

MAUDE HEARN O'PRY PAPERS

Mss. 3338

Inventory

Compiled by
Camille Boechler

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Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

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SUMMARY

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Size | 3 linear ft; 7 volumes |
| Geographic Locations | Shreveport, Louisiana; Caddo Parish, Louisiana |
| Inclusive Dates | 1773-1964, undated |
| Bulk Dates | 1920-1930 |
| Languages | English |
| Summary | Maude Hearn O'Pry (1873-1964) was a historian in Shreveport, Louisiana in Caddo Parish. This collection contains O'Pry's writings and research materials. |
| Access Restrictions | None |
| Reproduction Note | May be reproduced |
| Copyright | For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law. |
| Citation | Maude Hearn O'Pry Papers, Mss. 3338, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La. |
| Stack Location(s) | 19:1-2, N:9, OS:O |

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Maude Hearn O'Pry (1873-1964) was an author, historian, and professional writer. O'Pry was born in Madison, Mississippi on September 22, 1873, the daughter of David Russell Hearn (1841-1925) and Martha Jane Mixon Hearn (1837-1915). She married Alvin O'Pry (1875-1957) of New Orleans, Louisiana in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Her children were Alvin Kouns (1906-1973), Hardie Dillon (1909-1952), Martha Lee Serio (1912-1986), and Maude Hearn Williams (1913-1993). O'Pry was a resident and local historian of Shreveport, Louisiana, where she authored the first comprehensive history of the region, published in 1928 as *Chronicles of Shreveport*. O'Pry was also member and historian of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, for which she collected oral histories of Confederate veterans of the American Civil War, published as *140 Reminiscences of the War Between the States*. In addition to historical research, she wrote magazine articles and radio broadcasts. She died in Miami, Florida on September 10, 1964.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Maude Hearn O'Pry Papers contains manuscripts and research materials compiled by O'Pry. Many of the records are O'Pry's professional writing (found in Series II, boxes 2-7), which include drafts and proofs of her *Chronicles of Shreveport* (found in Subseries 1, box 2), select radio broadcasts, as well as various articles relating to the history of Shreveport and/or the Confederate States of America (both found in Subseries 2, box 3). The collection also includes several other records, such as biographical sketches of various Confederate veterans (found in Subseries 3, box 4), O'Pry's personal memoir writings (found in Subseries 4, boxes 5 and 6), printed materials (found in Series III, boxes 8 and 9), scrapbooks (found in Series IV), and photographs (found in Series V, box 6).

LIST OF SERIES AND SUBSERIES

Series I. Correspondence, (1833-1960, undated)

Series II. Writings, (1821-1964, undated)

Subseries 1. *Chronicles of Shreveport*, (1867-1962, undated)

Subseries 2. Articles and Radio Talks, (1930-1932, undated)

Subseries 3. Biographical Sketches, (1821-1960, undated)

Subseries 4. Memoirs (1925-1964, undated)

Subseries 5. Miscellaneous Writings, (1898-1958, undated)

Series III. Printed Materials, (1900-1961, undated)

Series IV. Scrapbooks/Volumes (1876-1958, undated)

Series V. Photographs (1864-1928, undated)

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I. Correspondence, (1833-1960, undated)

Series I is comprised of personal and professional correspondence of O'Pry, arranged chronologically. Though there are some records of personal correspondence in this series, most records are professional correspondence, often regarding O'Pry's historical research. Many of these records are replies to O'Pry's inquiries to various individuals and/or institutions for information pertaining to her research. Correspondence from 1928 and after is primarily regarding her book *Chronicles of Shreveport*, with several of the records containing receipts of payment from various individuals/institutions for copies of the book (found in box 1, folders 10-17).

Series II. Writings, (1821-1964, undated)

Series II is comprised of various writings by O'Pry. Included in this series are O'Pry's writings for *Chronicles of Shreveport*, O'Pry's written articles and radio broadcasts, biographical sketches, personal writings for O'Pry's memoirs, and miscellaneous writings. The series is accordingly subdivided into five subseries, each arranged chronologically.

Subseries 1. *Chronicles of Shreveport*, (1867-1962, undated)

Subseries 1 is comprised of O'Pry's work relating to *Chronicles of Shreveport*. This subseries includes book proofs, drafts of various book chapters, as well as notes written by O'Pry during her research and writing of the book.

Subseries 2. Articles and Radio Talks (1930-1932, undated)

Subseries 2 is comprised of drafts of articles and radio broadcasts written by O'Pry. The articles span a variety of topics, such as Southern history, parenthood/childrearing, as well as O'Pry's various musings and reflections (found in box 3, folders 7-11). This subseries also contains transcripts of "Pry Bar," a radio show written by O'Pry for the station KTSL in Shreveport (found in box 3, folders 3-6).

Subseries 3. Biographical Sketches (1821-1960, undated)

Subseries 3 is comprised of O'Pry's written biographical sketches of various Confederate veterans. This subseries includes writings about Robert E. Lee (box 4, folders 5-7), Stonewall Jackson (box 4, folder 10), John Singleton Mosby (box 4, folder 8), Raphael Semmes (box 4, folder 9), and Sam Davis (box 4, folders 1-3).

Subseries 4. Memoirs (1925-1964, undated)

Subseries 4 is comprised of O'Pry's writings for her memoirs, which includes various personal writings and essays pertaining to O'Pry's life. This subseries contains an

assortment of handwritten and typed stories from O'Pry's childhood, as well as some anecdotes from her adulthood. Records of O'Pry's involvement in the Juvenile Protection Month held during May 1925 in Cedar Grove, Louisiana are also included in this subseries (found in box 6, folders 1-3).

Subseries 5. Miscellaneous Writings (1898-1958, undated)

Subseries 5 is comprised of various miscellaneous writings by O'Pry. This subseries includes a range of items, such as collected articles by other authors with O'Pry's commentary (found in box 7, folders 1, 4, and 7), records pertaining to the court case between O'Pry and Judge W.H. Hardy (box 7, folders 2 and 5), and O'Pry's certificates. This subseries also includes more of O'Pry's personal writings (found in box 7, folders 9-12). The original arrangement of these personal writings was separate from O'Pry's memoir writings and were not expressly identified as such. Adhering to the collection's provenance and original order, these personal writings were kept separate from the writings for O'Pry's memoirs, which accounts for their placement in this subseries.

Series III. Printed Materials, (1900-1961, undated)

Series III is comprised of printed materials collected by O'Pry, such as pamphlets (found in box 8) and newspaper clippings (box 9), arranged chronologically. Included in the pamphlets are printed materials from O'Pry's time as a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (found in box 8, folders 3, 9, and 11) and tributes to Confederate veterans (found in box 8, folders 1, 6, and 8). O'Pry's collected newspaper clippings span a range of topics, some of which include coverage of her *Chronicles of Shreveport* (found in box 9, folders 12, 13 and 15), as well as her involvement in Juvenile Protection Month during May 1925 in Cedar Grove, Louisiana (found in box 9, folder 8). Other newspaper clippings pertain to Confederate history (found in box 9, folders 2, 3, 4, 19, 23, and 24), as well as the life and times of Robert E. Lee (found in box 9, folders 4, 14, 21, 23 and 24).

Series IV. Scrapbooks/Volumes (1876-1958, undated)

Series IV is comprised of seven volumes created by O'Pry, arranged chronologically. Five of the volumes are scrapbooks and contain various poems, clippings, and miscellaneous writings collected by O'Pry. The other two volumes in this series also contain an assortment of poems, clippings, and writings. Although some of the items collected in the volumes pertain to O'Pry's historical research, a range of subjects are featured that appear to have been of personal interest to O'Pry outside of her research, such as nature, religion, social events, holidays, and family ancestry.

Series V. Photographs (1864-1928, undated)

Series V is comprised of photographs collected by O'Pry, arranged chronologically. The series includes photographs related to the history of Shreveport (box 6, folder 7), photographs of landmarks in St. Martinville related to the Acadian legend of Evangeline (box 6, folder 10), photographs of O'Pry's students (box 6, folder 9), as well as other personal and family photographs collected by O'Pry (box 6, folders 11-12).

INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found in the series indicated, as represented by their numbers.

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| Caddo Parish (La.)--History--19th century. | II-III |
| Caddo Parish (La.)--History--20th century. | II-III |
| Confederate States of America--History. | II-III |
| Confederate States of America. Army--Officers. | II |
| Lee, Robert E. (Robert Edward), 1807-1870. | II-III |
| O'Pry, Maude Hearn | I-V |
| Shreveport (La.)--History--19th century. | II-III |
| Shreveport (La.)--History--20th century. | II-III |
| United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865. | II-III |
| United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Veterans. | II-III |

CONTAINER LIST

| <u>Stack Location</u> | <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents (with dates)</u> |
|---|------------|---------------|---|
| Series I. Correspondence, (1833-1960, undated) | | | |
| 19:1 | 1 | 1 | Correspondence, (1833) |
| | | 2 | Correspondence, (1837, 1847) |
| | | 3 | Correspondence, (1906) |
| | | 4 | Correspondence, (1916) |
| | | 5 | Correspondence, (1920-1921) |
| | | 6 | Correspondence, (1922) |
| | | 7 | Correspondence, (1923) |
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| | | 9 | Correspondence, (1927) |
| | | 10 | Correspondence, (1928) |
| | | 11 | Correspondence, (1929) |
| | | 12 | Correspondence, (1930-1931) |
| | | 13 | Correspondence, (1932-1935) |
| | | 14 | Correspondence, (1938) |
| | | 15 | Correspondence, (1939-1940, 1945) |
| | | 16 | Correspondence, (1953-1954) |
| | | 17 | Correspondence, (1960, undated) |
| Series II. Writings, (1821-1964, undated) | | | |
| Subseries 1. <i>Chronicles of Shreveport</i>, (1867-1962, undated) | | | |
| | 2 | 1 | "History of the Street Railway", (1925, undated) |
| | | 2 | "History of the Railroad in Shreveport and Caddo Parish", (1959, undated) |
| | | 3 | Book proofs from Dozier Engraving Company, (undated) |
| | | 4 | "The Caddo Indians", (undated) |
| | | 5 | "Freeman Curtis Expedition in 1806", (undated) |
| | | 6 | "The Great Raft", (undated) |
| | | 7 | "History of the Post Office in Shreveport", (undated) |
| | | 8 | "Red River", (undated) |
| | | 9 | "Transportation on Red River and the Lakes", (undated) |
| | | 10 | "William Dunbar on the Red River", (undated) |
| | | 11 | Handwritten notes, (1962, undated) |
| | | 12 | Miscellaneous, (1867, 1870, 1962, undated) |
| Subseries 2. Articles and Radio Talks (1930-1932, undated) | | | |
| | 3 | 1 | "Louisiana Lou" (Editorials), (1930, undated) |
| | | 2 | Radio Talks, (1930, 1932) |

| <u>Stack Location</u> | <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents (with dates)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|--|---|
| | | 3 | "Pry Bar", nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, (1932, undated) |
| 19:1 | 3 | 4 | "Pry Bar", nos. 8, 10, 11, (undated) |
| | | 5 | "Pry Bar", nos. 13, 15, 17, 18, (undated) |
| | | 6 | "Pry Bar" Sample Set, (undated) |
| | | 7 | Short Articles, (undated) |
| | | 8 | Short Articles, (undated) |
| | | 9 | Short Articles, (undated) |
| | | 10 | Short Articles, (undated) |
| | | 11 | Short Articles, (undated) |
| | | | |
| | | Subseries 3. Biographical Sketches (1821-1960, undated) | |
| | 4 | 1 | Sam Davis (volume), (undated) |
| | | 2 | Sam Davis: "A Hero", (undated) |
| | | 3 | Sam Davis (notes), (1898, 1909, 1927, undated) |
| | | 4 | Joseph Dutton: "Our Guests: Brother Joseph Dutton," (undated) |
| | | 5 | Robert E. Lee: "My Uncle Robert" by George Taylor Lee, (1922) |
| | | 6 | Robert E. Lee, (undated) |
| | | 7 | Robert E. Lee (notes), (undated) |
| | | 8 | John Singleton Mosby, (undated) |
| | | 9 | Raphael Semmes, (1921) |
| | | 10 | Stonewall Jackson, (undated) |
| | | 11 | Jefferson Davis, (1922, undated) |
| | | 12 | Biographical Sketches: Miscellaneous, (undated) |
| | | 13 | Civil War Reminiscences, (1910, 1922, undated) |
| | | 14 | Diary of Dr. McGuire, (1821-1848, 1960) |
| | | | |
| | | Subseries 4. Memoirs (1925-1964, undated) | |
| | 5 | 1 | Writings for Memoir: Volume, (undated) |
| | | 2 | Writings for Memoir: Magazine Clippings, (1940, undated) |
| | | 3 | Writings for Memoir, (1940, undated) |
| | | 4 | Writings for Memoir, (1940, undated) |
| | | 5 | Writings for Memoir, (1944, undated) |
| | | 6 | Writings for Memoir, (1946, undated) |
| | | 7 | Writings for Memoir, (1964, undated) |
| | | 8 | Writings for Memoir, (undated) |
| | | 9 | Writings for Memoir, (undated) |
| | | 10 | Writings for Memoir, (undated) |
| | 6 | 1 | Cedar Grove Juvenile Protection Month, (1925) |
| | | 2 | Cedar Grove Juvenile Protection Month, (1925) |
| | | 3 | Cedar Grove Juvenile Protection Month, (1925) |

| <u>Stack Location</u> | <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents (with dates)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|---|--|
| | | 4 | "The Old Griffin Place", (undated) |
| | | 5 | "Some Facts on Racial Equality", (undated) |
| 19:1 | 6 | 6 | Writings for Memoir: Writings on pink copy paper, (undated) |
| | | | |
| | | Subseries 5. Miscellaneous Writings (1898-1958, undated) | |
| 19:2 | 7 | 1 | "History of Education in Louisiana" by Edwin Whitfield Fay, (1898) |
| | | 2 | O'Pry v. Hardy, (1906, 1912) |
| | | 3 | Certificates, (1924-1925) |
| | | 4 | "The Southern Methodist" by Halpin Whitney (marked copy), (1926) |
| | | 5 | "A Dream Not Enacted Until Seven Years Later", (1929) |
| | | 6 | "Place Names", (1958) |
| | | 7 | Criticism of Lawton B. Evans' "The Essential Facts of American History" used in Shreveport Schools, (undated) |
| | | 8 | "The South in the World War", (undated) |
| | | 9 | Personal Writings, (undated) |
| | | 10 | Personal Writings, (undated) |
| | | 11 | Personal Writings, (undated) |
| | | 12 | Personal Writings, (undated) |
| | | 13 | Miscellaneous Writings, (1932, undated) |
| | | 14 | Miscellaneous Writings, (1932, 1946, 1949, undated) |
| | | 15 | Miscellaneous Writings, (undated) |
| OS:O | -- | OS 1 | Miscellaneous Writings (oversize), (undated) |
| | | | |
| | | Series III. Printed Materials, (1900-1961, undated) | |
| 19:2 | 8 | 1 | <i>Confederate Veteran</i> , (1900-1901, 1908, 1910-1911, 1915, 1931, undated) |
| | | 2 | "The Recollections of Alex H. Stephens" in <i>Uncle Remus's Home Magazine</i> , (1911, undated) |
| | | 3 | Monthly Programs for the United Daughters of the Confederacy, (1915) |
| | | 4 | United Daughters of the Confederacy Historic Yearbook, (1915-1917) |
| | | 5 | "The Story of Illinois Central Lines" during the Civil Conflict 1861-5 in <i>Illinois Central Magazine</i> , (1916) |
| | | 6 | "Matthew Fontaine Maury" by Miss Maria Blair, (1918) |
| | | 7 | "Robert Louis Stevenson's Contribution to Literature and Life" by Lauchlan MacLean Watt in <i>Scribner's Magazine</i> , (1920) |

| <u>Stack Location</u> | <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents (with dates)</u> |
|---|------------|---------------|--|
| | | 8 | "Matthew Fontaine Maury" by Elizabeth Buford Phillips, (1921-1922) |
| 19:2 | 8 | 9 | Lee Memorial Yearbook by the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Children's Auxiliary, (1922-1923) |
| | | 10 | <i>Child Life</i> Good Citizen's League Handbook, (1923) |
| | | 11 | Yearbook for the Historical Department of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, (1926) |
| | | 12 | "A Poet at the Oil Wells" in <i>Shreveport</i> , (1927) |
| | | 13 | Steel Points Junior Place Names, (1928) |
| | | 14 | "Unfitting the Unborn" by James Porty and N. Phillip Norman, M.D., reprinted from <i>The Land</i> Vol. 5 No. 2, Summer, (1946) |
| | | 15 | "Recollections of Reconstruction in East and Southeast Mississippi" by Captain W.H. Hardy, (undated) |
| | | 16 | Supreme Court of Louisiana: Parish of Caddo vs. Parish of Bossier, (undated) |
| | 9 | 1 | <i>Maryland and Baltimore Journal</i> , (August 20, 1773) |
| | | 2 | Newspaper Clippings, (1916, 1922-1924) |
| | | 3 | Newspaper Clippings, (1925-1928) |
| | | 4 | Newspaper Clippings, (1931, 1939, 1942, 1948, 1961) |
| | | 5 | Newspaper Clippings, (undated) |
| Series IV. Scrapbooks/Volumes (1876-1958, undated) | | | |
| N:9 | -- | v. 1 | Scrapbook, (1876-1934, undated) |
| | -- | v. 2 | Scrapbook, (1894-1896, undated) |
| | -- | v. 3 | Scrapbook, (1907-1931, undated) |
| | -- | v. 4 | Scrapbook, (1931-1937, undated) |
| | -- | v. 5 | Scrapbook, (undated) |
| | -- | v. 6 | Poems and Clippings, (1930-1937, undated) |
| | -- | v. 7 | Miscellaneous Writings, (1958, undated) |
| Series V. Photographs (1864-1928, undated) | | | |
| 19:1 | 6 | 7 | Environs of Shreveport, (1864) |
| | | 8 | Thatcher's Institute, (1887) |
| | | 9 | Pupils of Maude Hearn O'Pry, (1900) |
| | | 10 | Evangeline, (1928) |
| | | 11 | Photographs, (undated) |
| | | 12 | Photographs, (undated) |