



**State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**CANTRELL-DOWDY COLLECTION
1910-1982**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Cantrell, Ouida K., 1914-1984
Dowdy, Hubert F., 1914-1988

Inclusive Dates:

1910-1982, bulk 1932-1982

Scope & Content:

Consists of materials collected by Ouida K. Cantrell and Hubert F. Dowdy, who were brother- and sister-in-law by marriage of Ouida's sister, Carolyn Junita Cantrell. The collection includes work-related files from Dowdy during his employment with the Tullahoma Engineer Redistribution Center and research from Cantrell on the history of Paris, Tennessee. Also included are personal files for both individuals. Most of the collection covers the history of Paris, Tennessee and war-related information from Dowdy's time working for the military during World War II. These materials include booklets, brochures, certificates, war ration books, correspondence, newspaper clippings, employment applications, genealogy research, phone directories, and photographs.

Newspaper clippings and research make up the majority of the collection. There are also clippings that mention Cantrell's 25-year service award from Motor Parts Company in Paris, Tennessee, her work at the Paris-Henry County Little Theater as a part of the organizational committee, and her fifty-year class reunion. The other newspaper clippings in the collection belong to Hubert F. Dowdy and relate to events that happened in World War II.

The collection contains several photographs from World War II belonging to the Cantrell-Dowdy family. These photos include soldiers on duty and attending events with their partners and of Dowdy at his job as a storekeeper at Camp Tyson. There are also personal photos of Dowdy with his family as well as Ouida Cantrell on several different occasions. Some of those occasions include her class reunions and her time in the organizational committee at the Paris-Henry County Little Theater. Also included is a collection of photographs taken in October 1960 during Nixon's campaign tour, although the locations of the photographs remain unidentified.

Also of note are the materials relating to Camp Forrest and Camp Tyson. Dowdy's employment application notes that he worked at Camp Tyson as a Storekeeper from October 1942 to February 1943 and served as Chief Storekeeper until October 1944. In addition, the application lists Dowdy's employment at Camp Forest as an Administrative Assistant in the Tullahoma Engineer Redistribution Center from February 1945 to March 1946. A Camp Tyson telephone directory dated 1943 also appears in the collection, and an organizational chart produced by the Tullahoma Engineer Redistribution Center in December 1945 shows how prisoners of war living in Camp Forrest worked for the center in operations. The collection also contains a Camp Forrest Induction Station booklet.

Of further interest to researchers may be the two war ration books issued to Hubert F. Dowdy and his family in 1942 and 1943. They include a ration book application filled out by Dowdy's wife, Carolyn Dowdy. The United States Office of Price Administration issued the books to his wife along with his two daughters, Judy Ann Dowdy and Jean C. Dowdy.

A few other items of note are several different booklets concerning Camp Forrest, servicemen, the Community Demonstration Club in Henry County, Tennessee, a Dale Carnegie Course, Tennessee's welfare record, and the fifty-year class reunion of Grove High School class of 1932 in Paris, Tennessee; three brochures discussing the Nashville School of Social Work, the Waldorf Hotel in New York City, New York, and a book about education in the New World; four certificates, one for Ouida Cantrell when she advanced to the Intermediate Department of the First Methodist Sunday School in Paris, Tennessee, one for when she received the Girl of the Year award for Beta Sigma Phi, and two certificates for Hubert Dowdy when he registered for the military, as well as one for completing job relations training; and two organizational charts that discuss the positions of people in the Tullahoma Engineer Redistribution Center in Tullahoma, Tennessee along with a chart demonstrating the different branches of the War Assets Administration.

Physical Description/Extent:

1 cubic foot

Accession/Record Group Number:

2019-144

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

XI-E-3

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

Ouida K. Cantrell was born in Paris, Tennessee in 1914, to William E. C. Cantrell and Flora M. "Lora" Wedelstedt Cantrell. She graduated from E. W. Grove High School in 1932. She was a member of the Beta Rho chapter of Beta Sigma Phi and worked for Motor Parts Company in Paris, Tennessee for at least 25 years. She passed away in 1988 and was buried in McRaes Chapel Cemetery in Big Sandy, Tennessee.

Hubert F. Dowdy was born in Martin, Tennessee in 1914. He worked numerous engineering jobs during World War II, including working as a chief storekeeper at Camp Tyson in Paris, Tennessee. He was also an administrative assistant at Camp Forrest in Tullahoma, Tennessee, and an inspector in the Manhattan District of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. After the war, he worked in the finance department at First American Bank in Nashville, Tennessee from 1955-1977. He passed away on August 29, 1988 and was buried in Harpeth Hills Memory Gardens in Nashville, Tennessee.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Materials are arranged in alphabetical and chronological order.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Personal/Family Names:

Cantrell family
Cantrell, Ouida K., 1914-1984
Dowdy, Carolyn J., 1920-2002
Dowdy, Hubert F., 1914-1988
Dowdy, Jean C., 1943-2019
Dowdy, Judy Ann, 1941-2010
Dowd family

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

E. W. Grove High School (Paris, Tenn.)
Paris-Henry County Little Theater (Paris, Tenn.)
Tullahoma Engineer Redistribution Center (Tenn.)
United States. War Assets Administration

Subjects:

Community theater -- Tennessee
High schools -- Tennessee
Military training camps -- Tennessee
Soldiers -- Tennessee -- Tullahoma
World War, 1939-1945

Geographic Names:

Benton County (Tenn.) -- Genealogy -- Sources
Camp Forrest (Tenn.) -- History -- 20th century -- Sources
Camp Tyson (Tenn.) -- History -- 20th century -- Sources
Henry County (Tenn.) -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

Paris (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
Tennessee -- Genealogy -- Sources
Tennessee -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

Document Types:

Announcements
Application forms
Appointment books
Booklets
Brochures
Certificates
Correspondence
Coats of arms
Coupons
Genealogies (histories)
Identity cards
Newsletters
Newspapers
Newspaper clippings
Organizational charts
Photographs
Programs (documents)
Ration books
Receipts (financial records)
Research notes
Transcripts
Telephone directories

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition:

Transferred from the Tennessee State Museum.

Processing and Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:

Cantrell-Dowdy Collection, 1910-1982, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

Collection was processed by Saige Coble, a volunteer in Archival Collection Services along with the assistance of Kimberly Mills Wires in November 2019.

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Announcement – City Manager and Commission Charter	undated	1	1
Applications	1944-1946	1	2
Appointment book – “My Date Book”	1943	1	3
Booklets	1942-1982	1	4
Brochures	1948	1	5
Campaign button – Dewey-Bricker	1944	1	6
Certificates	1926-1954	1	7
Coat of arms – Dowdy surname	undated	1	8
Coloring book – patriotic themed	1976	1	9
Correspondence	1910-1981	1	10
Coupons – from restaurants and businesses to the Dowdy’s when they moved to Nashville	undated	1	11
Genealogy research	undated	1	12
Genealogy research – Cantrell Family Tree	undated	1	13
Genealogy research – Robert B. White	1977	1	14
Identity cards – Hubert F. Dowdy	1937	1	15
Newsletter – Rotary Club of Paris, Tennessee	1977	1	16
Newspaper clippings	1932-1982	1	17
Newspaper clippings	1932-1982	1	18
Newspaper clippings	1932-1982	2	1
Newspaper clippings	1932-1982	2	2
Newspaper clippings	1932-1982	2	3
Organizational charts	1945-1946	2	4
Photographs	1932-1982	2	5
Program – Atkins Porter School Eighth Grade Commencement Exercises (Paris, Tenn.)	1928	2	6
Promotion list – Hubert F. Dowdy promoted to Assistant Cashier	1971	2	7
Ration books	1942-1943	2	8
Receipts	1945-1977	2	9
Research – history of Paris, Tennessee	1932-1982	3	1
Telephone directory – Camp Tyson, Tennessee	1942-1943	3	2
Transcript – Representatives of Engineer Redistribution Centers, U.S. Engineer Districts, Sad Branches and Disposal Agencies	1945	3	3