

Dawson Gaillard Papers

21 boxes, 8.75 linear feet

**Special Collections & Archives
J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library
Loyola University New Orleans**

Collection 46

Dawson Gaillard Papers

Reference Code

Collection 46

Name and Location of Repository

Special Collections and Archives, J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans

Title

Dawson Gaillard Papers

Date

1951 – 1985, bulk 1971 – 1981

Extent

21 boxes, 8.75 linear feet

Name of Creator

Gaillard, Dawson

Administrative/Biographical History

Dawson Ann Forman Gaillard Keefe was born on September 25, 1938 in Marietta, Georgia and grew up in Monroe Parish, Louisiana. She attended Louisiana State University as an undergraduate and Tulane University as a postgraduate, receiving her Bachelor's in Social Studies and English in 1959, and both a Master's and Doctorate in English in 1965 and 1970, respectively. Gaillard served as a Loyola University New Orleans faculty member from 1968 to 1983, and as chairman of the university's English Department from 1974 to 1977. Additionally, she worked as an editor the New Orleans Review from 1973 to 1979.

Her work as an advertising manager from 1979 to 1981 included writing the copy for the advertisements and book jackets of "Confederacy of Dunces" and many other titles published by LSU Press. Gaillard authored a book entitled "Dorothy L. Sayers" on the English mystery writer of the same name and co-edited "Women and Men Together", an anthology of short fiction. Her battle with multiple sclerosis contributed to her eventual departure from academic and professional life, and on October 1, 1985 she died in an accident at her home in Metairie, Louisiana. The annual Dawson Gaillard Writing

Awards are held in her honor at Loyola University, recognizing student work in the categories of expository writing, creative non-fiction, poetry, fiction, and script.

Scope and Content

The Dawson Gaillard Papers consists primarily of the personal and professional writings of Mrs. Dawson Gaillard. These include her personal diaries from 1951 to 1985, research notes and manuscript drafts for her book on Dorothy L. Sayers, academic work and research papers written as a student and teacher, samples of her copyediting work from LSU Press, and a small amount of original fiction and poetry. Also included is research related to the 1927 murder trial of Ada LeBouef and Dr. Tom Dreher, including two audiocassette tapes of interviews conducted by Gaillard with Murphy Dreher, Tom Dreher's nephew, and Mrs. Waleer Hamlin, the wife of Ada LeBouef's lawyer.

System of Arrangement

This collection has been arranged into five series, two of which have been further divided into subseries. The majority of original folder titles and contents have been preserved. A small number of blank and interfiled folders have been given titles based on their contents or location within a larger file. The arrangement scheme for the collection was imposed during processing in the absence of a usable original order.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Physical rights are retained by the J. Edgar and Louis S. Monroe Library, Loyola University New Orleans. Copyright is retained in accordance with U.S. Copyright Laws.

Language and Scripts of the Material

Collection is in English.

Processing Information

Finding aid written by James Clifford, 2013.

Series Description

Series I Personal Diaries

Personal diaries kept by Dawson Gaillard from 1951 to 1985. There is a single gap of one year between 1955 and 1957 where it appears she did not keep a diary. Entries cover everything from social interactions and life as a young teenager, later experiences in university, professional relationships at Loyola, and the years before her death as she struggled with the onset of multiple sclerosis. Also includes the October 18, 1985 issue of Loyola's "The Maroon" newspaper and a program for Gaillard's memorial service.

Series II Dorothy L. Sayers

Subseries II-A Manuscript Drafts

Drafts and revision notes related to Gaillard's manuscript for her book on Dorothy L. Sayers, an English author known for her detective fiction in the 1920s and 1930s. Also includes reviews of her book upon its publication in 1981.

Subseries II-B Sayers Research

Research material related to Gaillard's manuscript for her book on Dorothy L. Sayers, primarily consisting of photocopies of her stories and articles discussing her work and detective fiction in general. Includes notes and correspondence related to the same.

Series III Academic and Professional Work

Subseries III-A Articles and Speeches

Published and unpublished articles and speeches written by Gaillard during the 1970s, and notes related to the same. Subjects primarily focus on popular fiction and women's rights, but also include local interest pieces and a review of Walker Percy's "Love in the Ruins".

Subseries III-B Course Notes and Research Papers

Course notes and research papers written by Gaillard primarily during her time at Tulane University as both a student and teaching assistant, and later as a professor of the English Department at Loyola University New Orleans. Includes her thesis for her master's degree and dissertation for her doctorate.

Subseries III-C Book Proposals

Material related to book proposals undertaken by Gaillard. These include notes on editing a manuscript, her contract with Houghton Mifflin for a book she co-edited entitled "Women and Men Together", a proposal for a food shopper's guide of New Orleans entitled "These Little Pigs", and

documents and correspondence related to a book on the author Ruth Rendell that Gaillard was unable to finish due to her illness.

Subseries III-D Curriculum Vitae

Material related to Gaillard's education and professional experience, including her diploma from Louisiana State University, placement credentials from Tulane University, drafts of her resume, and samples of her published writing and copywriting work at LSU Press. Includes advertisements and book jackets for numerous titles published by LSU Press, among them "A Confederacy of Dunces".

Subseries III-E Clippings and Research

Miscellaneous material related to Dawson's work and research such as art museum brochures, photocopied articles, newspaper cartoons, notes on Walker Percy essays, and several publications from between the years 1972 and 1981, including a 1974 issue of the New Orleans Review and a 1981 issue of New Orleans Magazine featuring a story on John Kennedy Toole.

Subseries III-F Literary Organizations and Workshops

Material related to professional workshops and literary organizations. Workshop items include handouts and notes from seminars Gaillard attended on writing, literature, and publishing. Literary organization items include articles on mystery writing societies, mystery bookstore contact information, bookstore ordering sheets, and several catalogs from Arno Press. Also includes articles from February of 1981 on Jean Harris's murder trial and Norman Mailer's views on capital punishment published by the Baton Rouge Advocate.

Series IV Fiction and Poetry

Short stories and poetry written by Gaillard, primarily unpublished. Includes revision notes, newspaper clippings for potential story ideas, drafts of various stories and poems, and submitted story manuscripts and poems.

Series V Dreher / LeBouef Research

Research material related to the 1927 murder trial of Ada LeBouef and Dr. Tom Dreher. Includes photocopied court transcripts of the murder trial, photocopied newspaper articles related to the execution of LeBouef and Dreher by hanging, handwritten notes by Gaillard on the murder and trial, and two audiocassette recordings of interviews conducted by Gaillard. These interviews are dated January 7th, 1981 and March 14th, 1981. They are with Mrs. Waleer Hamlin, the wife of Ada LeBouef's lawyer, and Murphy Dreher, a nephew of Dr. Tom Dreher.

The Dreher / LeBouef trial is of special historical significance as the first case in which a white woman was sentenced to death and subsequently executed in Louisiana, following a lengthy appeals process in which Governor Huey P. Long refused to commute LeBouef's sentence to life in prison.

Container List

Series I: Personal Diaries

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Personal Diaries 1951 – 1952
	2	Personal Diaries 1953 – 1954
	3	Personal Diaries 1955, 1957
	4	Personal Diaries 1958 – 1959
2	1	Personal Diaries 1960 – 1961
	2	Personal Diaries 1962 – 1963
	3	Personal Diaries 1964 – 1965
3	1	Personal Diaries 1966 – 1967
	2	Personal Diaries 1968 – 1969
	3	Personal Diaries 1970 – 1971
	4	Personal Diaries 1972 – 1973
4	1	Personal Diaries 1974 – 1975
	2	Personal Diaries 1976 – 1977
	3	Personal Diaries 1978
5	1	Personal Diaries 1979
	2	Personal Diaries 1980
	3	Personal Diaries 1981
6	1	Personal Diaries 1982
	2	Personal Diaries 1983
	3	Personal Diaries 1984
7	1	Personal Diaries 1985
	2	Obituary / Memorial Service Program

Series II: Dorothy L. Sayers

Subseries II-A: Manuscript Drafts

Box	Folder	Description
8	1	Absolutely Final Draft (hahahahaha ha)
	2	Final Manuscript for Sayers
	3	Final Manuscript for Sayers
	4	Revised and Final Manuscript March 1980
	5	Revised and Final Manuscript March 1980
	6	Chptrs 1 – 3 with Sources
	7	Chptrs 4 – 6, Ch. 7 pgs 1-17
9	1	Notes, Ch. 2 – 3
	2	Short Stories
	3	1920s
	4	1930s
	5	One 1 st Draft – Vane Whimsey Novels
	6	World of Her Fiction, Ch. on “To Instruct”
	7	World of Her Fiction, Ch. on Detective Fiction
	8	World of Her Fiction, Ch. 6
	9	A Touch of the Eternal
	10	Miscellaneous Junk Notes
	11	Reviews of My Book on Sayers + Others

Subseries II-B: Sayers Research

Box	Folder	Description
10	1	Ask a Policeman (Dorothy Sayers)
	2	Busman’s Honeymoon from Famous Plays of 1937
	3	Dorothy Sayers Research (Grant)
	4	Miscellaneous (e.g. Material on Oxford, Change-ringing, Cricket)
	5	Miscellaneous (e.g. Material on Oxford, Change-ringing, Cricket)
	6	Miscellaneous (e.g. Material on Oxford, Change-ringing, Cricket)
	7	The Zeal of Thy House (Dorothy Sayers)
11	1	Notes from Wheaton / Important Folder
	2	Sayers Bibliography and Articles About Detective Fict.
	3	Sayers on Detective Fiction (Including Her Own) + Unpub Story and Novel
	4	Sayers on Detective Fiction (Including Her Own) + Unpub Story and Novel
	5	Sayers’s Essays on Theology, Criticism, Etc. / Creative Work (Cards), Reminiscences
	6	Sayers’s Essays on Theology, Criticism, Etc. / Creative

	7	Work (Cards), Reminiscences Sayers's Essays on Theology, Criticism, Etc. / Creative Work (Cards), Reminiscences
12	1	Others on Dorothy L. Sayers
	2	Others on Dorothy L. Sayers
	3	Others on Dorothy L. Sayers
	4	Others on Detective Fiction (e.g. Modern and Bentley and Chesterton) Including Detection Club (John Rhode to DLS)
	5	Others on Detective Fiction (e.g. Modern and Bentley and Chesterton) Including Detection Club (John Rhode to DLS)
	6	Index Card Notes – Sayers's Novels
	7	Index Card Notes – Secondary Sources

Series III: Academic and Professional Work

Subseries III-A: Articles and Speeches

Box	Folder	Description
13	1	Articles – Completed and Published
	2	Articles – Completed and Published
	3	Doris Betts Materials
	4	Eureka Essay Summer 1974
	5	Gaillard Speeches Given
	6	Gone with Wind Material + Material for Kate Chopin
	7	Poe and Apocalypse
	8	Reviews I've Written (and Published Sometimes)
	9	Summer '72 Police Story / 8/73 Dog Story
	10	Wakefield Articles

Subseries III-B: Course Notes and Research Papers

Box	Folder	Description
14	1	Eng 101 – Fall 1965 – Teaching Assistant Course Material
	2	Eng 101 – Fall 1965 – Teaching Assistant Course Material
	3	Eng 101 – Fall 1965 – Misc on Prose and Style
	4	2 nd Half – Eng 101 – Criticism – Walden
	5	Laura Miller
	6	Eng 771 [Poe]

7	My Thesis – Edgar Allen Poe’s Three Tales of Poetic Vision
8	Tulane Dissertation – A Study of Poe’s Concern with Man’s Power of Cognition
9	Research Papers

Subseries III-C: Book Proposals

Box	Folder	Description
15	1	Contract – Houghton-Mifflin + Correspondence
	2	Editing
	3	Ruth Rendell
	4	These Little Pigs
	5	Bread
	6	Delicatessen
	7	Fruit and Vegetable Stands
	8	Pastries
	9	Seafood

Subseries III-D: Curriculum Vitae

Box	Folder	Description
15	10	Certifications
	11	LSU Press: Some Ads I Did 1980-81
	12	NOR: How to Copyedit 1978
	13	Vita
	14	Vita Materials (May 1977)
16	1	Book Jackets
	2	Book Jackets
	3	Book Jackets
	4	Book Jackets
	5	Book Jackets

Subseries III-E: Clippings and Research

Box	Folder	Description
17	1	Art Materials – D.C. Museums – Some in NYC – Summer 1975 (Slide Lists)
	2	Cartoons
	3	Cleopatra Materials
	4	Emblem Books and Pieta Poesis

5	Story of Story Fall '78
6	Walker Percy – His Essays
7	Walker Percy – His Essays
8	Magazines and Periodicals
9	Magazines and Periodicals
10	Magazines and Periodicals
11	Adjustable Vignetter

Subseries III-F: Literary Organizations and Workshops

Box	Folder	Description
18	1	Arno Press Catalogs
	2	Book Simulation – McCarthy Mountain June 1978
	3	Great Books File
	4	ISI Summer Institute: Southern Literature (1974)
	5	ISI Summer Institute: Southern Literature (1974)
	6	Magazine Publishing Workshop
	7	Mystery Bookstores and Assoc. / Sayers Related Bookstores
	8	Writers' Workshop – U of No. Car.
	9	The Writing System Mailer

Series IV: Fiction and Poetry

Box	Folder	Description
19	1	1976 – Fall – Stories + Notes
	2	Historical Romances and Romances
	3	My Poetry
	4	My Poetry
	5	Stories – Complete
	6	Stories – Complete
	7	Stories – Ready to be Sent

Series V: Dreher / LeBouef Research

Box	Folder	Description
20	1	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume One
	2	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume Two
	3	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume Two

	4	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume Three
	5	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume Three
	6	State of Louisiana versus Dr. T.E. Dreher and Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBouef, October 24, 1927, Volume Four
21	1	Transcript of Record, Supreme Court of the United States, October Term 1928, On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana
	2	LeBouef / Dreher Case
	3	Clippings and Notes
	4	Audiocassette Tapes – Interviews with Mrs. Waleer Hamlin and Murphy Dreher