

1993

Bernard S. Dekle papers

Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections

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OVERVIEW OF COLLECTION

Title: Bernard S. Dekle papers

Date: 1934-1984

Extent: 4 Boxes

Creator: Dekle, Bernard S., 1905-1988

Language: English

Repository: Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA. specolle@georgiasouthern.edu. 912-478-7819. library.georgiasouthern.edu.

Processing Note: Collection previously known as Dekle (Bernard) papers, 1905-1988. Finding aid revised in 2019.

INFORMATION FOR USE OF COLLECTION

Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use. Access to papers containing sensitive, medical information may be restricted.

Physical Access: Materials must be viewed in the Special Collections Reading Room under the supervision of Special Collections staff.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

In order to protect the materials from inadvertent damage, all reproduction services are performed by the Special Collections staff. All requests for reproduction must be submitted using the Reproduction Request Form. Requests to publish from the collection must be submitted using the Publication Request Form. Special Collections does not claim to control the rights to all materials in its collection. In all instances, it is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission from the holders of any rights in the material being quoted, reproduced or published.

Preferred Citation: [Item Identification], Bernard S. Dekle papers, Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Biographical History: Bernard S. Deckle was born June 23, 1905 in McRae, Georgia to DeRoy and Levietta Deckle. In 1927 he received his B.A. from Oglethorpe University where he later served as an instructor of English. He later pursued graduate work at the New York Institute of Banking in 1929 and New York University in 1953. Deckle was the city editor of the *Durham Morning Herald* and a staff writer for the *Charlotte Observer*. During World War II, Deckle worked for the Office of War Information in New York, Cairo, Rome, and Vienna. He later joined the U.S. Department of State as a cultural affairs officers serving in Matsuyama, Japan and Kobe, Japan. In 1972 he married Kimiko Hirata, had three children, and lived in Register in Bulloch County, Georgia. In addition to his diplomatic work, Deckle was an author and poet having written *Night Angel Street* (1965); *Profiles of Modern American Authors* (1969), and *Fighters for Freedom* (1970) among others.

Scope and Content: This collection consists of the papers of Bernard S. Dekle, diplomat, author, and poet. Materials span 1939-1984 and include personal and professional correspondence, literary works, notebooks, photographs, and other unpublished writings including the genealogies of the Bowen and Deckle families and a memoir.

Acquisitions Info: Placed on permanent loan by Kimiko Hirata Dekle and William Dekle, 1993.

Access Points:

Bowen family
Dekle family
Bowen family
Dekle family
Authors, American -- Georgia
Genealogists -- Georgia
American literature -- 20th century
American literature
Authors, American
Genealogists
Georgia
1900-1999
Photographs
Genealogies
Manuscripts

CONTAINER LISTING

Box 1: 0200105033282

Items
<i>Dekle- Personal- Life Abroad (Writing Speeches)</i> Note: This and similar headings were written on pieces of cardboard attached to the folders immediately following the heading.
SeaScape- Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none">- correspondence with Charles E. Tuttle Company, Inc. [1964-66]- contract with Seibido Publishing Company, Ltd. [3-20-70]- transcript of radio feature for show Voice of America- Thanksgiving Day 1967 [11-20-67]- transcript of feature for radio show- John Reddig: Typical American Truckdriver [broadcast date- 2-17-56]
Contemporary Authors <ul style="list-style-type: none">- information re: Dekle's service with the Office of War Information during WWII [1943-45]- Dekle's biographical abstract for Contemporary Authors
Letters to Others <ul style="list-style-type: none">- letter from William W. Oliver, Jr., Pittman Park United Methodist Church [5-16-83]- copy of letter to "Aunt Laura" from Dekle [8-12-49]
Politics: Prince Preston, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- correspondence with Preston and others re: Dekle's service in the U. S. Information Office in Japan [1958-60]
Original- <i>Little Girls Love Pretty Kimonos</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- original manuscript for Dekle's book <i>Little Girls Love Pretty Kimonos</i>
Final Copy- <i>Little Girls Love Pretty Kimonos</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- draft of book ready for publication
Gitanjali <ul style="list-style-type: none">- manuscript for long poem- Gitanjali (no mention of author)
Original- NCMD- Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- manuscript for Ch. 10-17 of Dekle's book <i>Never Call Me Darling</i>
Georgia Southern- Dr. Ward <ul style="list-style-type: none">- correspondence with GSC professor David Ward re: Dekle's memoirs [1983-84]
Never Call Me Darling - partial manuscript of book- correspondence with A. L. Fierst, literary agent, re: book [1978-79]

Dictionary of Love

- draft of short piece- Dictionary of Love

Never Call Me Darling (2)

- partial manuscript of book

YMCA

- draft of short piece- **Young Men's Chastity Association**

Personal Letters Received From Others

- letters to Dekle from family [1953-55]
- letter from Gov. George Busbee [1978]
- small leather address book

Recollections of a Georgia newspaperman

- final copy of Dekle's memoir

Ogeechee drawings and Quotes

- drawings of Ogeechee River scenes, with quotes (see next folder)

The Ogeechee River

- booklet- The Ogeechee River, poem by Dekle and etchings by Hedi Bak

Draft- Georgia Newspaperman- draft of Dekle's memoirs

Bowen Family

- two booklets written by Dekle
- *The Bowen Family: A Short History*
- *The Descendants of Silas E. Bowen*
- group of papers (stapled)- title page says- "*H. Bernard's Books & WP*" (**NOTE**- Italics indicated words I'm not sure of)

Remer Dekle & Family

- Bernard Dekle's identification for the Office of War Information [1944] and American Newspaper Guild [1934]
- photos
- **Bernard Dekle, Junior Officer, First National City Bank of NY. Arrive in Yokohama, Japan, intent on a bit of sightseeing before assuming duties. June, July, 1941.**
- group photo- Venice
- photo of Dekle family, Bernard Dekle is on the far right

Dr. Dekle- Memo, Wallet (Small box)

- memo book (1898), bank book, and wallet belonging to Dr. D. R. Dekle
- two small memo books

Box 2: 0200105033480

Items

Dekle Family- Data

- miscellaneous information on various members of the Dekle family

Dekle Reunion

- correspondence and information re: Dekle family reunion [1975]

Christmas

- the Dekles' list of people to send Christmas cards to, and Christmas cards [1977]

Letters to Dekle Family Regarding Sale of Book

- letters to various members of the Dekle family re: book on family history

Mary Lou Lester

- correspondence and information re: family of Robert F. Lester (Mary Lou was his daughter)

Dekle Family

- correspondence re: Dekle family

- book- *Dekle and Dekle Descendants of the U. S. A.*, by Ansel Dekle, III [1975]

Greetings from Mommy, Billy, and others (Small box)

- birthday cards, Father's Day cards, and Valentines from Kimiko and William Dekle

Dekle- Misc.

Letters from Publishers (Note: This folder was originally headed with the titles of two of Dekle's books- Little Girls Love Pretty Kimonos and Never Call Me Darling. However, it contains many letters from publishers which do not refer to these two books.)

- letters from publishers re: manuscripts submitted by Dekle

Profiles of Modern American Authors- Tuttle Correspondence

- correspondence with Charles E. Tuttle Publishing Company re: Dekle's books

Kobe

- correspondence by Dekle during his tenure as Director of the American Cultural Center in Kobe, Japan- letter to Kimiko Dekle and poetry by Caren Stuart

Tree Planting

- information on tree planting in Georgia

Hecht Correspondence

- correspondence with George J. Hecht, Parents' Magazine Enterprises [1966-72]

New Verse

- poetry written by Dekle

Gardening- Vegetable, fruit trees, etc.

Timber Sale

- correspondence re: possible sale of timberland owned by Dekle

Fruits- Vegetables- How to Grow

- information on how to grow fruits and vegetables

Night Angel Street- Suit

- correspondence re: Dekle's suit for libel against Japan Times for anonymous book review of Dekle's book Night Angel Street

Dekle (Biographical)

Dekle, Bernard- Biographical Data

- biographical data on Dekle

Crawfish

- correspondence re: crawfish (crayfish)

Employment

- information re: Dekle's work in Japan

Civil Service: Job Description

- information re: Dekle's job with United States Civil Service Commission

Letters from Georgia Southern

- letters from Dr. Dale W. Lick and Dr. R. Frank Saunders, GSC

Oglethorpe University

Oglethorpe

- **Oglethorpe University (the school that Cares)-** chapter from Dekle's memoirs, *Recollections of a Georgia Newspaperman*

- letters from Oglethorpe University

Oglethorpe University- Record, etc.

- correspondence and information re: Oglethorpe University and its alumni

Speech in Himeji, Japan

- draft of speech

Oglethorpe- Scholastic Record

- Dekle's transcript from Oglethorpe University (he was in the Class of 1927)

Letters of Appreciation

- letters of appreciation re: Dekle's work in the American Cultural Centers in Matsuyama and Kobe [1957-60]

What Japan Can Offer the American Woman Tourist- carbon

- copy of manuscript
- correspondence with publishers

Short Stories, etc. (**Note:** The next four folders were bound together with a rubber band)

Ideas for Poems- Words

- news articles, quotes, etc.- sources for ideas for Dekle's poetry

Radio Scripts- Early Writing- Poor (NOTE: "Material for Writing- Japan" (reverse side of label) and "New Material Possibly" (front of folder) were other labels for this folder)

- various manuscripts, written by Dekle

Short Stories (NOTE: "107 Woodlawn Drive" was written on the front of this folder.)

- various manuscripts, short stories written by Dekle

Do Now- Vertigo- Becky- Radiology (Statesboro)

- letter to doctor re: Dekle's problems with AETNA insurance over bill they refused to pay

Conversations with God (Materials)

- sources and drafts of Dekle's work "Conversations with God"

Short Stories (2)

- manuscripts and notes for short stories by Dekle

Drafts of Stories

Articles

- drafts and ideas for articles by Dekle

Input

Input Material for Writing

- materials from various sources, for use in Dekle's writing

Health Tips

- miscellaneous articles and stories

Copyright

- information re: copyright law and forms from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress [1979]

Books

- Dekle's notes, containing ideas for books, articles or stories

Promotion- New Book

- materials concerning promotion for Dekle's book of poetry about the Ogeechee River

Box 3: 0200105033076

<u>Items</u>
Oglethorpe Highway Draft - rough draft of manuscript
Poetry Promotion - articles and information about promoting poetry
Colds and Kisses - draft of short story- Colds and Kisses
Miscellaneous Skits, Bits and Pieces - manuscripts- skits and short writings by Dekle
Chicken Dinner - short piece submitted to Reader's Digest
Words, Words- Poems (Old) - articles, notes and ideas for poems
My Poetry - articles about and samples of Dekle's poetry
Bowen Descendants (New) - information re: Bowen and Kennedy families - purchase order for book by Dekle- Descendants of Silas E. Bowen
Comfort in Heaven - articles about Dekle and his family - notes and writings by Dekle
Narrative Poems - samples of Dekle's poetry
Herald- Possibilities - articles and samples of Dekle's poetry
Letters to Purchasers of Book- Dekle's Copy - letters to purchasers of Dekle's book <i>Descendants of Silas E. Bowen</i> , from W. B. Bowen, Dekle-Bowen Cemetery Fund
<i>Conversations With God</i> - drafts of manuscripts for a book by Dekle
Bowen Family - information on Bowen family

Ted Lewis correspondence

- correspondence and information re: Bowen and Lester families

JAL Articles

- drafts of articles re: Japan Airlines (JAL) employees

Georgia Southern Relations

- correspondence and information re: journalism school at GSC

Contacts

- drafts of article re: Dekle and gardening

Ogeechee River and Other Poems

- information re: folio produced by Dekle and Hedi Bak

Dekle- Miscellaneous

- correspondence and articles by or about Dekle

Medical Records- B. Dekle

Medical Records

- results of medical tests run on Dekle

Medical

- information on cataracts
- doctor's records re: Dekle's eye problems [1967]

Outpatient Record

- records of Dekle's treatment at USAF Hospital Tachikawa [1966]

Office of War Information- Travel Orders

- letter to Dekle from Dillon Graham, Associated Press, Charlotte, NC [9-23-46]

Letters to Tuttle- Promotion of "Angel"

- correspondence with Charles E. Tuttle Company re: promotion of Night Angel Street [1965-1966]

Ogeechee River and Other Poems- Promotion

- poems and materials for promotion of book

Trip to North Carolina

- edited drafts of Dekle's work

Memoirs- Draft (Note: The next eight folders were bound together with a rubber band. With the exception of the first one, they contain draft work on Dekle's autobiography or memoirs. The folder titles refer to events Dekle is writing about in the drafts in the folder.)

Choosy Flowers

- draft of story

Recent Years

Leave Japan- Rejoin Durham Herald

Childhood

Oglethorpe

Banker in Osaka, Japan

Training in New York for Bank Job

OWI Training in New York- Leave for Egypt

Old Copy

- rough draft of Dekle's memoir

Old Age- Growing Young

- poem- **Old Age is Hell**
- leaflet- **On Growing Young**

Christmas- Harry Smith

- notes and poetry

Prospect Copies

- correspondence with publishers and others re: publication of Dekle's memoir
- sample chapter

Fighters for freedom- Manuscript

- correspondence with Seibido Publishing Company [1970-1984]- partial manuscript of book

Synopsis

- synopses of Dekle's autobiography- *Final Edition: the Life of a Georgia Newspaperman*

Add to Boyhood

- manuscripts for portions of Dekle's autobiography

Material- Good

- miscellaneous bits of manuscript

Oglethorpe

- materials re: Oglethorpe University, Dekle's alma mater

Charlotte Branch of OWI

- materials re: Office of War Information

Guild Organized

- information re: organization of the American Newspaper Guild

Box 4: 0200105033084

Items

Oglethorpe

- correspondence with Oglethorpe University re: material for Dekle's memoirs [1983]

Letters to and from Others

- two letters from Dekle's personal correspondence [1971]

Miscellaneous- Keep

- miscellaneous brochures, pamphlets and forms

Dekle, Bernard- Letters from Others

- letters to Dekle from various people [1950s]

Recent Years- End

- miscellaneous writings by Dekle

The Writer

The Writer- Selections

- articles which appeared in a magazine called *The Writer* [1960s]

Miscellaneous (1)

- miscellaneous writings by Dekle

Miscellaneous (2)

- miscellaneous writings by Dekle

Introduction to Poems

- samples of Dekle's poetry, with information about why they were written or what inspired the author

Crawfish

- information about crawfish farming

Promote Memoirs

- samples of Dekle's writing

Material

- samples of Dekle's writing

Current Poetry

- articles from magazine *The Writer*

Sculptured Wood (Water)
- samples of Dekle's writing

Synopsis

- synopsis of Dekle's autobiography

Poetry

- samples of Dekle's poetry

Publicity Material

- newspaper clippings re: Dekle

New Watch

- letters from Georgia Department of Public Safety [1978] and Memphis Net & Twine Company [1983]

John Wills- Poetry

- transcript- *The Turning Year: A Calendar of Rhymes*, by John Wills

Note: The next six folders contain samples of Dekle's poetry.

Fishing

God

Nature

Songs

Poetry Reading- Metter

Folk

Comments on my Poetry, Fiction, etc.

- articles, letters, flyers re: Dekle's writing

Note: The next twelve folders contain samples and/or drafts of Dekle's poetry

Family and Self

Metter Girl Scouts

Federal Employees Poetry Reading- Stillmore Meeting (Note: This was originally a folder inside a folder. "Federal Employees Poetry Meeting" contained the materials, and was placed inside of "Stillmore Meeting.")

Love

William James Poetry Contest

Material- Possible
Reunion in Vienna- End
Manuscripts Submitted
Erotica
Articles?
Drafts (PAP's Version)
Verse- Sketches in Progress
Words - sources of ideas for Dekle's poetry
Note: The next two folders contain research and writing about Garrett Williams, a Bulloch County resident during the 19th century, and his ghost.
Garrett- Personality
Garrett Williams
Northside School Contest: Use in Metter - samples of Dekle's poetry, with notes on their inspiration
<i>My Poetry</i>
Note: The next three folders contain samples of Dekle's poetry.
Jekyll- Poetry
Promotions, Statesboro Women Interested in Poetry, Introduction at Poetry Reading
Poetry- Zeroked