



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives

PAUL RAMSEY (1924-) PAPERS, 1950-2001

COLLECTION SUMMARY COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Ramsey, Paul (1924-)

Inclusive Dates:

1950-2001

Scope & Content:

The Paul Ramsey Papers, containing approximately 11 items, spans the period 1950-2001. The collection is composed of assorted newspaper clippings, poems, printed materials and a salesman sample book. All of the items in this collection relate to the life and/or poetry of Paul Ramsey. The arrangement of the collection is alphabetical.

The newspaper clippings, located in folder 1, contain obituaries and memorials for Paul Ramsey. It should be noted that the clipping dated September 28, 1994, contains a description of Paul Ramsey given by Allen Tate. Tate was a member of the Fugitives. The Fugitives were a group of Southern poets, most from Vanderbilt University, who defended the formal technique of writing and the traditional values of the South. In his description, Tate calls Ramsey “the most distinguished writer of religious verse in America.”

The poems, located in folder 2, are a collection of poems by Paul Ramsey with illustrations by his wife, Bets Ramsey. Some of the poems and illustrations have been turned into Christmas cards. An index is in the front of the folder that lists the poems and illustrations with the dates they were created or reproduced.

The printed materials, located in folders 3 through 6, contain various journals and reviews with articles related to or poems by Paul Ramsey. One item of note is a tribute to Paul Ramsey (located in folder 5), in *The Upstart Crow*, written by James R. Andreas.

The salesman sample book, located in folder 7, is a scrapbook type salesman sample created by Bets Ramsey and Betty Goudelock. In 1950, Ms. Ramsey and Ms. Goudelock started a custom-designed card business. The book contains silk screen printed cards. Some pages contain the number of the design, cost of the design and cost per card underneath the card. A photocopied page, handwritten

by Bets Ramsey, is inserted inside the front cover. The page details the history of her silk screen printed card business and tells of her marriage to Paul Ramsey in June 1951.

Physical Description/Extent:

.25 linear feet

Accession/Record Group Number:

2006-017-02

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

II-G-6

Repository:

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

Administrative/Biographical History

Dr. Paul Ramsey, Jr., was born on November 26, 1924. He grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Ramsey received his bachelors and masters degrees at the University of North Carolina. He earned his Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota. As part of the U. S. Navy, Dr. Ramsey served in the Pacific during World War II. He taught at the University of the South before going on to teach English at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC). Dr. Ramsey was a well-known poet and published over 700 poems. He was named Poet-in-Residence at UTC. Dr. Ramsey was active in the Episcopal Church, serving as a vestry member, lay leader and chalice bearer at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga. He was married to Bets Ramsey, artist, and they had four children. He died on September 27, 1994.

Source: Information in the biographical note was gleaned from various items within this collection.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The arrangement of the collection is alphabetical.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

No restrictions.

Index Terms

Personal Names:

Ramsey, Paul, 1924-
Ramsey, Bets, 1923-
Tate, Allen, 1899-1979
Andreas, James R.
Goude-lock, Betty

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

University of North Carolina (1793-1962)
University of Minnesota
University of the South
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Fugitives (Group)
Vanderbilt University

Subjects:

Christmas

Geographic Names:

Atlanta (Ga.)
Chattanooga (Tenn.)

Document Types:

Poems
Poetry
Clippings (information artifacts)
Obituaries
Memorials
Screen printing
Scrapbooks
Christmas cards

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition:

The Paul Ramsey Papers are a gift of Ms. Bets Ramsey of Nashville (formerly Chattanooga), Tennessee.

Processing and Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:

Paul Ramsey Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

Processing was completed by Lori D. Lockhart, February 10, 2010. No items were removed from this collection during processing.

Related Materials:

Also available on microfilm.

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/2006-017-02.pdf>

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Newspaper clippings	1994	1	1
Poems -- <i>Christmas and Other Poems</i>	1951- 2001	1	2
Printed materials -- Journals -- <i>Arts & Letters</i>	1992	1	3
Printed materials -- <i>Piedmont Literary Review</i>	1993	1	4
Printed materials -- <i>The Upstart Crow</i>	1991	1	5
Printed materials -- <i>Three Sheets: A Bestiary</i>	1973	1	6
Salesman sample book -- Silk screen cards	1950- 1951	1	7