

CHARLES LOUQUE PAPERS

Mss. 1473

Inventory

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

Reformatted 2003
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SUMMARY

Size.	0.5 linear ft., 1 OS folder
Geographic locations.	Orleans Parish; St. John the Baptist Parish; Livingston Parish; Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Inclusive dates.	1838-1920, undated
Bulk dates.	1838-1909, 1917-1920
Language.	English, French
Summary.	The papers of Charles Louque (b. 1845), a native of St. John the Baptist Parish, prominent New Orleans attorney, and Louisiana State Senator. Records reflect Louque's professional work and his participation in the economic development of New Orleans, including his interest in drainage and engineering projects for the city. Also included are postcard views of Louisiana State University and the city of Baton Rouge, circa 1905.
Access Restrictions.	The Waldhauser sketchbook in volume 3 is fragile and should be handled with care.
Related collections.	Myra Clark Gaines Legal Documents, Mss. 5251, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	Charles Louque Papers, Mss. 1473, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack location(s).	UU:112; OS:L

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Charles Louque was born on November 29, 1845, in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, to Candide Delhommer and Norbert Louque, a sugar planter. He attended Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, and Old Jefferson College in Convent, Louisiana, but left college during the Civil War for military service from 1864 to 1865. After the war, he studied law and graduated from the University of Louisiana in New Orleans (Now Tulane University) in 1866. He compiled and published *A Digest of Decisions of the Supreme Court of Louisiana* in 1878.

Louque was a member of the City Council of New Orleans (1884-1888) during Mayor John Fitzpatrick's administration and served as chairman of the public order committee. He was elected state senator in 1902 and served five consecutive terms, retiring in 1920. He was instrumental in draining and reclaiming land in and around New Orleans (in what is now the neighborhood of South Lakeview), making the land available for agricultural and residential purposes through his New Orleans Swamp Land Reclamation Company (later renamed The New Orleans Land Company).

He married Edna Stewart in 1871, and they had six children. Louque died in 1927.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Charles Louque Papers contain records of Louque's legal, political, and business affairs, including his work as a state senator and in land reclamation and development in New Orleans. Many papers relate to land, including records of deeds, transfers, and purchases. Estate documents and succession papers are also present. Financial documents mostly consist of bills, receipts, and two bank books. Legal papers pertaining to cases handled by Louque are included in the collection as well as professional and political correspondence.

Printed and graphic material includes reports, broadsides, and assorted ephemera. Ten postcards depicting scenes from the city of Baton Rouge and buildings on the downtown campus of LSU are also present. The only photograph in the collection is undated and shows a drainage machine.

LIST OF SERIES

Series I. Financial and Legal Documents, 1838-1920, undated

Series II. Manuscript Volumes, 1878-1888

Series III. Printed and Graphic Items, 1905, undated

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Although the description here lists items by series, the papers are physically arranged chronologically regardless of series. See the Container List for box and folder information.

Series I, Financial and Legal Documents, 1838-1920, undated

The majority of papers in this series reflect land deeds, transfers, and purchases for Louisiana property. Papers relate to the land interests of New Orleans businessmen Stoddart Howell in St. John the Baptist Parish (1838-1840), Stamaty [St. Amant] Covas in Livingston Parish (1855), and N. D. Harvey in Grand Isle, La., (1869). Additional papers reflect the sale of Edmie Plantation in St. Charles Parish (1885), the property dispute of Myra Clark Gaines (1879-1889), and other records from in and around New Orleans. Two Livingston Parish land plats (1850) are also among the land records.

Financial papers include mortgage certificates (1876-1895), tax receipts (1868-1899), and records for rent, home repairs, purchases, clothing, and electricity. Additional items include the succession papers of François Lacroix (1879-1883), statements of account issued by the steamship *G. G. Marseille* (1882-1883), and documents pertaining to the estate of A. Carriere and the partnership of Carriere and Sons (1884-1885). The succession papers of Jean Petit (1888-1889), George H. Shotwell (1888), T. W. Bothick (1888-1901), and Samuel Stewart (1889) are also present.

Additional legal documents pertain to cases such as Wilmer Coal and Railroad Company vs. Alto Thomas (1889), New Orleans Fort Jackson and Grand Island Railroad Company vs. Dr. E. Rabasse (1890-1891), Fisher vs. City of New Orleans and School Directors (1895-1896), and others. Also included is a suit of Carondelet Canal and Navigation Company vs. Otto Touche (1887), as well as daily reports of the Carondelet Canal and Navigation Company listing names and classes of vessels and furnishings information regarding cargo (1894). Many documents, letters, and accounts pertain to the New Orleans Swamp Land Reclamation Company (1893-1896).

Among the correspondence in this series are multiple letters in 1917 from Ruffin G. Pleasant, governor of Louisiana, to Charles Louque, state senator, seeking his stand on the matter of borrowing money for building fire-proof vaults in the Secretary of State and State Auditor's offices; assistance to the Railroad Commission in investigating rate advances; and discussing appointments and financing of the State Food Preparedness Committee (April-May, 1917). A letter from another governor, John M. Parker, commends Louque for his work with the Carondelet Canal (June 2, 1920).

Series II. Manuscript Volumes, 1878-1888

This series comprises three manuscript volumes. The first volume is a bank book for "Madame Commagère," [probably the wife of Ernest Commagère, a notary public in New Orleans] from 1878-79. A book of vouchers and receipts from 1888 for the secession of Stoddart Howell is the second volume. The third volume contains a 1880-1886 sketchbook from New Orleans artist Emile Waldhauser (1859-1908).

Series III. Printed and Graphic Items, 1890-1905, undated

Printed items include a broadsheet on the Southern Mutual Live Stock Association in New Orleans, a report on New Orleans drainage, and various printed cards and advertisements (undated). Broad sides include one of the New Orleans Board of Trade listing officers, directors, and committees (1890), and another advertising a benefit performance for the Sisters of Mount Carmel (1894).

Also included in this series are three Baton Rouge postcards depicting the National Cemetery, Confederate Monument, and the Courthouse (1905). Seven postcards depicting the former downtown LSU campus are also present. These show the president's residence, auditorium of Garig Hall (featuring a picture of Lee and Jackson), Heard Hall, a bird's eye view of campus looking northeast, Hill Memorial Library, Foster Hall, and campus dormitories (undated).

An undated photograph of a drainage machine manufactured by Mansfield Machine Works in Mansfield, Ohio, is also included in the series.

INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found throughout the entire collection.

Baton Rouge (La.)
Chamber of Commerce of the New Orleans Area.
Craighead, Edwin Boone, 1861-1920.
Denham Springs (La.)
Drainage--Louisiana--New Orleans.
Fabacher, Lawrence.
Gaines, Myra Clark.
Hebert, Paul Octave, 1818-1880.
Howell, Stoddart.
Knapp, James S.
Lawyers--Louisiana--New Orleans.
Legislators--Louisiana.
Louisiana State University Campus (Baton Rouge, La. : 1886-1926)
Louque, Charles, 1845-1927.
Lumber--Louisiana--New Orleans.
Mayors--Louisiana--New Orleans.
New Basin Canal (New Orleans, La.)
New Orleans Swamp Land Reclamation Company.
Parker, John Milliken, 1863-1939.
Pleasant, Ruffin Golson, 1871-1937.
Railroads--Louisiana--New Orleans.
Sugar plantations--Louisiana--Orleans Parish.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
UU:112	1	1-14	Financial and legal documents, 1838-1893
	2	1-14	Financial and legal documents; printed and graphic items, 1894-1920, undated
	3	1	Volume 1: "Mde. Commagère" Bank Book, 1878-1879
		2	Volume 2: Stoddart Howell Secession Receipt Book, 1888
	3	--	Volume 3: Emile Waldhauser Sketch Book, 1880-1886 [FRAGILE]
			<u>Oversize Papers:</u>
OS:L	--	OS 1	Plat of land on the Amite River and land patent of Stamaty [St. Amant] Covas, 1855
			Certificate appointing George Becker councilman of Kenner, La., 1888
			Extract from assessment rolls, 1888
			New Orleans Board of Trade broadside, 1890
			Seizure and sale of real estate to Hibernia Insurance, 1893
			Livestock certificates, 1896