

**MCMURRAY (ALDRIDGE LEROY) PAPERS**  
(Mss. 4502)  
Inventory

Compiled by  
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Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Revised 2009

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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	1 linear foot
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Louisiana
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1912-1987
<b>Language.</b>	English
<b>Summary.</b>	Captain's log books, photographs, autobiographical essay, printed items, and ephemera related to the career and life of steamboat captain Aldridge Leroy McMurray.
<b>Related collections.</b>	None.
<b>Copyright.</b>	Physical rights are retained by the LSU Libraries. Copyright is retained in accordance with U. S. copyright laws.
<b>Citation.</b>	Aldridge Leroy McMurray Papers, Mss. 4502, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	77:50; OS:M; 102:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Aldridge Leroy McMurray (1902-1987) was a steamboat captain, primarily on the Mississippi River between New Orleans, Louisiana, and Vicksburg, Mississippi. He began work on a dredge boat at age sixteen in 1918 and continued to work on steamboats throughout his career. In the 1920s, McMurray began working for Standard Oil. In 1933, he took a position with Esso oil company where he worked until his retirement in 1974.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Manuscript items primarily consist of captain's log books (1928-1967) and a memorandum book (1935-1939) which document McMurray's career as a steamboat pilot and captain. Photographs (1912-19785, two oversized) depict steamboats and tugs on the Mississippi (particularly the *Sprague*); prints of models of steamboats constructed by J. Albert Hebert are included. An autobiographical account by Aldridge Leroy McMurray relates details of his career and personal life. Printed items include steamboat licenses (1927), Masonic membership certificates (1982), letters of instruction (1956-1978) pertaining to McMurray's work at Esso and Humble Oil Company, ephemera (1942-1986), miscellaneous printed articles (1955-1987) and newspaper clippings (1948-1987). Oversize items include three maps (1959-1964) of Louisiana waterways, a newspaper article about McMurray's career (1979), photographs of steamboats, cross-stitched needlework items (1983-1984), and a framed medallion and certificate commemorating the river steamer *Sprague* (1982).

**INDEX TERMS**

Autobiographies.

Esso Standard Oil Company. Louisiana Division.

Logs (records)

Photographic prints.

Ship captains--Louisiana.

Sprague (Steamboat)

Steam-navigation--Louisiana.

Steamboats--Louisiana.

## CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
77:50	1	Vols. 1-10	Manuscript volumes (1928-1967), Captain's log books and memorandum books
		1-2	Photographs (1912-1985), steamboats, tugs. Prints of steamboat models.
		3	Autobiographical notes (1987, undated)
		4	Steamboat licenses, Masonic membership certificates (1927, 1982)
		5-6	Letters of instruction, Esso and Humble Oil Companies (1956-1978)
		7	Ephemera (1942-1986)
OS:M	--	8-11	Printed items, newspaper clippings (1948-1987)
		1	Three maps (1959-1964) of Louisiana waterways, a newspaper article about McMurray's career (1979), photographs of steamboats
102:			Two cross-stitched needlework items (1983-1984), framed medallion and certificate commemorating the river steamer <i>Sprague</i> (1982)