Herbert Ravenel Sass papers, 1862-1960
SCHS 1213.00
Containers 24/100 – 152

Creator: Sass, Herbert R.

Description: 23 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: Charleston, S.C. newspaperman, writer, and historian. He was the son of George Herbert Sass (1845-1908), also a writer, and Anna Ravenel Sass. Sass served on the editorial staff of the News & Courier, a Charleston newspaper, and later gave up newspaper work to write stories, articles, novels, and other works, most of which concern the natural history and history of South Carolina. He married Marion Hutson and was the father of three children.

Scope and Content: Papers consist of correspondence, writings, journals, and other items. Included are the papers (1862-1941) of George Herbert Sass.

Personal correspondence (ca. 1910-1957) concerns the literary career of H.R. Sass, artwork for his books and articles, segregation and other race issues, nature, birds, the environment and natural history of the South Carolina Lowcountry, collaborations with other writers, and other subjects. Correspondents include John Bennett, DuBose Heyward, and many others. Professional correspondence (1908-1957) includes letters between Sass and literary agents and editors; letters concerning his research for fiction and non-fiction works about history and nature; and letters from his readers concerning his articles about the treatment of the South by northern historians, miscegenation and integration, and other topics.

Writings consist of manuscripts, galley proofs, drafts, fragments, and other versions of Sass' published and unpublished novels, stories, and articles, as well as notes, story ideas, synopses, and notes, with related correspondence. Novels and stories include historical fiction and stories about Native Americans, animals, and nature. Topics of non-fiction articles include the history of Charleston (S.C.), John C. Calhoun, race issues, and the natural history of the Lowcountry and elsewhere.

Family papers (1918-1950) include estate papers of H.R. Sass; correspondence with his wife and children concerning family and educational matters; writings of his children; and photographs, mainly of Sass family members and relatives and wildlife. Other items include a scrapbook (1906-1911) containing clippings of early articles by Sass; clippings (1920-1950s) of his "Woods and Water" column, in which he advocated wildlife conservation; and notebooks, journals, and field journals concerning the natural history of the Lowcountry, including volumes recording sightings of various birds and other wildlife.
Preferred Citation: Sass, Herbert Ravenel, 1884-1958. Herbert Ravenel Sass papers, 1862-1960. (1213.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:
Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850.
Sass, Marion Hutson.
Sass family.
Sasser family.
Animals -- Fiction.
Indians of North America -- Fiction.
Miscegenation.
Natural history -- South Carolina.
Race.
Segregation.
Wildlife conservation.
Charleston (S.C.) -- History.
South Carolina -- History.
Southern States -- Historiography.
Southern States -- In literature.
Clippings.
Journals.
Letters (correspondence)
Manuscripts.
Notes.
Photographs.
Writings.
Subject Authors.
Editorial writers.
Historians.
Naturalists.

Series Outline:

1213.01 PERSONAL PAPERS ORGANIZED BY MATERIAL TYPE

24/100-102 Personal correspondence, 1910-1957 (1.25 linear ft.).
24/103-111 Professional correspondence, 1908-1957 (5.5 linear ft.).
24/112-113 Family papers and photographs, 1918-1960 (1.75 linear ft.).
24/113/10 Early writings, 190-1911 (1 v.).
24/114-118 Manuscripts for novels, 1928-1941 (4.25 linear ft.).
24/118-124 Manuscripts for published non-fiction books, 1927-1957 (3.5 linear ft.).
24/125-131 Manuscripts for works of fiction, 1920-1955 (4.0 linear ft.).
24/132 Manuscripts for fiction works about Indians, 1920-1955 (0.5 linear ft.).
24/132a Published articles and writings, ca. 1905-1947-1955. ¼ ft.
24/133  Nonfiction manuscripts, ca. 1937-1953 (0.5 linear ft.)
24/134-136 Manuscripts for non-fiction works about Charleston, 1920-1955 (1.25 linear ft.).
24/137-138 Manuscripts for fiction works about nature, 1920-1955 (1 linear ft.).
24/139-142 Manuscripts for non-fiction works about nature, 1920-1955 (2.0 linear ft.).
24/143-146 Clippings of Woods & Water column in News & Courier, 1920-1950 (1.75 linear ft.).
24/147-150 Nature notes and journals, 1902-1943 (2 linear ft.).

1213.02 PAPERS OF INDIVIDUAL SASS FAMILY MEMBERS

1213.02.01 Sass, George Herbert, 1845-1908.

George Herbert Sass papers, 1862-1941. 1 linear ft.
24/151/04-04 Letters and receipts, 1864-1941 (xx items).
24/151/05-15 Poetry, 1862-1901 (50 items).
24/152/01-08 Writings, 1890s-1906 (20 items).
24/152/09-12 Family papers, undated (20 items).

Container listing and description:

24/100-102 Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1954
Personal correspondence, ca. 1910-1957. 1 ¼ ft.

24/103-111 Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Professional correspondence, 1908-1957. 4 ½ ft.
Charleston author. Professional correspondence of Herbert Ravenel Sass with literary agents Gertrude Algase, Sydney A. Saunders, and others; editors and editorial staffs of national periodicals including the American Magazine (James C. Derieux); Atlantic Country Gentleman; Good Housekeeping (1920s, W.F. Bigelow); the Saturday Evening Post (Ben Hibbs); and others. Letters regarding Herbert Ravenel Sass’ research for historical fiction, non-fiction, and nature or
animal writings. Also letters from Herbert Ravenel Sass’ readers including letters and articles: They Don’t Tell the Truth About the South, Saturday Evening Post (1953-1954) regarding Southerner’s view of treatment of the south by Northern historians; and Mixed Schools, Mixed Blood, Atlantic (1956-1957) regarding fears of miscegenation in integrated schools. Also many letters with the Charleston News & Courier regarding events of the day and many letters concerning the race question in the 1940s & 1950s. Correspondence from New York, Charleston, and elsewhere. Chronologically arranged.

24/112-113  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1957
Family papers and photographs, 1918-1960. 1 ¾ ft.

24/113-10  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Early writings, 1906-1911. 1 item

24/114-118  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Novel manuscript., 1928-1941. 4 ¼ ft.
Charleston author. Manuscripts of Herbert Ravenel Sass of published novels, includes early and completed versions, fragments, royalty sheets, galley proofs, correspondence reviews and notes for Emperor Brims (1941), Look Back to Glory (1933) and War Drums (1928).

24/118-124  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Charleston author. Manuscripts of Herbert Ravenel Sass’s published book length non-fiction, includes early and completed versions, fragments, galley proofs, page proofs, correspondence, publicity, reviews, and notes for Adventures in Green Places (1928); The Carolina Lowcountry by members of the Society for the Preservation of Spirituals (1931); A Carolina Rice Plantation in the Fifties with Alice R.H. Smith (1936) Fort Sumter with Dubose Heyward (1939) ; Gray Eagle (1927); On the Wings of a Bird (1929); Outspoken: 150 Years of the News and Courier (1953); and Story of the Low Country (1957). Some correspondence with Hervey Allen. Alphabetically arranged.

24/125  Sass, Herbert, R., 1884-1958
Fiction manuscript. ca. 1920-1955. ½ ft.
Charleston author. Manuscripts of Herbert Ravenel Sass of his fiction and historical fiction mostly published in magazines. Includes note, correspondence with editors and agents, fragments, early and later versions. Stories included are: “Attempt to Burn New York”, “Admiral

24/126  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958  
Fiction manuscript. ca. 1920-1950. ½ ft.  

24/127-128  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958  
Fiction manuscript. Ca. 1920-1950. 1 ft.  

24/129  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958  
Fiction manuscript. ca. 1920s-1955. ½ ft.  

24/130-131  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958  
Fiction manuscript. ca. 1920-1955. 1 ft.  
regarding folklore, American History, romance and other subjects. Chronologically arranged. Also includes misc. notes, fragments of stories, story ideas, story synopsis and other misc. material.

24/132  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
American Indian writings, ca. 1920-1955. ½ ft

24/132a  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Published articles and writings, ca. 1905-1947-1955. ¼ ft.*
*(accrual, originally stored in pamphlet collection)
Articles (all photocopies of originals):
“Music of the Fairies,” 1925.
“Enchanted Waters,” Good Housekeeping, July 1925.
“On the Wings of a Bird,” Good Housekeeping, October 1926.
“The Miracle of Life,” Good Housekeeping, April 1927.
“Cypress Country,” The Saturday Evening Post, [1928].
“When America was Young,” *Country Gentleman*, December 1936.
“Cocks A-Crowin’” *Game Fowl News/The Saturday Evening Post*, 1941.
“Cocks A-Crowin’” *The Saturday Evening Post*, October 1941.
“Even the Most Photographed Alligators are Camera Shy,” *The Saturday Evening Post*, 14 December 1946.
“The Old Home Calls,” no date.

24/133  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1858
Nonfiction manuscript, ca. 1937-1956. ½ ft.

Charleston non-fiction, ca. 1920-1955. 1 ¼ ft.
Charleston author. Manuscripts, correspondence, research and other material of Herbert Ravenel Sass’ non-fiction writings regarding Charleston. Included are the articles: “John C. Calhoun”,
“Realist or Democracy”, “A Man Out of The Mist- John C. Calhoun”, many articles on Charleston’s history, growth, aristocracy and future (in the 1950s), unused foreword to Elizabeth W.A. Pringle’s *Chronicle of Chicora Wood*, the Citadel, Fort Sumter, Fenwick Hall, Sea Island Cotton, Jehossee Plantation, the Civil War Submarine “Little David”, “Lowcountry Treasures; Lowcountry Legends”, “The Master Farmer of Hartsville”, much on pirates in SC; much research on the Santee-Cooper Water Development (1950); save our scenic roads; South Carolina articles; SC National Bank; Tilting Tournament; and Henry Woodward. Alphabetically arranged.

24/137-138  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958

*Nature fiction manuscript.*, ca. 1900-1950s. 1 ft.


24/139  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958

*Non-fiction nature manuscript.*, ca. 1900-1950s. ½ ft.


24/140  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958

*Non-fiction nature manuscript.*, ca. 1900-1950s, ½ ft.

Charleston author, naturalist. Manuscript, correspondence, and notes of Herbert Ravenel Sass’ non-fiction articles on nature in the SC Lowcountry and elsewhere. Articles included regarding or entitled falconry, festival, fishing trip, “Florida Keys Treasures”. Much research material on Gamecocks and cockfighting; the Garden naturalist; Garden-natural History; “Getting Better

24/141  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Non-fiction nature manuscript, ca. 1900-1957. ½ ft.

24/142  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Non-fiction nature manuscript, ca. 1900-1955. ½ ft

24/143-146 Sass, Herbert R. 1884-1958
News column clippings, 1920-1950s. 1 ¾ ft.

24/147-150  Sass, Herbert R., 1884-1958
Nature notes & journals. 1902-1943. 2 ft.
Charleston author, naturalist. Notes, journals, schools notes and other material regarding nature in the Lowcountry and elsewhere. Journals of sightings of various birds and other wild life, much material on the natural history of the Lowcountry, especially (1902-1910). Category of notes include: Bird Life in a City Garden, Rides and Rambles in St. Andrew’s Parish, Birds in
Gardens, Ornithology journals, journal of a camping trip in Western NC (1903), laboratory drawings in embryology and zoology, the Origin and relationship of vertebrate, typescript and holograph version of a “General Review of Bird Life in Charleston SC” (1906-1916), extensive journals of various species sightings (1906-1910); daybooks of birds, field journals and other notes. Chronologically arranged.

24/151/5-15  Sass, George H., 1845-1908
Poetry, 1862-1904. Approx 50 items

24/151/1-4  Sass, George H., 1845-1908
Letters & Receipts, 1864-1941

24/152/1-8  Sass, George H., 1845-1908
Writings, 1890s-1906. Approx 20 items.

24/152/9-12  Sass, George H., 1845-1908
Family papers, n.d. 20 items
Charleston lawyer. Family and estates papers of George H. Sass with material regarding Marie Sass, French Opera Singer and a misc. scrapbook and some commonplace books.