Project, 1989-1991,
LOUISIANA FOLKLIFE PROGRAM PROJECT FILES  Mss. 4730  
1973-2011  LSU Libraries Special Collections

0.2 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological within each folder.


NEA grant application (1989) on establishing a storytelling area at the Seventh Annual Louisiana Folklife Festival (1990, City of Kenner) and Memorandum from Owens (Bergeron) to Leslie Tassin, Office of Cultural Development on DOA matching to NEA grant travel expenses. Job announcements materials include newspaper copy of the job announcement, list of higher education programs in folklore and folklife, public folk cultural programs address list. Job applications for the Storytelling Project Director position include letters of application, resumes. Materials on Reneé Harvison include letter from Leslie Tassin, Assistant Secretary, to Henry Truxillo, Secretary, with updates on the Storytelling Book Project Director candidate for the position, job application from Harvison with attached resume, letter to Owens from Harvison with enclosed writing samples, newspaper clippings, contract with Harvison.

Correspondence (1990-1991) includes incoming and outgoing correspondence of C. Reneé Harvison, Director of Louisiana Storytelling Project, correspondence on film, video and audiotapes. Description of different types of folklore. Materials on Bel Abbey (Koasati Indian) include letters, biographical notes, brief resume and xerox of photographs, notes, transcripts of stories narrated by Bel Abbey.


Series XXIII. Swapping Stories Files, 1994-1999,
1.4 linear foot, alphabetical by format or topic; chronological or alphabetical (according to personal names) arrangement within each folder.

Announcement party materials include correspondence between Owens and the Louisiana Political Museum, correspondence between Owens and performers, invitations to the announcement party by Phillip Jones, a tentative and final agenda, and a guest list sign-in sheet.


Copyright materials include completed copyright form on the “Swapping Stories: Folktales from Louisiana”, complete table of contents, acknowledgments, The Louisiana Storytelling Project article by Owens, Louisiana’s Traditional Cultures article by Owens, Bibliography, Map of Louisiana Folk Regions, map of Louisiana Parishes and Major Cities. Correspondence include correspondence between Owens and JoAnne Prichard, Executive Editor of the University Press of Mississippi, and Anne Stascavage, Assistant Editor; access market for Storytelling Book sheets; correspondence with Carl Lindahl (one of the editors of the Swapping Stories), Don Hatley (Louisiana Folklife Center), Barry Ancelet Nick Spitzer; general letter to storytellers with permission form; transcripts of two stories by Bel Abbey in Koasati and English translation (How A Man Lost His Breechcloth To a Bull, The First Meeting Of The Indians And The Europeans).

Contributors’ materials include stories of Evelia Boudreaux and materials, contributed by Ancelet; stories of Alfred Anderson and materials, contributed by Lindahl. Manuscript changes from storytellers. Manuscript development materials (1994-1995) include correspondence (with Prichard, Ancelet, Lindahl, Geoffrey Kimball (a linguist at Tulane University who recorded, transcribed, and translated a story by Bel Abbey). Manuscript development materials (1996) include correspondence on editing and corrections in the book.

LEH awards materials include an invitation and correspondence.

Permissions materials include list of contributors with phones and notes if permission form had been received; table of contents of the book; permission forms signed and returned by storytellers (with signed permission to include their story in the publication Swapping Stories: Folktales from Louisiana), letter from Owens to storyteller and transcript of the story. Revision 1 and revision 2 materials include transcripts of different stories with notes and changes. Correspondence on revisions (1995) includes fax messages between Owens and Lindahl with changes and editorial notes on different stories and bibliography. Correspondence on revisions (1996) includes correspondence and fax messages on editing the book, and also letter to Prichard, University Press of Mississippi.

Research materials include articles and book excerpts on Afro-Americans, Czechs, Hispanics,
Native Americans, folktales of north and south Louisiana, and legends.

University Press of Mississippi materials include a few letters of correspondence between Owens and Anne Stascavage, Assistant Editor, with attached to the letters blank of Author’s Questionnaire, completed author’s questionnaire, Access Market for Storytelling Book sheet, a press release, and two printed catalogs of University Press of Mississippi (March through August 1996, September 1996 through February 1997.) Updates on publishing materials include letters to contributors/storytellers (alphabetical arrangement) with attached transcripts of the stories, notes.

Video documentary materials include correspondence between Owens and Mire, grants, budgeting, logging sheets, newspaper clippings, Pat Mire's filmography, permissions received, printed and production materials.

**Series XXIV. Oral History, 1973-1999**

4.0 linear feet, arrangement by project or festival and tape number.

Collection of approximately 1500 audio and reel-to-reel tapes pertaining to folklife and regional history of Louisiana. Transcripts or tape logs are present for some interviews. Topics include Acadian history, farming, hunting, fishing, oil industry, small town life, education, family life, music, ghost stories, politicians, military, religion, legendary characters, civil rights, crime, hurricanes, floods, transportation and riverways. Interviews represent people from most regions of Louisiana, including Baton Rouge, Breaux Bridge, Bogalusa, Kinder, Livingston Parish, Morgan City, Lake Charles, Lacombe, LaRose, Lecompte, Many, Sabine Parish, Mansfield, Colfax, Clinton, Covington, Cameron Parish, Crowley, Church Point, Delcambre, Eunice, Des Allemands, Fisher, Gillian, Donaldsonville, Forest Hill, Gonzales, Franklinton, Hammond, Independence, Port Allen, St. Francisville, Ruston, New Orleans, Napoleonville, Morgan City, New Iberia, Lafayette, Lake Providence, Jeanerette, Jonesboro, Mansfield, Minden, Monroe, Natchitoches, Madisonville, Washington Parish, Winnfield, St. Martinville. The Piney Woods region of Louisiana and the parishes of Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, Calcasieu, Beauregard, Allen, Jefferson Davis, Vernon, Acadia, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Evangeline are also documented.

Search field recordings and audio tapes at [http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/4730/search/](http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/4730/search/)

**Series XXV. Video Tapes, 1982-1996**

2.5 linear feet, arranged by film type and size

There are video materials on Folklife Festivals, documentaries (crafts, music, storytelling), news footage and news clips, work samples, oral history videotaped interviews. Video materials contain tapes of Louisiana Folklife Festivals (1985, 1987-1992), and some other festivals (Jazz Festival 1996, Caney Lake Festival 1989); video materials on Louisiana Open House and Storytelling Program/Pavilion during the Open House, on different storytellers during
performing their stories, and different folk musicians; documentaries of Mardi Gras, Crafts Marketing Workshop, Cajun rowing skiff building, Seventh Annual Tribute to Cajun music etc. News footage includes French Tour NCTA, and footage from CBS series (Hezekia and the Houserockers, the Natchitoches Folk Festival). There are promotional videos on “Made in Louisiana,” the Library of Congress Bicentennial, and louisianatravel.com. The 16mm reels contain “Mr. Hardin and the Swamp,” multiple copies of “Made in Louisiana” and footage of Artlook 1980 and of the 1985 Smithsonian Festival of American Folklife. There are 40 VHS tapes, 22 3/4 inch tapes, eight tapes of other sizes and seven 16mm reels.

Series XXVI. Posters, ca. 1973-1999
Arranged by topic, then chronological.


Louisiana Folklife Program posters are of the Louisiana Folklife Festival (1999-2005) and the *Swapping Stories* Video Project.


Exhibits & Exhibitions for which posters are present include *A La Mode De Cheznous* (French American Musical Dance), an announcement about the Blue Goose, *The Ends of the Earth*, *Dog Trots and Mud Cats: the Texas log house*, *La Vie Lafourchaise*, *Gifts from the Hills* (North Central Louisiana, Folk Traditions Exhibition), *The Piney Woods People* (A photographic exhibition documenting life on the lumber frontier of Southeastern Louisiana at the turn of the century, printed from the original glass negatives of A. L. Blush), *Do It Right and Passing It On: North Louisiana Folk Crafts*, *On My Way: Sarah Albritton*, an exhibit at Zigler Museum (Jennings) and the LSU Union Art Gallery, and exhibits from the Louisiana State Museum entitled *Louisiana Focus*, *I Shall Save One Land Unvisited*, and Southern Photography in Perspective.

Series XXVII. Originals (Artist’s Copies)

Maps’ Originals include negatives, photographs, paper copies. There are South Louisiana Folk Regions, North Louisiana Folk Regions, Louisiana French Creole: Subregion and Urban Centers of Use, Symbolic Interaction on the Landscape (Model Creole Mardi Gras House Visit on the Prairies, Duralde, Louisiana), Indians of Louisiana: Their Contemporary Locations and Linguistic Retention, Makers of Cajun Accordion in Louisiana, Traditional Wild Fowl Carvers, St. Helena Parish Modern Farm, Louisiana Folk Regions.

Originals also include materials on *Contemporary and Revivalist Craftsmen Wildfowl Carving, Festivals, Louisiana Crafts Marketer*. There are also collages on Crafts, Craftsmen and Musicians, and Foodways.

**XXVIII Delta Parishes Folklife Project**, 1987-1998
0.75 linear feet, alphabetical by format, chronological arrangement within each folder.

Series contains records from the Delta Parishes Folklife Project, a project that documented Folklife in Morehouse, Ouachita, West Carroll, East Carroll, Caldwell, Tensas, Catahoula, Richland, Madison, Franklin, LaSalle, and Concordia parishes. The Delta Parishes Project focuses mainly on regional folklife traditions that have continued in the delta area of the state, but also includes folk traditions, of ethnic, occupational, and other groups as well. Assessments, printed materials, correspondence, newspaper clippings, press releases, and photographs are included. Information about the 1997 Smithsonian Festival of American Folklife Delta Parishes Folklife exhibit includes list of participants and essays. Field school records include evaluations, handouts, and reports. Fieldworker records include contracts, reimbursement requests, notes and essays. Recordings from the project are housed at the Louisiana Tech University Archives.

**XXIX Folk Arts in Education**, 1983-1998
0.4 linear feet, alphabetical by format, chronological arrangement within each folder.

Contains records of efforts to bring folklife into the curriculum, including class curriculum guides, grant proposals, newspaper clippings, and an artist roster. The series also contains general folk arts information and folk arts program information from schools in Abita Springs, Calcasieu Parish and St. Tammany Parish.

0.25 linear ft., alphabetical by format, chronological arrangement within each folder.
LOUISIANA FOLKLIFE PROGRAM PROJECT FILES  Mss. 4730
1973-2011  LSU Libraries Special Collections

Records of the Piney Woods Louisiana Folklife Program Project include contracts with
fieldworkers, correspondence among participants, reports from field workers, grant applications
and supporting materials, agendas, printed materials, proposals, reports, and background
information compiled for project planning meetings. Transcripts and/or tape logs of recordings
from this project are filed in Series 24, Oral History, Box 21.

XXXI. Miscellaneous Project Files, 1985-1994
0.25 linear ft. alphabetical by format, chronological arrangement within each folder.

Series includes project files of the following miscellaneous Louisiana Folklife Program-
sponsored projects: Louisiana Folk Regions Map, Tri-Parish Folklife Survey, Imperial Calcasieu
Folklife Survey, and West Baton Rouge Parish Historical Association Folklife Survey. See sub-
series descriptions below for specific projects' contents.

Sub-series 1. Louisiana Folk Regions Maps, n.d.
Maps showing the major subregions and ethnic groups in Louisiana. Specifically, they include
maps of the regions in the state where Louisiana French Creole is spoken, location and linguistic
retention of Louisiana Indians, Louisiana’s folk regions, and the dispersion of traditional
craftsmen by craft. The data was compiled by Maida Owens

Sub-series 2. Tri-Parish Folklife Survey- 1992
The Tri-Parish Folklife Survey entailed surveying the Acadia, St. Landry, St. Martin, and
Evangeline parishes. It is composed of a grant application and a report from a field worker.
Tapes of interviews are found in the Oral History Series, Tapes 1439.1 to 1446.

The parishes of Cameron, Calcasieu, Beauregard, Allen, Jefferson Davis, and Vernon were
included in this survey. Project files include a Final Report (1991), Grant application material
(1990), a Mailing List Proof Report (1990), and field reports (1987). Tapes of interviews are
found in the Oral History Series, Tapes 1168 through 1189.

Sub-series 4. The West Baton Rouge Historical Association-1987
Alphabetically by format, chronological arrangement within each. The Iberville, Point Coupee,
and West Baton Rouge parishes were surveyed in this project. The series is comprised a grant
application. Transcripts of interviews and releases are found in the Oral History Series, Box 21.
There are no tapes.

XXXII. Agency and Program Files, 1941, 1977-2001
8.5 linear feet, arranged alphabetically by agency or program within each sub-series

Series include agency and program files related to the Department of Culture, Recreation, and
Tourism. These files include the Louisiana Office of Tourism, the Louisiana Office of Cultural
Development, and the Louisiana State Parks and Historic Sites. There are also agency and program files that are not related to the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. These files include the State Library of Louisiana, the Louisiana State Museum, and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco. See sub-series below for specific file contents.


0.5 linear ft. alphabetically by format, chronological arrangement within each.

The sub-series of the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism is composed of the records of four offices within the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism (CRT). These include the Office of Cultural Development, which is comprised of the Department of Archeology, the Department of Historic Preservation, and the Division of the Arts; the Office of Tourism, the Office of State Parks and Historic Sites, and the Louisiana State Museum. The Louisiana Folklife Program is a program of the Division of the Arts, and thus is a member agency of the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.

The records contained in the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation files include correspondence (1980-1982), proposals (1981), and general information about the department (1981, 1982). The records contained in the Division of the Arts files include general information (1999), information on the Louisiana State Conference (1979), and a collaborative project involving the National Endowment for the Humanities (1993).


The records of the Office of Louisiana Parks and Historic Sites include correspondence (1981), information on the interpretive programs at Longfellow-Evangeline State Park (1981), the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship (1988), proposals (unknown date) for a country music museum at the Rebel State Commemorative Area and other records on the park (1983), information on salary schedules and state park facilities (1977), and a file of special events held at Louisiana State Parks (1989).


Subseries 2. Non-Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism state agency files, 1979-2000

0.3 linear feet, alphabetically by agency or program, chronological arrangement within each
Materials from state agencies not affiliated with the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism include budgets, correspondence, flyers, meeting agendas, minutes, newsletters, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, project narratives and reports. These state agencies are the Department of Commerce, Department of Education, Department of Transportation and Development, the Rural Development Council of the Governor's Office, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the Secretary of State.

**Subseries 3. Louisiana Folklife Projects and Program files**

5.6 linear feet, alphabetically by agency or program, chronological within each folder

Correspondence, printed items, grant applications, newspaper clippings, reports, and other records of various folklife and/or heritage programs and projects in the state, of all sizes. This subseries represents, in essence, a vertical file of information on Louisiana’s cultural institutions and activities. Arranged alphabetically by project or program name.

**Subseries 4. Out-of-state folklife programs and project files, 1941, 1979-1999**

1 linear foot, alphabetically by agency or program, chronological arrangement within each

This subseries contains correspondence, curriculum guides, flyers, newsletters, newspaper clippings, reports, surveys, and programming materials from other folklife programs in the United States and Canada including those of state agencies, universities, and independent organizations. States included are Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

**Subseries 5. Federal and national folklife programs and projects, 1979-2001**

1 linear foot, alphabetically by agency or program, chronological arrangement within each

This subseries contains correspondence, newsletters, notes, pamphlets, press releases, publications and reports from federal and national programs and projects involving folklife including the American Folklore Society, the Center for Applied Linguistics, the Center for Folk Arts in Education, the Consortium for Pacific Arts and Cultures, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, the Fund for Folk Culture, the Library of Congress, the Museum of American Folk Art, the National Black Arts Festival, the National Roundtable on Folk Arts in the Classroom, the Southern Arts Federation, the Textile Museum, the U.S. Departments of Commerce and the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Information Agency.

**XXXIII. Fellowship and Apprenticeship Records, 1981-1996**

0.3 linear feet, arranged alphabetically by format and chronologically within each folder
The fellowship and apprenticeship records contain apprenticeship applications, correspondence to and about applicants, lists of apprenticeships and site visits, newspaper clippings about apprenticeship monies available and announcing deadlines, photographs of apprentices and their work, printed materials, reports, summaries of grants and timelines. There are materials on individual apprentices, the apprenticeship booklet, *Keeping it Alive*, and the program itself.

XXXIV. Topics
4.3 linear feet, arranged alphabetically by topic

Vertical file of clippings, printed items, and articles on various Louisiana folklife topics, including Acadian weaving, Cajuns, duck decoys, the flood of 1927, gospel music, grave houses, Houma Indians, migration to Louisiana, perique tobacco, pirogues, religious folk healing, shrimping, the Atchafalaya Basin, Caddo Indians, the Cajun French Music Association, La. Folk Roots, La. Folklore Center, La. Folklore Society, the Neutral Strip Project, New Orleans Jazz Fest, and various university endeavors. Oversize items include promotional materials for music groups, publications featuring various ethnic groups, a draft of the Atchafalaya Basin website map, and a Lower Town Revitalization Progress map from Paducha, Kentucky.

XXXV. New Populations
4 linear feet, papers arranged alphabetically by project title. Recordings and interviews searchable at http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/4730/search/.

The New Populations project identifies immigrant communities throughout the state in an effort to document how they maintain their traditional culture. Within each community, researchers located major tradition-bearers, artists, artifacts, and organizations. Records contain research materials, field reports, essay drafts, print-outs of final essays from the La. Folklore website, photograph indexes, release forms, and interview transcripts in both analog and digital formats (unless otherwise noted). Interviews (recorded 2002-2009) are available on cassette tape and digitally unless otherwise indicated.

**Subseries 1. Celebration of La Purisima by Nicaraguans in Southeast La.**
A study of the Nicaraguan celebration of La Purisima, a feast day for the Virgin Mary. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish in 2007 and span 6 cassette tapes. Additional materials include a traditional song book, correspondence between researcher Denese Neu and Maida Owens, and a map of the Nicaraguan population across Louisiana. 73 digital photographs from a celebration at St. Jerome’s Church, December 7, 2007 are also included. Digital copies of interviews are available.

**Subseries 2. Chinese Folk Dancing in South La.**
A look at how Chinese populations in South Louisiana preserve traditional forms of Chinese dancing. Interviews recorded on 11 cassette tapes cover topics such as educating the next
generation in their heritage, music, challenges in finding rehearsal time, and where costumes are obtained. Interviews were conducted in Mandarin Chinese and English in 2009. Additional materials include 2009 Heritage Festival promotional items, and 85 digital photographs depicting a variety of practices and performances. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 3. Chinese New Year in Shreveport
A report on the Chinese community in Shreveport coming together to celebrate Chinese New Year. Topics include clothing, holiday performances, and traditional foods, such as dumplings. 31 digital photographs cover the 2009 celebration at First Baptist Church. Note: no interviews are available.

Subseries 4. Cubans in Louisiana
A study on the Cuban population in Louisiana. Topics include Cuban culture, history, and music. Interviews, which span 29 cassette tapes, were conducted in 2008. Digital photographs feature CubaNOLA celebrations and Cuban community leaders. Additional materials include documentation from Cuban civic groups and the original project proposal. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 5. Filipinos – New Orleans
A 2007-2008 report on Filipino and Asian dance traditions in South Louisiana focuses mainly on Asian populations in the New Orleans area. It offers a brief look at Filipino history and the Asian community in New Orleans. Note: no interviews are available and the records do not include any digital materials.

Subseries 6. Garifuna Music and Dance in New Orleans
A study of the Garifuna music and dance community in New Orleans. Topics covered include traditional songs, dance, and the history of people of the Caribbean. Interviews were recorded on 8 cassette tapes in 2008 in English, Spanish, and Garifuna. Additional materials include correspondence between researcher Amy Serrano and Director Maida Owens, research concerning Garifuna history, and a DVD of Serrano’s documentary Sugar Babies. Digital materials include copies of interviews in addition to performance audio, video, and photographs.

Subseries 7. Greater New Orleans German Community Documentation
Research into the past and present of the German immigrant population in Louisiana. Topics discussed include traditions such as brewing, woodworking, and folk songs. The study was conducted in 2007; available interviews were conducted in 2002 and span 8 cassette tapes. Additional materials include a biographical sketch of Marietta Herr, slides, correspondence from St. Charles Parish Councilwoman Darnell Abadie to the Parish Council, and promotional and news items from regional German institutions. Digital copies of interviews are available.

Subseries 8. Guatemalan and Latin American Musical Traditions in New Orleans
A study of the Latin American music scene in New Orleans, with emphasis on Guatemalan artists. Topics include musical styles and the impact of Hurricane Katrina. Interviews, which span 6 tapes, were conducted in 2009 in English and Spanish. Digital materials include interview
A 2008 report on the Hispanic population in central Louisiana. Topics covered include employment in the agricultural industry and other venues, traditional foods, and religious practices. 22 digital photos depict locations key to the Hispanic community in central Louisiana. Note: records do not include interview releases, a field report, or the original interviews on cassette or digitally.

Subseries 10. Honduran Cultural Traditions
Research into the enduring cultural traditions of Hondurans living in Louisiana, with emphasis on the New Orleans area. Interviews from 2009 span 5 tapes and cover topics such as sewing, piñatas, and festivals. Interviews were conducted in English. Additional materials include resources for Hispanic businesses, a song and dance booklet, relevant promotional fliers, and the original project proposal. 18 digital photographs depict Honduran crafts and events. 2 videos show piñata making and a dance practice. Digital copies of interviews also available.

A study of how East Indian immigrants maintain their musical traditions in South Louisiana. Interviews from 2008, which span 9 tapes, cover historical information, the sitar, songs, and vocal performances by Rama Bai Shenoy. 98 digital photographs are of musicians, dancers, and food at an Indian Community event, as well as photographs of Indian families. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 12. Indian Hindu Community in South La.
A study which documents the Indian Hindu community of South Louisiana. Topics covered in the interviews include holidays, traditions, and an overview of community leaders and events. Interviews were conducted in English, in 2006, and span 11 tapes. Additional materials include programs from cultural events, newsletters and promotions from relevant organizations, a traditional prayer, and a collection of folktales. 254 digital photographs show community leaders, temple decorations, traditional wardrobe, art, food, and crafts. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 13. Japanese Dance
Research on Japanese culture and dance forms in Southeast Louisiana. Note: this file contains only drafts of the researcher’s final essay and a printed index of photographs taken. No digital materials are included, nor are the original interview cassette tapes.

Subseries 14. Koreans in Leesville Thanksgiving
A report on the celebration of Chusok by the Korean community in Vernon Parish. Note: the only materials available are a draft of the final essay (digitally and in print), an index of photographs (digitally and in print), and 49 digital photographs. Also included is a memorandum from researcher Sheila Richmond to Director Maida Owens which explains that before this study
could be completed, the Korean community in Leesville chose not to participate in the New Populations Project. No interviews are available.

**Subseries 15. Laotian Subdivision Lanexang Documentation**

A study of the Laotian immigrant community in Lanexang, a subdivision in northern Iberia Parish. Interviews were conducted in 2007, in English and Laotion, and span 9 tapes. They cover topics including language, manners, customs, religion, and holidays. Research materials, video of a large Laotian New Year Event (Songkran), and promotional materials for the New Year’s festival are also included. 581 digital photographs of interviewees and festival events are also available. Digital copies of interviews are also available.

**Subseries 16. Latino Music and Dance in Baton Rouge**

A report of the Latino music and dance scene in Baton Rouge. Interviews with musicians and other community leaders offer information on Baton Rouge bands and Latino music traditions. Interviews span 8 tapes and were conducted in 2009 in Spanish and English. Additional materials include a vertical file on Latino establishments and events in Baton Rouge. Digital materials include interviews, 88 photographs, and 5 videos of musical performances at Baton Rouge venues.

**Subseries 17. Latinos in New Orleans**

2007 research into the Latino population in New Orleans with particular emphasis on the Honduran community and folk traditions. Note: files contain only a field report, the final essay as it appeared on the Folklife website, the original project proposal, some interview summaries, and a photo log. None of these materials are available digitally. No interviews are available.

**Subseries 18. Latino Project – UNO**

A smaller study from 2006 of the Latino population in New Orleans, with most items pertaining to the band Ovi-G and the Froggies. Also covered is the tradition of cooking encurtidos. Interviews, conducted in 2006, span 2 cassettes. The project contains interview releases, interview transcripts, a photo index, 45 digital photos, and promotional materials for the band. Digital copies of interviews also available.

**Subseries 19. Making Piñatas: Celebration Mexican-Style in North La.**

A report on continuing the Mexican tradition of piñata making during celebrations in north Louisiana. The project contains the final essay as it appeared on the Folklife website, a photo index, 2 digital “piñata song” audio files, and 219 digital photographs. No interviews are available.

**Subseries 20. Mexicans in Forest Hill**

Research from 2007 focused on the Mexican population of Forest Hill, Louisiana. The researcher identifies potential areas of interest, challenges in the study, and discusses the Forest Hill Catholic Church as having a central role in the community. Materials include interview logs (but no release forms or audio), a photo index, the final essay, a field report, a glossary, and 29 digital photographs.
A 2007 study on how immigrant Muslims in Baton Rouge maintain their cultural traditions. Interview topics include traditional crafts, calligraphy, henna, and Muslim culture. Interviews span 7 tapes. Additional materials include the photographer’s release form, Muslim community promotional items, background research, and samples of traditional calligraphy. The field report, final essay, interview logs, photo index, copies of the original interviews, and 56 digital photographs are available.

Subseries 22. Overview of the Chinese Community in Baton Rouge
Research into Chinese folk traditions through the eyes of the immigrant community in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Interviews, spanning 7 cassettes, were conducted in English and Mandarin Chinese in 2006 and 2007. They cover topics such as culture, crafts, the scholar’s stone, music, and ink painting. Files contain research materials and the original project proposal. Digital materials include 6 videos taken during interviews, 2 audio tracks of flute performances, interviews, and 228 photographs.

A 2009 study of how Vietnamese immigrants in south Louisiana preserve their culture, with focus on both Buddhist and Catholic traditions. Interviews span 7 tapes. Additional materials include the photographer’s release form, business documents related to the project, and Vietnamese community documents. Digital materials include interview logs, field report, invoice, photo log, question template, altar essay, and 67 photographs. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 24. Tet, The Vietnamese New Year in New Orleans
A 2007 study of how the Vietnamese community in New Orleans celebrates Tet, the Vietnamese New Year. File also contains historical research. Note: no interviews are available; the only digital materials included are 13 photographs.

Subseries 25. Transnational Muslim Cultural Traditions
A 2009 report on Muslim cultural traditions. Interviews, which span 3 cassette tapes, were conducted in the New Orleans area and cover topics such as politics, immigrant life, and henna. Background research materials are also available. Digital materials include interview logs, the final essay, the field report, a video, and 28 photographs. Digital copies of interviews also available.

Subseries 26. Vietnamese Community Documentation
A study of the Vietnamese community in Louisiana, mainly conducted in Buddhist temples in the New Orleans area. Interviews were conducted in 2006, in English and Vietnamese, and span 6 cassette tapes. Note: interview releases are not included; the only digital materials available are 16 photographs. Digital copies of interviews also available.
LOUISIANA FOLKLIFE PROGRAM PROJECT FILES  
1973-2011  
LSU Libraries Special Collections

XXXVI. Louisiana Voices  
3 linear feet

Records of the formation and implementation of the Folklife in Education Project and the development of the Educator’s Guide. Files include drafts of various units, training materials, training workshop files, student handouts, course development, correspondence between Director Maida Owens and regional contacts regarding the development of educational materials and training programs, meeting minutes, grant applications and records, vertical file on similar programs, publicity, and Heritage Education files. Dates range from approximately 1999-2007.
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