

OSCAR RENÉ COURREGE PAPERS

Mss. 5225

Inventory

Compiled by
Meghann Wollitz

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

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SUMMARY

Size.	0.3 linear ft.
Geographic locations.	France; New Iberia, Louisiana
Inclusive dates.	1895-1952
Bulk dates.	1918-1919
Language.	English
Summary.	Photographs, postcards, personal and business papers belonging to Oscar René Courrage. The collection relates primarily to his military service in France during World War I.
Restrictions on access.	None.
Related collections.	None.
Copyright.	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Citation.	Oscar René Courrage Papers, Mss. 5225, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack locations.	X:96

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Oscar René Courrege was born on January 20, 1888 in New Iberia, Louisiana, the first of four children of Joseph Bertrand Courrégé and Adele Crapé. He served in the United States Army during World War I, as a private in the 35th Service Co., Signal Corps, before his appointment to the rank of Corporal in September of 1919. His fluency in French enabled him to work as a telephone operator, a role he filled while stationed in Cheverny, France and Paris. Referring to himself as René during his early years, he married Amilda Renoudet on April 24, 1923. Courrege died in August of 1970.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Oscar René Courrege Papers include photographs, postcards, and personal and business papers belonging to Courrege. The majority of the collection consists of photographs and postcards pertaining to his military service in France in 1918 and 1919.

Postcards, dated between October 31 and December 27, 1918, contain short messages from Courrege (Rene) to his aunt. Sent from both Cheverny and Paris, they note observations about the weather, local sights, celebrating Thanksgiving in France, military life, and a visit to Les Halles in Paris, where Courrege saw King George V, the Prince of Wales, and Italy's Victor Emmanuel III. There is also a set of mostly blank French postcards sent by an unidentified individual.

Photographs consist of around 90 black-and-white prints taken in Paris and surrounding areas of France, including Soissons and Pinon, during the post-World War I period. These images by an unknown photographer include famous buildings and roads in Paris, as well as destroyed property, civilians, and former battle sites in the countryside. A Kodak envelope from France originally contained a number of these photographs. In addition, a photograph depicting several men standing together in a store dates from around 1895 to 1905.

Personal papers include Courrege's military records: his appointment as corporal, and special orders to report to headquarters in Paris. Other documents consist of Courrege and Amilda Renoudet's marriage license from 1923, a newspaper clipping announcing their marriage, and a certification of Courrege's 1888 baptism, dated 1952. Business papers include a cashbook from 1933-1946 containing records of building supplies and payments for rental properties.

INDEX TERMS

Courrege, Oscar René, 1888-1970.

Paris (France)—History—20th century.

Photographs.

Postcards.

Telephone operators—Louisiana.

United States. Army. Signal Corps.

World War, 1914-1918—France—Personal narratives,

American.

World War, 1914-1918—Destruction and pillage—France.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
X:96	1	1-3	Postcards, 1918-1919
		4-14	Photographs, ca. 1895-1919
		15	Personal papers, 1919-1952
		16	Business papers, 1933-1946