

## Our Mission

To collect, preserve, and make available manuscripts and published materials relating primarily to the history and culture of the original boundaries of the city of Natchitoches that was founded in 1714 by French explorers. This area encompasses the French and Spanish Colonial Territorial eras, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the creation of Natchitoches County in 1805, and the creation of Natchitoches Parish in 1807. Beyond the boundaries of the Parish, the CGHRC continues to collect materials relating to the parishes of Sabine, Winn, Grant, and Red River. We also collect published materials that compliment and support the study of manuscript collections and Louisiana history.

## Our Staff

**Mary Linn Wernet, CA**  
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## Cammie G. Henry Research Center

### Website:

<http://library.nsula.edu/CGHRC>

### Hours:

8 am-4:30 pm, Monday-Thursday

8 am-11:30 am, Fridays

### Phone Number:

318-357-4585

Some day - some one will  
hunt history in these very  
old materials - C.G.H.

*(Some day-some one will hunt history in these very old materials-Cammie G. Henry)*



## Our History

The first incarnation of the archives at Northwestern State University was located in the Louisiana Room in Russell Hall under the direction of Katherine Bridges. It contained rare books, manuscripts, documents, and the Louisiana book collection. In 1971 the archives moved to its current location with the opening of the Watson Library. Our archives has been assisted and led by many wonderful individuals including John Price, Carol Wells, and our current archivist Mary Linn Wernet.

The research center is named in honor of Carmelite "Cammie" Garrett Henry (1871-1948) of Melrose Plantation. The Melrose collection is our largest collection and makes up the core of our holdings. This collection focuses on the rich cultural, historical, and literary heritage of Louisiana and Natchitoches. The collection spans from the French colonial period to the 1940's, and contains colonial documents, rare books, and approximately 256 scrapbooks compiled by Cammie.



*Cammie and Lyle Saxon*

## Our Collections

### **Louisiana and Rare Books:**

Our collection contains published books, journals, and rare books about Louisiana and by Louisiana authors. This collection is searchable through the library's online catalog system.

### **Archives and Manuscripts:**

Our collection is comprised of nearly 800 collections that are searchable through the Research Center's extensive subject index. In addition, our holdings can be viewed in our finding aids, which can be found on our website.

### **NSU University Archives:**

We house the university's non-current records and past presidential papers.

### **Maps:**

We have more than 3000 maps in our collection dating from early colonial Louisiana to the present. We also have copies of the confiscated Confederate maps. This collection is searchable through our map index.

### **Newspapers:**

Our collection contains a number of microfilmed non-current local newspapers.

### **Microfilm:**

We house Louisiana population census schedules, local church records, American State Papers and copies of other archives' materials pertinent to Louisiana history.



*Caroline Dormon*

## Our Core Manuscript Collections:

- Melrose Collection
- Caroline Dormon Collection
- James Aswell Collection
- Cloutier Family Collection
- Robert DeBlieux Collection
- Joe Dellmon Collection
- Egan Family Collection
- Federal Writer's Project

### Using Our Materials

**Please call ahead and schedule an appointment at (318) 357-4585** to ensure you have the opportunity to view all materials relevant to your research.