

**DUDLEY TURNBULL AND FAMILY PAPERS**  
(Mss. 2907)

Inventory

Updated by  
Jennifer Pino, 2006  
Jessica Mlotkowski, 2015

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

May 2006  
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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size</b>	299 items, 12 ms. volumes
<b>Geographic Locations</b>	Louisiana
<b>Inclusive Dates</b>	1834-1964
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Summary</b>	Papers include letters, photographs, bills and receipts, workbooks, ephemera, and saving deposit and union books of Dudley Turnbull, a free man of color of Baton Rouge, La., and his descendants.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Box 3 restricted until 2029.
<b>Copyright</b>	Physical rights and copyright are retained by the LSU Libraries.
<b>Citation</b>	Dudley Turnbull and Family Papers, Mss. 2907, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
<b>Stack Location(s)</b>	W:40, OS:T

*This collection (excluding restricted materials and select items) has been digitized in its entirety and can be accessed online at*

*<http://cdm16313.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p16313coll51/searchterm/Dudley%20Turnbull%20and%20Family%20Papers%2C%20Mss.%202907%2C%20LSU%20Libraries/fiel d/part/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort>. See the container list [and collection description when applicable] for links to specific components of the collection.*

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Dudley Turnbull (approximately 1852-1926) was a free man of color who lived in Baton Rouge, La. and worked as a steamboat watchman and as an employee in restaurants and eating houses. In 1873, he married Rosemarie Aldometer Mather (1851-1917, often found as Aldometer, or Aldameda), who was born a free woman of color to George Mather and Jane Giddings (born about 1830, often referred to as Jane Giddens or Giddins), who were both free people of color of Baton Rouge. Though Jane Giddings and George Mather married in 1851, Jane continued to use her maiden name throughout most of her life. It is probable that Jane and Aldometer lived independently of George Mather. Aldometer worked as a homemaker in the Turnbull household. Dudley and Aldometer Turnbull had six children: John (1874-1939), a bricklayer; George Arthur (1877-1948, often goes by Arthur), a graduate of New Orleans University, who settled in Chicago and married Mabel; Estelle (Stella" born about 1880); Dudley, Jr. (born 1891?); Warren; and Maudie (born 1886?), a Catholic nun who adopted the name Sister Mary Cornelia.

Dudley Turnbull Jr. worked as a plasterer and was an active member of the African American Catholic community in Baton Rouge. He married Juanita Hebert (born 1894-1973), the daughter of Cora Hebert (born approximately 1851), a free woman of color. Together, Dudley Jr. and Juanita had seven children: Naomi (born 1911?), who worked as a maid; Grace (born 1913?), a high school graduate of East Baton Rouge Colored High School (now named McKinley Senior High School); Kenneth (1923-1998), who worked as a painter; Ralph Bruce (1924-1990), who worked as a plasterer; Dudley Gregory (1925-1980), who attended St. Francis Xavier School; Juanita (born 1928); and Maudie (born 1930). Juanita and Maudie attended St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans. Juanita later joined the Sisters of the Holy Family as a nun and took the name Sister Frances Cabrini. Kenneth and Dudley Gregory both served in World War II. Additional members of the Turnbull family are also represented in these papers, including relatives living in Chicago, Ill. and St. Louis, Mo.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Papers include letters, photographs, bills and receipts, workbooks, ephemera, and saving deposit and union books of Dudley Turnbull and family, free people of color of Baton Rouge, La. The earliest papers include tax receipts for Jane Giddings and George Mather, a photocopy of an oath of allegiance and pass for Jane Mather to cross the Federal picket lines in Baton Rouge during the Civil War, and receipts for tuition for Aldometer (1863, 1864). Items related to settling Jane Gidding's estate are also found. Letters pertain to religious and personal matters. Topics discussed in these letters include news from various family members, including those living in St. Louis, Mo. and Chicago, Ill.; personal finances; and acknowledgements of religious sacraments received. Papers include bills for rent, state, parish, and corporate taxes; church tithes; receipts for goods and services; birth certificates; insurance policies with premium booklets; saving deposit books; and union due books of the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers International Association of the United States and Canada. The constitution and bylaws of Dudley Turnbull's plasterers' union, lists of soldiers transferred or discharged with the Turnbull men during World War II, and items from St. Mary's Academy showing Juanita and Maudie's involvement in school musical performances are included among the printed items. Papers also mention Kenneth Turnbull's mental health. **Mental health items restricted until 2029.**

Photographs in the collection include portraits and snapshots of the Turnbull family, group portraits of African American faculty of Baton Rouge College and McKinley High School in Baton Rouge, and portraits taken to commemorate religious events. Educational activities are documented by report cards of Juanita Turnbull and Dudley Gregory Turnbull; school workbooks belonging to Juanita Turnbull, Maudie Marie Turnbull, and their cousin Ella Mae Wilson; the high school diploma of Juanita Cecilia Turnbull; and numerous school awards and certificates for the Turnbull children. The collection also includes autograph books of Kenneth and Maudie Marie Turnbull and charcoal portraits of Estelle Turnbull Jones in first communion dress and Warren Turnbull, both by H. P. Bedon.

For detailed description of the contents and links to digitized materials see the Container List.

*This collection (excluding restricted materials and select items) has been digitized in its entirety and can be accessed online at*

<http://cdm16313.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p16313coll51/searchterm/Dudley%20Turnbull%20and%20Family%20Papers%2C%20Mss.%202907%2C%20LSU%20Libraries/fiel d/part/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort>. *See the container list [and collection description when applicable] for links to specific components of the collection.*

## COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Box 1, Folder 1

**Papers, 1863-1943. [View online](#)**

The bulk of the materials comprise letters, school materials, and birth registrations for Grace, Kenneth, Bruce, Dudley Gregory, Juanita, and Naomi Turnbull--children of Dudley Jr. and Juanita Hebert Turnbull. School materials of the Turnbull children include tests, report cards, and certificates of achievement. Of particular note is a free person of color pass for Jane (Giddings) Mather into Fort Williams dated March 9, 1865 and an Oath of Allegiance to the United States signed by Jane (Giddings) Mather on May 8, 1863. Materials of Arthur Turnbull are also represented, including an 1893 diploma awarded to him by New Orleans University and a 1927 letter to his brother Dudley. Also included are childhood letters written by Bruce and Kenneth Turnbull to their father Dudley during his time away at work. The letters discuss the boys' studies and family affairs in the Turnbull household. Other correspondents represented include Juanita Hebert Turnbull, John Turnbull, and an aunt named Emma. All materials in English.

Box 1, Folder 2

**Papers, 1910-1967. [View online](#)**

The bulk of the materials comprise letters and postcards between members of the Turnbull family; and tests, diplomas, money orders, telegrams, receipts, and business papers. Included is a form letter from President Harry Truman thanking Dudley Gregory Turnbull for his military service during WWII, an unemployment claimant's identification card for Dudley Gregory Turnbull dated 1945, and requests for money from Kenneth Turnbull and Dudley Gregory Turnbull to their father, Dudley Jr. Also included is the address of Mother Cecilia of the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans and a story about the life of Jesus Christ written by Kenneth Turnbull as a schoolboy. Letters discuss schooling, family events, convent life, and extended family. Correspondents include Arthur Turnbull, Juanita Hebert Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull, Maudie Turnbull, Maudie (Sister Mary Cornelia) Turnbull, Elizabeth Sterky, Lottie Collier, Eunice Redding, and Angus Matta.

Box 1, Folder 3

**Bills and Receipts, 1850-1879. [View online](#)**

[Comprised](#) of receipts and tax notifications belonging to Jane Giddings, a free woman of color. Included amongst these items are receipts for her daughter Aldometer's school tuition, a railroad tax receipt, a receipt for pew rent from St. Joseph's Cathedral, notifications of late tax payment, and rent receipts from Aristide Allain, a boy who lived with Jane and Aldometer. Several receipts belonging to Aldometer's father, George Mather, are also represented.

- Box 1, Folder 4      **Bills and Receipts, 1878-1900.** [View online](#)  
Receipts belonging to Dudley Turnbull and Rosemarie Aldometer Mather Turnbull for parish and state taxes, goods, services, and college tuition. Included are tax receipts for the estate of Jane Giddings (mother of Aldometer Turnbull), receipts to Dudley Turnbull for a leased Singer sewing machine, and tuition receipts for Dudley's son Arthur Turnbull's New Orleans University education.
- Box 1, Folder 5      **Bills and Receipts, 1901-1923.** [View online](#)  
Receipts belonging to Dudley Turnbull and Rosemarie Aldometer Mather Turnbull. Included are tax receipts, receipts for goods and services, invoices, and a receipt for funeral expenses following Aldometer's death in December of 1917.
- Box 1, Folder 6      **Bills and Receipts, approximately 1890-1964.** [View online](#)  
Chiefly receipts, tax receipts, tax exemption certificates, and other financial papers belonging to Dudley Turnbull Jr. Of note are financial papers of John Turnbull and Dudley Turnbull Jr. concerning funeral expenses following Dudley Turnbull's death in 1926. Furniture and other household receipts of Juanita Hebert Turnbull and Ralph Bruce Turnbull are also represented.
- Box 1, Folder 7      **Insurance Policies, 1912-1930.** [View online](#)  
Life insurance promissory notes, premium receipt books, loan certificates, agreements, policy endowments, and notification letters for the Turnbull Family.
- Box 1, Folder 8      **Insurance Policies, 1924-1959** [View online](#)  
Life insurance policies, premium receipt books, loan certificates, and notification letters for members of the Turnbull Family. Includes a fire insurance policy belonging to Dudley Turnbull Jr.
- Box 1, Folder 9      **Printed Items, 1918-1948.** [View online](#)  
Primarily materials relating to Dudley Gregory Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull, and Ralph Bruce Turnbull's enlistment and service in World War II. Also represented is Dudley Turnbull Jr.'s World War I classification notice for World War I notice; two issues of *Constitution and By-Laws of the Baton Rouge Plasterers' Protective Union*; a copy of a musical concert program from St. Mary's Academy Band and Orchestra, issue of St. Mary's Academy newsletter *Regina*, graduation program for Juanita Turnbull, and newsletter from St. Mary's Academy; and a rosary service program for the 1948 death of Arthur Turnbull.

- Box 1, Folder 10      **Newspaper clipping, approximately 1931-1939.** [View online](#)  
Newspaper clipping describing the wedding and reception of Grace Turnbull and Edward Lewis at Holy Cross Church and the home and garden of Mr. and Mrs. Art Jones.
- Box 1, Folder 11      **Photographs, approximately 1895-1949.** [View online](#)  
Black and white photos of the Turnbull family. Included are photographic portraits of Aldometer Turnbull, Grace Turnbull; Alex Hebert in World War I uniform; school group portraits, possibly in front of The Hickory Street School; Holy Communion portraits, possibly of Dudley Turnbull and Sister Mary Cornelia (Maudie Turnbull); unidentified Turnbull children; and a photograph of McKinley High School.
- Box 1, Folder 12      **Photographs, approximately 1910-1969.** [View online](#)  
Black and white photos of the Turnbull family, primarily of Dudley Jr. and Juanita Hebert Turnbull and their children. Includes a school portrait, possibly of the Hickory Street School; snapshots during a visit to see Juanita (Sister Francis Cabrini) Turnbull; a portrait of Kenneth Turnbull as a young man; a baby picture of Dudley Gregory Turnbull; a photo of Dudley Turnbull Jr. during middle-age; and a snapshot of Bruce Turnbull and Alex Hebert in front of Tiger Stadium at LSU. Most photos contain writing on the back, which often corresponds to the subject of each photograph. Some subjects of these photos are unidentified, though likely members of the Turnbull family.
- Volume 1      **Savings Deposit Book, Bank of Baton Rouge, March 1918-February 1922.** [View online](#)  
Savings deposit book for the accounts of Dudley Turnbull and his son Dudley Turnbull Jr. The book was distributed by The Bank of Baton Rouge. The savings deposit book contains four blank pages, which were not scanned.
- Volume 2      **Savings Deposit Book, Capitol Building and Land Association, Baton Rouge, March 1927-1937.** [View online](#)  
Direct reduction installment loan book for Dudley Turnbull Jr. The book was distributed by the Capital Building and Loan Association of Baton Rouge, La. The book contains 11 blank pages, which were not scanned.
- Volume 3      **Savings Deposit Book, Capitol Building and Land Association, Baton Rouge, February 1942- February 1948.** [View online](#)  
Installment loan bank book for Dudley Turnbull, Jr. The book was distributed by the Capital Building and Loan Association of Baton Rouge, La.



- Volume 4                    **School Workbook:** Juanita Turnbull, St. Mary's Academy, New Orleans, *My Workbook in Arithmetic*, Book 4, 1927 c. *Not digitized*
- Volume 5                    **School workbook:** Maudie Marie Turnbull, *A Workbook in Arithmetic*, No.2, 1933 c. *Not digitized*
- Volume 6                    **School workbook:** Juanita Turnbull, *20<sup>th</sup> Century Problems and Projects in Geography*, Book 1, May-June 1941. *Not digitized*
- Volume 7                    **School workbook:** Ella Mae Wilson *20<sup>th</sup> Century Problems and Projects in Geography*, Book 1, 1932 c. *Not digitized*
- Volume 8                    **Autograph Book: Kenneth Turnbull May-June 1941.** [View online](#)  
Kenneth Turnbull's autograph book created during his senior year at McKinley High School. The book includes messages written by Dudley Turnbull Jr. and Juanita Hebert Turnbull to their son; and notes and poems from Bruce Turnbull and friends. The autograph book seems to have been shared with Kenneth's younger brother, Dudley Gregory Turnbull.
- Volume 9                    **Autograph Book: Maudie Marie Turnbull, January 1942-June 1943.** [View online](#)  
Autograph book belonging to Maudie Turnbull while a student at St. Mary's Academy. Includes messages and poems written by friends, teachers, and family.
- Volume 10                   **Autograph Book: Maudie Marie Turnbull, September 1943-April 1944.** [View online](#)  
Autograph book belonging to Maudie Turnbull while a student at St. Mary's Academy. Includes messages and poems written by friends, teachers, and family.
- Volume 11                   **Dudley Turnbull, Union Dues Book: Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada, January 1948-December 1952.** [View online](#)  
Union dues book of the Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers' International Association of the United States and Canada belonging to Dudley Turnbull Jr.
- Volume 12                   **Dudley Turnbull, Union Dues Book: Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada, January 1953-October 1957.** [View online](#)

Union dues book of the Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers' International Association of the United States and Canada belonging to Dudley Turnbull Jr. The book contains a credit rating card belonging to Dudley Turnbull Jr.

Box 3, Folder 1

**RESTRICTED**

Kenneth Turnbull mental health items.  
*Not digitized*

OS Folder 1

**Manuscript Items, 1834-1945.**

(3 items.) [View online](#)

Includes: Thomas Giddings Will, 1834 August 24, East Baton Rouge Parish (Xerox copy); Juanita Angela Turnbull First Communion and Confirmation Certificate, 1935, 1940 May; and Juanita Cecilia Turnbull High School Graduation Diploma, St. Mary's Academy, New Orleans, 1945 June.

OS Box 1

**Charcoal Drawing:** Portrait of Estelle Turnbull Jones in First Communion dress, approximately 1887-1905. [View online](#)

OS Box 2

**Charcoal Drawing:** Portrait of Warren Turnbull, approximately 1887-1892. [View online](#)

**INDEX TERMS**

Giddings, Jane, born approximately 1830.

Turnbull Family.

Turnbull, Dudley, born 1852?-1926.

Turnbull, Dudley Gregory, 1925-1980.

Turnbull, Dudley, Jr., born 1891?

Turnbull, Juanita Hebert, 1894-1973.

Turnbull, Rosemarie Aldometer Mather, 1851-1917.

McKinley High School (Baton Rouge, La.)—Photographs.

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' International Association of the United States  
and Canada.

Saint Mary's Academy (New Orleans, La.)

Sisters of the Holy Family (New Orleans, La.)

African American Catholics—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

African American families—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

African American musicians--Louisiana--New Orleans.

African Americans--Illinois—Chicago.

African Americans—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

African Americans--Missouri--Saint Louis.

Education—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

Education—Louisiana—New Orleans.

Free African Americans—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

Nuns--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Plasterers—Labor Unions—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

Plasterers—Louisiana—Baton Rouge.

Women musicians--Louisiana--New Orleans.

Baton Rouge (La.) —History.

Baton Rouge (La.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Bankbooks.

Ephemera.

Photographic prints.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
W-40		1	Papers, 1863-1943. (22 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		2	Papers, 1910-1967. (37 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		3	Bills and Receipts, 1850-1879. (40 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		4	Bills and Receipts, 1878-1900. (38 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		5	Bills and Receipts, 1901-1923. (24 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		6	Bills and Receipts, approximately 1890-1964. (43 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		7	Insurance Policies, 1912-1930. (24 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		8	Insurance Policies, 1912-1930. (24 items.) <a href="#">View online</a>
		9	Printed Items, 1918-1948. (17 items.) <a href="#">View online</a> Includes the constitution and by-laws of Baton Rouge Plasterer's Protective Union; program for the Eighth Musical Concert by St. Mary's Academy Band and Orchestra; War and Navy Department, "Going Back to Civilian Life"; muster roll; St. Mary's Academy paper, <u>Regina</u> ; Navy pamphlet "The Last Word on Life Insurance for Men Discharged from the Navy."
		10	Newspaper clipping, approximately 1931-1939. (1 newspaper clipping.) <a href="#">View online</a>

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
		11	Photographs, approximately 1895-1949. (9 items.) <a href="#">View online</a> Includes: images of African American faculty of McKinley High School; First Communion pictures; portrait of Aldometer Mather Turnbull; portrait of Alex Hebert in World War I uniform.
		12	Photographs, approximately 1910-1969. (11 items.) <a href="#">View online</a> Includes: group portrait of Baton Rouge College students and portraits of Dudley Turnbull, Kenneth Turnbull, and other family members.
		13	Empty Envelopes, 1918-1949, n.d. (8 items.) <i>Not digitized</i>
W-40	2	Vol. 1	Savings Deposit Book, Bank of Baton Rouge, March 1918-February 1922. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 2	Savings Deposit Book, Capitol Building and Land Association, Baton Rouge, March 1927-1937. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 3	Savings Deposit Book, Capitol Building and Land Association, Baton Rouge, February 1942-February 1948. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 4	School Workbook: Juanita Turnbull, St. Mary's Academy, New Orleans, <i>My Workbook in Arithmetic</i> , Book 4, 1927 c. <i>Not digitized</i>
		Vol. 5	School workbook: Maudie Marie Turnbull, <i>A Workbook in Arithmetic</i> , No.2, 1933 c. <i>Not digitized</i>
		Vol. 6	School workbook: Juanita Turnbull, <i>20<sup>th</sup> Century Problems and Projects in Geography</i> , Book 1, May-June 1941. <i>Not digitized</i>

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
		Vol. 7	School workbook: Ella Mae Wilson 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Problems and Projects in Geography, Book 1, 1932 c. <i>Not digitized</i>
		Vol. 8	Autograph Book: Kenneth Turnbull May-June 1941. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 9	Autograph Book: Maudie Marie Turnbull, January 1942-June 1943. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 10	Autograph Book: Maudie Marie Turnbull, September 1943-April 1944. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 11	Dudley Turnbull, Union Dues Book: Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada, January 1948-December 1952. <a href="#">View online</a>
		Vol. 12	Dudley Turnbull, Union Dues Book: Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada, January 1953-October 1957. <a href="#">View online</a>
W:40	3	1	<b><u>RESTRICTED</u></b> Kenneth Turnbull mental health items. <i>Not digitized</i>
OS:T	n/a	1	Manuscript Items, 1834-1945. (3 items.) <a href="#">View online</a> Includes: Thomas Giddings Will, 1834 August 24, East Baton Rouge Parish (Xerox copy); Juanita Angela Turnbull First Communion and Confirmation Certificate, 1935, 1940 May; and Juanita Cecilia Turnbull High School Graduation Diploma, St. Mary's Academy, New Orleans, 1945 June.

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
OS:T	1		Charcoal Drawing: Portrait of Estelle Turnbull Jones in First Communion dress, approximately 1887-1905. <a href="#">View online</a>
OS:T	2		Charcoal Drawing: Portrait of Warren Turnbull, approximately 1887-1892. <a href="#">View online</a>