

Eugenia W. Howard collection

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Howard, Eugenia Walker, 1920-
Title:	Eugenia W. Howard collection
Dates:	1699-1980
Extent:	1.5 cubic feet (2 boxes, 6 folders, 4 oversize folders)
Identification:	MS 1348

Biographical/Historical Note

Eugenia W. Howard (b. December 7, 1920) married David Albert Howard, Jr. At the time that she was conducting her research, primarily between 1960 and 1980, she lived in Atlanta, Georgia. Some materials in the collection (folders 22-25, items 297-337) were contributed by Mrs. Howard's aunt, Mrs. James S. Cannon of Savannah and Guyton, Georgia. During the 1920s and 1930s, Mrs. Cannon researched the Thorntons, a branch of the family from England who went to the French West Indies and experienced political and social unrest there in the 1790s. (The connection between the Thornton and Bourquin families could not be ascertained.) Mrs. Cannon's research also concerns the Bourgoin family, a group of individuals who may or may not be related to the Bourquin family. (For information concerning Mrs. Cannon's research, see folder 13, item #8, page 7.)

Scope and Content Note

The Eugenia Walker Howard Collection consists of materials concerning the settlers of Purysburg, South Carolina (Jasper County), a township approximately 20 miles north of Savannah and 25 miles west of Hilton Head. This town began in 1732 with the arrival of 61 immigrants from Switzerland brought by Jean Pierre/John Peter Pury, a native of Neufchatel. (Alternate spellings of Purysburg found within the collection include Purisburgh, Purrisburg, Purrysbourg, Purrysburgh, and Purysbourg.)

The primary subject of the collection's genealogical materials is the Bourquin family, Swiss Huguenots who originated in the town of Sonceboz-Sombeval in the French sector of Switzerland and arrived in America with the first settlers of Purysburg. Starting around 1749, some family members moved to Chatham County, Georgia. The Bourquin family that originally settled in South Carolina consisted of three brothers. Jean /John Baptiste Bourquin, born ca. 1692, died South Carolina, ca. 1784. Children were Abraham, Marianne, Mrs. Detheridge, Henri Louis/Henry Lewis, and Jean Louis/John Lewis. Henry Lewis Bourquin married his first cousin, Henrietta Bourquin, and figures prominently in the collection. Henri Francois / Henry Frances Bourquin, born ca. 1703, died Chatham County, Georgia, 1778. Children were Anne Marie, Susanne Marie (married surname Huguenin), Catharine (Waldburger Keall Rehm), Henri Francois, Mary Ann (Morel), Harriet Henrietta (Bourquin Jones), and Frances (Fox). Henrietta married her first cousin, Henry Lewis Bourquin. After his death, she married William Jones. She figures prominently in the collection, which includes court papers concerning property left after her death in Nassau in 1797. Benedict Bourquin, born 1712, died Georgia, 1770. Children were Jane, Susannah (Papot), Henry, Mary Ann (McKnight), David Francis, Benedict, John, Mrs. Goodale, and Mrs. White. An important event in the Bourquin family history occurred in 1774 when Henry Bourquin (ca. 1703-1778) borrowed money from a Charleston merchant by the name of John Neufville. Over the next twenty five years, several members of the Bourquin and Jones families were involved with legal matters concerning this debt. As a result, there are many photocopies of 18th century legal documents and correspondence in the Howard Collection.

Mrs. Howard's research is summed up in two places within the collection. The first is folder 5 (items 37-38) which contains two volumes of *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* with Howard's two-part article, *The Tale of a Legacy*. The second is folder 13 (item 108) containing an unfinished typed manuscript entitled *The Bourquin Family of Switzerland, South Carolina, and Georgia* by Eugenia W. Howard. These two keys will help researchers in using the rest of the materials in the collection.

The collection also contains photographs and maps relating to the Bourquin family and Purysburg, SC. While researching the Bourquins, Howard corresponded with several people in Switzerland. These correspondents sent photographs and

postcards of Bourquin coats-of-arms and Swiss sites related to the Bourquin family. The folders of visual materials are noted as "VM."

Most of the material relating to Purysburg, SC and the Bourquins in America are maps, both photocopied and hand-drawn copies. These maps document the settlement of Purysburg; Bourquin lands; and the grave site of David Francis and Elizabeth Fox Bourquin.

Most of the Eugenia W. Howard Collection is in English, but there are several documents in French. Almost all of the French materials are accompanied by translations.

Index Terms

Bourquin family.
Bourquin, David Francis, 1759-1825.
Chatham County (Ga.)
Coats of arms.
Howard, Eugenia Walker, 1920-
Jasper County (S.C.)
Letters (correspondence)
Maps (documents)
Neufville, John, 1727-1804.
Photographs.
Postcards.
Purysburgh (S.C.)
Research notes.
Savannah (Ga.)--History.
Thornton family.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Material was acquired from collector.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Eugenia W. Howard collection, MS 1348, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Eugenia W. Howard, 1983, 1988.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright has not been assigned to the Georgia Historical Society. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Division of Library and Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Georgia Historical Society as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

Separated Material

Artifacts were separated and cataloged with the Georgia Historical Society Artifacts Collection. View digital images of

artifacts at the end of this collection inventory or search the Digital Image Catalog for further information.

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Box Fldr Item

1 1 1-7 Photocopied articles about Purysburg, South Carolina; *Muster Rolls of the South Carolina Granville and Colleton County Regiments of Militia (1756)*; *Lists of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies, 1880-1969*

28 Genealogical summary of the Bourquin family (in French with no translation), 1966

39- Correspondence between Eugenia Howard and Maurice Terregaux of Neuchatel,
16 Switzerland (photocopy of handwritten letter in French with typed translation); *A Pastor for the Parish of St. Peter, Purysburg, S.C.* (Reverend Barthelemi H. Hemli); typed notes on Swiss colonies in America; photocopied article on early Purysburg (in French); *Family Puzzlers* issue devoted largely to Georgia Salzburgers and Swiss in South Carolina, 1959-1978

417- Photocopies of selected records of the Federal Circuit Court, District of Georgia, which
35 pertain to two cases involving the legacy left by Henrietta Bourquin Jones, 1797-1825

537- Copies of *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, June and September, containing *The*
38 *Tale of a Legacy* in two parts by Eugenia Walker Howard, 1968

639- Photocopy of a Swiss encyclopedia concerning Bourquins and Sonceboz; plat of a mill
44 where Bourquins owned a fief; photocopy of a typewritten letter (in French with no translation) from Willy Sunier in which he describes the genealogy of the Bourquin family by tracing the ownership of the fief, 1924-1966

745- Materials concerning the 1100th anniversary of the towns of Sonceboz and Sombeval,
48 Switzerland which include newspaper articles; a letter in French to American descendants of the Bourquin family; two commemorative envelopes, 1966

849- Correspondence concerning genealogical research and the Bourquin family. Letters are
72 between Howard and Georgia Congressman Charles Longstreet Weltner; several American consuls in Switzerland; various archives in Switzerland, and Swiss clergymen including Roger Chevalier, the Protestant minister of Soceboz. Several letters are in French and German (with translations), 1963-1965

973- Correspondence between Howard and Willy Sunier of the Prefecture du district de
115 Courtelary (Berne), 1966-1973

1074- Bourquin family charts (photocopies and originals), undated
83

1184 Photocopy of *Some Huguenot Families of South Carolina and Georgia*, 1940

1285- Correspondence between Mrs. James S. Canon and Major Harry A. Davis concerning the
107 Bourquin family with annotations by Eugenia Howard, 1930-1940

13108 Unfinished typed manuscript fifty pages in length: *The Bourquin Family of Switzerland, South Carolina, and Georgia* by Eugenia W. Howard, 1980

14109- Transcribed typed deeds pertaining to land owned by Robert H. Bourquin, 1796-1865
123

15124- Typed and handwritten notes by Eugenia Howard on papers relating to the Bourquin
157 family found at the Federal Records Center, East Point, Georgia, 1963-1965

Box Fldr Item

2 16 158- Photocopy of an article from the *Catholic Historical Review* concerning a letter written by Jean
159 Baptiste Bourquin to the Bishop of Basel, Switzerland in 1733. The same letter is further
explained and described in an article entitled, "On Becoming an Emigrant" from *Perspectives
in American History*, 1919 and 1973

17160- Photocopies of legal documents or instruments on file in the local government records of
211 Sonceboz-Sombeval, Switzerland; original document with signature of Jean Jacques
Bourquin; Swiss brochures and maps, 1709?, 1965-1966
(see archivist's note at the end of this folder description).

18212- Handwritten copy of a 1793 letter in French concerning events at Santo Domingo and a
221 typewritten transcription of the same letter; correspondence between Mrs. James S.
Cannon and various French authorities (including G. Leboeuf) concerning research on the
Thornton and Bourquin families (French and English); typed notes concerning family
heraldry; *La Paroisse de Sonceboz-Sombeval*, 1930 (pamphlet in French, no translation),
1921-1930

19222- Typed copy of 1824 newspaper notice concerning will of William Jones; typed notes on
259 U.S. Circuit Court concerning Bourquins of Savannah; handwritten notes on 19th century
dockets and court actions; handwritten original and photocopy of pedigree charts
beginning with Henry Bourquin the Elder; photocopies of 18th century legal papers
concerning John Neufville vs. Bourquin and Jones families. These items include deeds,
marriage certification for Henrietta Bourquin Jones, and wills/estate documents for Henri
Bourquin, Henrietta Bourquin Jones, Jane Judith Bourquin, and William Jones, 1783-
1825 and 1966

1783-1825 are photocopies.

Items 227-230 and 236-241 are oversized and can be found in Oversize Folder 1. Items 246-
247, 251-252, and 254-255 are oversized and can be found in Oversize Folder 2. (These
folders are outside of Box 2 and must be requested separately.)

20264- Handwritten correspondence to Mrs. Cannon regarding Purysburg and the Bourquin
267 family; copy of a transcribed letter by James Habersham from 1756; copy of published
information concerning property of Henry Bourquin; photocopies from *Colonial Records of
the State of Georgia* concerning Bourquin lands, 1741-1756, 1920

Items 260-263 are oversized and can be found in Oversize Folder 3. (This folder is outside of
Box 2 and must be requested separately.) 1741-1756 are photocopies.

21268- Typed and handwritten notes as well as correspondence from a folder that Mrs. Howard
269 labeled, "Cemeteries in Georgia Where Members of the Bourquin Family are Buried",
1961-1980

22297- Typed and handwritten correspondence between Mrs. Cannon and various authorities
322 concerning Thornton and Bourquin families. Some of these letters are in French but have
translations, 1922-1938

Archivist's note: please refer to folder 13, item 108, page 7 concerning Mrs. Cannon's research
(items 297-337, folders 22-25).

23323- Handwritten notes on land ownership in Bourquin family; and international money orders;
330 postage receipts, 1916-1929

24331- Handwritten pamphlet in French on the Thornton family genealogy with a typed
333 translation; family chart beginning with William Thornton (d. 1623), undated

25334- Handwritten pamphlet in French on the Bourquin/Bourguin family with a handwritten
337 translation; handwritten document in French regarding Bourquin/Bourguin family dated
1699; handwritten Bourquin/Bourguin family chart beginning with Jean Bourquin (b.
1340), 1699 and undated

26338- Newspaper clippings concerning colonial land titles in Chatham County, Litchfield
339 Plantation, and the graves of Joseph Wright and Mary Jane Gunn, 1885 and 1963
Photocopies.

27340- Handwritten notes on plantations from information housed at the University of Georgia;
343 handwritten notes on courthouses and cemeteries; newsletter from Georgia Federal
Savings and Loan with information on Westville, Georgia, 1977

28344- Correspondence (both handwritten and typed) between Mrs. Howard and various
371 individuals concerning property in Chatham County and along the Little Ogeechee River,
1962-1968

Specific plantations and areas mentioned include the "Black Ankle District," Cherburg,
Rockingham, and Wild Horn. Genealogical and property ownership information includes the
Bouquin, Cooper, Fleming, Gignilliat, Goodale, Guirard, and McKnight families.

29372- Research notes, mostly handwritten, primarily concerning the Bourquin family and land
390 claims in Chatham County, undated

Other family information includes the Delegal, Deveaux, Dixsee, Douglas, Farmur, Fleming,
Goodale, Goodall, Guirard, Hanner, Houstoun, Jones, Sunier, Watson, and Williams families.

Specific locations mentioned include lands along the Little Ogeechee River as well as Bern, Cedar Grove, Hopeton Plantation, and Laurel Grove.

- 1 Photographs of Sonceboz-Sombeval area of Switzerland (12.0 items.)
Includes Bourquin coats-of-arms and sites related to the Bourquin family. All of these photos were taken by Pastor Roger Chevalier in 1966. (Items originally located in manuscript folder 17)
- 2 Photographs of Swiss scenic views and people (7.0 items.)
Includes photos of the Jura Mountains, Sonceboz in 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Madame W. Sunier, and the tombstone of David Francis Bourquin (1759-1825) and Elizabeth Fox Bourquin (circa 1768-1788) near Pooler, GA. SEE ALSO: maps of the location of David F. Bourquin's grave in Folder 5. (Items originally located in manuscript folder 17)
- 3 Photographs (9.0 items.)
Bourquin coats-of-arms and Swiss sites related to the Bourquin family. (Items originally located in manuscript folder 17)
- 4 Postcards (6.0 items.)
Images of Sonceboz and Swiss sites related to the Bourquin family.(Items originally located in manuscript folder 17)
- 5 Cemeteries (2.0 items.)
A portion of a published map with marked locations including the site of the grave of David F. Bourquin and a hand-drawn map of directions to the grave. SEE ALSO: photograph of David F. and Elizabeth Fox Bourquin's tombstone in Folder 2. (Items originally located in manuscript folder 21)
- 6 Little Ogeechee Land Holdings (10.0 items.)
Includes hand-copied maps/plats from deed books, maps showing Bourquin land and the Hopeton Tract. SEE ALSO: Folder 7
- 7 Oversized Maps (10.0 items.)
Maps of Little Ogeechee land holdings include photocopies and hand-drawn copies; maps of the town of Purysburg and Purysburg township; and photocopied sections of DeBrahm's 1757 map of South Carolina and parts of Georgia (one complete set-6 sheets and one set that is enlarged to show the names of the proprietors of South Carolina lands-2 sheets).

Artifacts

A-1348-001 Medal from the "Ski Club Sonceboz-Sombeval" **View online.**