

MS-296, 1913 Flood Survivors Oral Histories

Collection Number: MS-296

Title: 1913 Flood Survivors Oral Histories

Dates: 1995-1996

Creator: Lyons, Mark R.

Summary/Abstract: The 1913 Flood Survivors Oral Histories is a collection of video oral history interviews with survivors of the 1913 Dayton Flood. The videos were made in the 1990s and the participants tell their stories of survival as children during the flood.

Quantity/Physical Description: 10 videotapes

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access: Please use CORE Scholar to view the entire collection at http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms296/. The original U-Matic videotapes should not be used for reference.

Restrictions on Use: Copyright restrictions may apply. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and Mark R. Lyons.

Preferred Citation:

MS-296, 1913 Flood Survivors Oral Histories, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Accruals: No accruals are expected.

Alternative Form Available: The interviews are available in their entirety in CORE Scholar, Wright State University's Campus Online Repository, at http://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms296/.

The interviews were originally recorded on U-Matic tapes. These were transferred to DVD in January 2012 and are part of the E-Archives.

Related Material:

1913: The Great Dayton Flood - From Story to Stage produced by Mark Lyons. The VHS tape is available in Special Collections & Archives (Film database, ID#89)

The book by Allen W. Eckert titled *A Time of Terror : the Great Dayton Flood*, is available in the Reading Room, F499 .D2 .E25 1997.

Processed by: Christa Streib, Spring 2000. Finding aid updated in 2013 by Toni Vanden Bos.

Arrangement: The interviews are arranged alphabetically by last name of the subject being interviewed.

Historical Note:

The interviews in this collection were conducted in 1995 and 1996. The oral history project grew out of Stuart McDowell's decision to write and produce a play based on Allen Eckert's book, *A Time of Terror: the Great Dayton Flood*. Stuart McDowell is the Chairman and Artistic Director of the Department of Theater, Dance and Motion Pictures at Wright State University.

As part of Stuart McDowell's research for the play, he interviewed one of the persons profiled in Allen Eckert's book. Mark Lyons was then asked to come on board to film the flood survivors oral histories represented in this collection, and produce a documentary titled *1913: The Great Dayton Flood - From Story to Stage*. The film documented the process by which real people's stories became the basis for a play about this historic tragedy.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of ten videotapes containing oral history interviews with seven survivors of the 1913 Dayton Flood. The participants tell their stories of survival as children during the flood. The interviews were conducted by Jeff Moyer and Mark Lyons in 1995 and 1996. Some of the interview subjects were identified from Allen Eckert's book titled *A Time of Terror: the Great Dayton Flood*, while others were found through various means. A few of the stories were directly used in the script of Stuart McDowell's award winning play, *1913: The Great Dayton Flood*, performed at Wright State in 1997. Excerpts from the interviews and the play are included in Mark Lyons' documentary *1913: The Great Dayton Flood - From Story to Stage*.

Subject Terms (Required)

Persons/Families:

Cotterill, Mildred
Jeffrey, Harry
Huffman, Marceda
Hopkins, C. Dale
Lyons, Mark R.
McCann, Eleanor
McDowell, Stuart
Moyer, Jeff
Smith, Jeffrey

Weeks, Ethel

Organizations/Corporate Names

Places:

Dayton (Ohio) – History – 20th century

Subjects (General):

Floods – Ohio – Oral histories

Natural disasters – Ohio – Dayton – Oral histories

Material Types:

Videotapes

Collection Inventory

<u>Box</u>	<u>Tape</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Mildred Cotterill	June 13, 1996
1	2	C. Dale Hopkins	December 11, 1995
1	3	C. Dale Hopkins	December 11, 1995
1	4	Marceda Huffman	undated
1	5	Marceda Huffman and Harry Jeffrey	July 19, 1996
1	6	Harry Jeffrey	July 19, 1996
1	7	Harry Jeffrey and Robert Smith	July 19, 1996
1	8	Eleanor McCann	June 6, 1996
1	9	Eleanor McCann and Ethel Weeks	June 6, 1996
1	10	Ethel Weeks	June 6, 1996