

Breaux Manuscript

(Jay K. Ditchy Manuscript)

RG 308

Louisiana State Museum Historical Center

October 2021

Descriptive Summary

Provenance:	Gift of the Estate of Judge Joseph Arsenne Breaux
Title:	Breaux Manuscript (Jay K. Ditchy Manuscript)
Dates:	c. 1900
Abstract:	This collection is a two volume manuscript of detailing the language and customs of 19 th century Acadians in Louisiana.
Extent:	2 Items
Accession:	09092A.1-.2

Biographical / Historical Note

It was found in the possession of Judge Joseph Arsenne Breaux, a former Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, at the time of his death. Written anonymously, its believed the manuscript was completed in 1901; it was a recording of Cajun folkways, life, and character as remembered by the author from as early as the 1840s. It came to be known as the Breaux Manuscript and evidence suggests that the author was actually Judge Breaux himself.

In 1932, the manuscript was edited and published by Jay Ditchy as *Les Acadiens Louisianais et leur Parler*.

In 1966, George F. Reinecke translated and edited portions of Ditchy's work that dealt with folklore and folk life and published the work, in English, as "Early Louisiana French and Folklore" in a special issue of *Louisiana Folklore Miscellany*. (Volume 2)

Scope and Content

Manuscript, handwritten in French, provides account of the customs, culture, and speech of the late 19th century Acadians in South Louisiana.

Subjects

Acadians / Cajuns
Louisiana French
Cajun French

Cajun Culture
Cajun Folklore

Access of Use Restrictions

Access

Collection is **open** for research

Related or Separated Materials

Maps and Manuscripts:

Honorary Doctorate of Law Degree - Joseph Arsenne Breaux, 1916. RG 68,
Acc. # 09070B.1

Appointments of Joseph Breaux, Associate Judge, 1890-1902. RG 68,
Acc. # 09070B.2 a-c

Library Collection:

Ditchy, Jay K. *Les Acadiens Louisianais et leur Parler*. Paris: Librairie E. Droz, 1932.

Reinecke, George F. "Early Louisiana French and Folklore." *Louisiana Folklore Miscellany*: 2 (1966).

Science & Technology:

Loving cup – Upon his retirement as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, 1914. Acc. # 09073.1

Loving cup – On his 50th wedding anniversary, 1911. Acc. # 09073.2

Visual Arts:

Photograph. "Steamboat – The Joseph A. Breaux." Acc. # 09078

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Breaux Manuscript (Jay K. Ditchy Manuscript), Louisiana State Museum
Historical Center.

Acquisition Information

This collection is a gift from the Estate of Judge Joseph Arsenne Breaux.

Notes

Manuscript materials are written in French.

Contents

Box	Folder	Accession #	Date	Item Description
1		09092A.1	nd	Glossaire du langage Acadien Louisianais et du parler Canadien. p.1-385
		09092A.2	nd	Glossaire du langage Acadien Louisianais et du parler Canadien. p.386-649