This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield. If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org.

**Introduction**

Approximately 20 cubic feet

Ray Gene Richardson was born January 1, 1922 in Mount Vernon, Missouri to Hal Ray and Laura Jane (Butrick) Richardson. He graduated from the Mount Vernon High School in 1940 and went to work for the Carnation Company. Ray married Betty Jo Loe on October 5, 1942. Four days later Ray left for military service in the Army Air Force. He served as a T-4 during World War II in Europe and was also stationed in Washington, Utah, Iowa. While overseas he served as a truck mechanic and driver in North Africa and Italy, but also served in England and Germany.

Betty Jo Loe was born September 10, 1923 in Missouri to James A. and Alice E. (Coghill) Loe. Betty grew up in the coal mining community of Shibleys Point, Adair County, Missouri. Her family came to Mount Vernon following her fathers work as a construction foreman for Highway 174. She graduated from Mount Vernon High School in 1942, marrying Ray that fall. During Ray’s service overseas, Betty worked riveting wings for small planes at a plant in Wichita, Kansas. Together the couple had one child, Joe R. Richardson.

After the war Ray and Betty moved to Saint Louis where he worked on the expansion of the Lambert Air Field. He graduated from the Baily Radio & TV School after which he and Betty returned to Mount Vernon where they owned and operated Ray’s Radio and TV. Later in life he worked for Carnation Milk Company and General Electric as an electrician until his retirement in 1984. Ray and Betty were active in local history research and historic preservation especially of cemeteries. Ray died on June 18, 2017 and is buried in Mount Vernon. Betty died on December 30, 2017 and is buried alongside Ray in Mount Vernon.

**Notes**

The collection contains materials created and collected by Ray Gene and Betty Richardson. Many of the papers are personal papers of the couple but there are additions of materials created by family members such as Cyrus Truitt of Novinger, Missouri.

**Donor Information**

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Katherine Richardson on July 27, 2018 (Accession No. SPA0043).

**Copyright and Restrictions**

The Donor retains all rights but gives permission for the Society to provide access to the materials according to Society policy and allows the Society to reproduce the materials for use by the Society.
Box List

Box 1

Newspapers
Photographs - family
Photographs – veterans’ honor flight
John C. Butrick
Ray Richardson – military
Ray Richardson – awards and recognition
Historic preservation
Correspondence – genealogy research
Photographs – Dr. Hayward wedding
Photographs – Ray and Betty Richardson
Photographs – Joe Richardson
Photographs – Betty Richardson
Photographs – Mount Vernon
Photographs – Richardson family
Photographs – Mount Vernon
Photographs – unidentified
Photographs - Butrick, Bowling, Merwin, Norton families
Photographs – World War II (copies)
Photographs – Hal Richardson family
Photographs – unidentified
Photographs – McCanse
Photographs – World War I
Photographs – Bacon family
photographs - Lawrence County
Photographs - family
Photographs - Richardson family

Box 2

Photographs - Clinton Richardson
Photographs
Photographs - Bacon family
Photographs - Richardson family
Correspondence - Dwight and Lorene Richardson
Photographs
Photographs - Book family
Virginia Snyder - The One Room School House
Mount Vernon history
Maps - Mount Vernon, Missouri
Negatives
Research - New England, Revolutionary War
Research - Genealogy, headstones
Ray Richardson - Photographs, 1945
Ray Richardson - Photographs, 1947-2012
Ray Richardson - Photographs - Cemetery work
Ray Richardson - Military - Photographs
Photographs - Bacon family
Genealogy - Butrick
Genealogy - Bowling, Genna Faye
Genealogy - Bacon
Genealogy - Obituaries
Genealogy - Obituaries, Richardson family
Ray Richardson - Correspondence
Adair County history
Genealogy - Coghill family
Genealogy - Loe family
Correspondence - J.L. Jones
Richardson family - W. C. Richardson
Richardson family - Dwight and Lorene Richardson
Genealogy - Butrick family
Genealogy - Bowling family
Photographs - Merwin, Worton families
Photographs - Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon history
Truitt family - Mrs. C. R. Truitt
Genealogy - Marriage records
Ray Richardson
Richardson family - S. O. "Bill" Richardson

Box 3

Basham family - miscellaneous
Bowling family
Bowling family - family group sheets
Bowling family - miscellaneous
Gotism Primitive Baptist Church constitution and minutes, 1890
Mount Vernon history
Missouri Preservation McReynold's award, 2001
Loe family - Twyla Simmons
Richardson family - notebook
Betty's Family - family group sheets
Richardson family - wills (copies)
Novinger County - newspaper articles
Betty's family - obituaries, funeral cards
Water rights
Loe family - James, Lillian, Edward and Leander
Genealogy - Loe, Gross and Coghill families
Loe family - genealogical materials compiled by Pat Darrow
Genealogy - Loe, Coghill, Spicer, Gross, Linages family tree
Coghill family - Susan Coghill estate, 1883
Genealogy - Adair County, court and probate records
Genealogy - Coghill, Floyd, and Gormley families
Coghill family
Richardson - Betty Richardson DAR genealogy
Richardson - Betty Richardson DAR documentation
Richardson - Betty Richardson DAR documentation
Coghill family
Genealogy - Coghill, Jones, Floyd, and Gormley census data
Correspondence - miscellaneous, 1988
Genealogy - Bradey, Herriford, Branaman, and Donaldson
Branaman family - James A. Branamon, military records
Genealogy - Branaman and Loe, compiled by Yolanda Branaman Kish
Branaman family - David C. Branaman family
Branaman family - census data
Loe family - miscellaneous, compiled by Ruth Baker
Genealogy - Putnam County plat map, 1877; Register of Old Settlers Adair County, 1889 (copies)

Box 4

Ray Richardson - Photographs - Family
Ray Richardson - Photographs - Family
Photographs - Richardson family
Photographs - Loe, Coghill, Hughes families
Negatives and slides
Asa Buttrick
Buttrick family
Bacon and Cook family
Research - Genealogy list of places and names
Correspondence - John Powell, 1994-2000
Interview - Hobson, Effie Mae, circa 1960
Feather family
Bowling family - Cheryl Grusendorf correspondence, 1999-2001
Correspondence - William Davis, 2001-2003
Mount Vernon - Schools
Ray Richardson - Awards and certificates
George M. Webdell
Lawrenceburg Mining Company Stock Certificate, 1892
Mount Vernon - City Cemetery
Mount Vernon - City Cemetery, map and damage, 2002-2005
Photographs - Mount Vernon, town square, 1950s
Photographs - Betty Jo Loe Richardson
Genealogy - Miscellaneous family notes
Bacon family
Richardson family
Miscellaneous Local History
Ray Richardson - Military - 915th history and memoir
Loe family - Lawrence Loe cemetery information
Boy Scout, Bird House Photograph ID, 1931
Genealogy - Leanne Cemetery, Barry County
Mount Vernon - City Cemetery, unmarked graves
Cemeteries in Barry, Lawrence, and Stone counties
Neely Cemetery, Lawrence County
Mars Hill Cemetery, Barry County
Mount Vernon - Toliver Cemetery
Lawrence County - Goodspeed name list
Southwest Missouri maps with notes
Maps
Green Cemeteries, Kay Book
Ray Richardson - Tombstone Repair
Directory - Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club, 1967
Stone County - Death records list, 'B' surnames

Box 5

Civil War
Butrick
Loe family
Truitt
Coghill family
Ray Richardson - Correspondence - Radio
Ray Richardson
Richardson family - W.G. Richardson
Richardson family - Hal Richardson
Richardson family - Joe Richardson
Ray Richardson - Correspondence - genealogy
Ray Richardson - correspondence
Richardson family - William Kealey Richardson, 1841-1906
Richardson family - service records
Carnation Company, white wash recipe
Genealogy - warranty deed, deed of trust, receipt
McCans family - Jeremiah McCans articles
Richardson family - Clinton Richardson
Richardson family - Descendants of Taswell Richardson
Bacon family
Richardson family - Clinton Richardson
Carnation Company - employee pictures
Genealogy - funeral programs
Harris family
Jones family - Marian Jones family
Richardson family - Eugene Paul Richardson family line
Genealogy - Freeman and Johnson notebook
Hobson family - Effie Mae Hobson interview transcript, 1960s
Genealogy - notebook
Genealogy - notebook - Richardson family
Genealogy - notebook - Bacon family
Genealogy - notebook - Buttrick family
Bacon family - Elizabeth Bacon Custer
Richardson family - miscellaneous documents
Richardson family - Randolph Richardson data, compiled by Patricia Lee
Richardson family - Benjamin Richardson data, compiled by Patricia Lee
Richardson family - Byron Adams and Amanda Richardson
Genealogy - death certificates - Richardson, Bacon, Buttrick
Correspondence - Ross Cameron, 2006
Richardson family - Virginia
Richardson family - William Clarks Richardson
McVey family - Mamie McVey family
Richardson family - Randolph Richardson
Richardson family - Peter Richardson and descendants
Richardson family - Lorenzo Richardson estate
Richardson family - Leroy "Lee" Richardson
Genealogy - Correspondence - Connie Stevens on Gullet and Buttrick families
Merwin family
Richardson family - Correspondence - Patricia Lee, 2000-2004
Bacon family - Correspondence - Maxine Drosco, 1999-2004
Richardson family - Correspondence - Connie Ratcliff, 2001
Richardson family - Correspondence - Carol Parrish
Norton family - Correspondence - Bill Norton
Richardson family - Correspondence - Steven Moe
Richardson family - Correspondence - Judy Richardson Zumwalt, 2006
Richardson family - Larry Richardson family

Box 6

Genealogy - family charts
Richardson family - Name list
Genealogy - Bedford County, Virginia censuses
Genealogy - Franklin County, Virginia censuses
Genealogy - Franklin County, Virginia marriages
Buttrick family
Genealogy - Bedford and Franklin counties, Virginia
Richardson family- Benjamin Richardson
Bacon family
Buttrick family
Genealogy - Jessie Ammerman estate
Correspondence - James and Alice Loe, 1939-1981
Buttrick family - George Buttrick estate, 1941
Buttrick family - Charles J. Buttrick, 1920-1972
Genealogy - Tazewell Richardson
Genealogy - Descendants of Tazewell Richardson
Richardson family - Randolph, Tully and John Richardson's wills
Bacon family - Genealogy
Loe Family - Notes
Richardson family - Virginia and New York
Genealogy - Richardson and Bacon families census data
Richardson family - notes
Coghill family - notes
Mount Vernon - abstracts and warranty deed, Olive Street
Mount Vernon - abstracts and warranty deed, Olive Street
Richardson family - Lorene Richardson land records
Salem Cemetery, Lawrence County
Samuel family
Settle family
Neely, Catts, Crawford Cemetery, Lawrence County
Bacon family - Judy Truman correspondence
Harold Bell Wright
Mount Vernon - Christian Church groups
Ray Richardson - Honor Flights of the Ozarks, 2009
Interview - Jack Brown, 2006
Richardson family - Joe Ray Richardson military papers
Buttrick family - Military, Civil War service records
Richardson family - cousins

Box 7

Bowling family - notebook
Bowling family - notebook
Bowling family - notebook
Ray Richardson - World War II memoir
Genealogy - Military records - Loe, Branaman,
Genealogy - Death records - Hughes and Branaman
Genealogy - Marriages - Loe and Coghill
Adair County - plat maps
McMahan family - Pauline Patrick research
McMahan family - Lois McMahan research
McMahan family - Eugene McMahan
Loe family - Census data, Kentucky and Missouri
Loe family - Betty Loe research
Genealogy - Loe and McMahan families
Loe family - Joe M. Loe
Loe family - Putnam and Adair counties
Correspondence - Chauncy Leeper info
Herriford family - Putnam and Adair counties
Genealogy - Gormley and Jones families
Genealogy - Loe and Branaman families - Green City Press
Richardson family
Bowling family - J. Oliver Bowling
photographs - Bowling and Buttrick families
Merwin family - Miles Merwin Association publications, 1982-1988
Merwin family - biographies for family book
Correspondence - Lynette Lewis - African Americans, Mount Vernon
Richardson family - history and Ray Richardson family tree
Richardson family - Correspondence - Larry Richardson, 2000-2002
Richardson family - Correspondence - Gary Richardson on Leroy "Lee" Richardson, 2002-2009
Ray G. Richardson - World War II papers
Richardson family - census data
Correspondence - 915th friends, 2000-2010
Ray Richardson - military
Ray Richardson - World War II - Italian maps, 1941-1945
Ray Richardson - World War II - Stars and Stripes Mediterranean, 1945
Loe family - Raymond Edward Loe, military service
Ray Richardson - World War II - book manuscript
Ray Richardson - World War II
Ray Richardson - World War II - 915th reunion group newsletter, 1961-2000
Ray Richardson - World War II
Ray Richardson - World War II - Italy
Ray Richardson - World War II - SS Elihn Yale

Box 8

Genealogy - Old Mount Vernon cemetery burials
Genealogy - Miscellaneous
Richardson family - Randolph Richardson Jr. will
Bacon family
Richardson family - military
Map - Northwest Arkansas
Map - Newton and Jasper counties
Map - Greene County, Missouri
Map - Lawrence County, Missouri, Mount Vernon
Coghill family - The Family of Coghill, volume 1
Coghill family - The Family of Coghill, volume 2
Coghill family - The Family of Coghill, volume 2
Coghill family - finance book
Kirksville Community nursing home
Coghill family - Homer Coghill, telephone
Coghill family - Homer Coghill, electricity
Coghill family - Homer Coghill
Coghill family - Homer and Florence Coghill
Map - Texaco Touring Map of Illinois, circa 1944
Telephone directory, Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Co., 1965
Negatives - Richardson
Slides
Plate glass negatives
Lawrence family - Family Bible

Box 9

Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Diaries, 1931-1963
Coghill - family documents, 1906-1975
Coghill - family correspondence, 1951-1966
Coghill, Homer - land records, 1929-1963
Coghill, Homer - health, 1950-1967
Genealogy - The Family of Coghill 1377 to 1879: With some Sketches of Their Maternal Ancestorys, The Slingsbys, of Scriven Hall, 1135 to 1879 by James Henry Coghill, no date
Genealogy - The Family of Coghill Continued by William Hawes Coghill, 1956
Truitt - photographs, 1905-1941, no date
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Novinger history, 1908-1971
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Truitt family, 1888, 1909-1978
Truitt - Henry C. Truitt, 1908-1946
Truitt - Henry C. Truitt estate, 1908-1909
Photographs - Fox family, 1895-1930
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Photographs, family and neighbors, 1895-1980
Truitt - Mary (Fox) Truitt, 1920, 1946-1947
Truitt - Mary K. Truitt, 1908-1946
Truitt - Mary K. Truitt estate, 1899-1926
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - personal papers, 1905-1977
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - military, radio squad, 1918-1919, 1960
Photographs - Truitt
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - John E. Lawrence land records, 1906, no date
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - family, 1891-1964
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Cyrus and Ruby Truitt, 1941-1980
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - hobbies and travel, 1935-1979, no date
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Correspondence, 1946-1975
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - album, 1910-1915, no date

Box 10

Truitt - Lillian K. (Truitt) Loe, 1941, no date
Truitt - Ruby Pearl Truitt funeral book, 1988
Truitt - Jesse M. Truitt, 1947-1965
Photographs - Dianthe Joy (Truitt) Cable, 1944-1967
Truitt - Newspaper articles, 1964-1979
Truitt - land records, 1906-1923
Negatives - Truitt, 1961, no date
Truitt - Lillian K. (Truitt) Loe, 1924, no date
Truitt - Ruby Truitt, no date
Negatives - Ray Richardson - World's Fair, 1964
Negatives - Ray Richardson - Disneyland and Marineland, 1961
Negatives - trip out west, 1963, no date
Negatives - California trip, 1960
Negatives - family members, no date
Negatives - Ozarks, no date
Negatives - Mount Vernon area, 1961-1962
Negatives - vacation trips, 1960-1962, no dates
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Military - World War II images, 1941-1945
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Military - Correspondence, 1944
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Military - Memoir, 2010, no date
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - awards, 1958-1980
Mount Vernon - history, no date
Genealogy - Research - Merwin and Buttrick DAR application, 2009-2013
Branaman - Alva and Ray, no date
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Genealogy - DAR yearbook, 2016-2017
Richardson - Lorene Richardson, 1996
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt, address book, 1974, no date
Mount Vernon - First Christian Church directories

Box 11

Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - recipe notebook, no date
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - miscellaneous
Genealogy - Death records, 1990-1994
Genealogy - Death records, 1980-1989
Genealogy - Death records, 1940-1950
Genealogy - Death records, 1960-1969
Genealogy - Death records, 1970-1979
Bacon family - family group records, no date
Buttrick-Bowling - family group record
Richardson family - family group records and index
Richardson family - group record
Richardson family - family history
Bowling family - family history
Buttrick - Willis Buttrick estate
Richardson family - family history
Richardson family- family group records
Genealogy - miscellaneous
Genealogy - Resources - Butrick, Butterick, Buttrick in the USA, 1935-1978, 1979
The University of Missouri - Rolla: Centennial Year, 1870-1970, commencement
    program, 1970
Vehicles
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal papers - National Parks brochures, 1959-1974
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal papers - The Annual, Sedalia High School
    yearbook, 1922
Buttrick - "Buffalo Trail Plowed Under" The story of Enos Butrick, 1967
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal papers - advertisements, 1927, no date
Negatives

Box 12

Photographs - Abernathy family
Photographs - Berry family
Photographs - Branaman family
Photographs - Brets and Caseholt families
Photographs - Coghill, Gormley, and Jones families
Photographs - Downing family
Photographs - Gray family
Photographs - Gritzner family
Photographs - Jones and Rogers families
Photographs - Kibler family
Photographs - Lawrence, Earling "Denzil"
Photographs - Lawrence, Ernest Eugene
Photographs - Lawrence, Everett Junior
Photographs - Lawrence, John "Lemuel"
Photographs - Lawrence, John Erastus family
Photographs - Lawrence, John Erastus home and business
Photographs - Lawrence, Joseph Lemuel
Photographs - Lawrence family
Photographs - Loe, Branaman, and McMahon families
Photographs - Masterson, Jane Gray
Photographs - May, Thomas
Photographs - Miller, Aaron
Photographs - Nimmo family
Photographs - Richardson family
Photographs - Riggins, Nellie Abernathy
Photographs - Schepler family
Photographs - Shoop family
Photographs - Spears family
Photographs - Spencer family
Photographs - Truitt, Cyrus
Photographs - Walters family
Photographs - Wert family
Photographs - Williams and Lawrence families
SP0036 (SPA0043)
GENE AND BETTY RICHARDSON PAPERS

Photographs - unidentified people
Photographs - miscellaneous
Photographs - miscellaneous, unidentified
Photographs - cemeteries
Photographs - construction of Lambert St. Louis airport, 1951
Photographs - travel
Negatives
Negatives
Negatives
Mount Vernon - First Christian Church booklets
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - gun brochures

Box 13

Genealogy - Research - Newspaper articles
Genealogy - Research - Newspaper articles
Genealogy - Research - Newspaper articles
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - miscellaneous
Legal documents
Loe family - Prospecting for Uranium, Raymond E. Loe
Correspondence
Lawrence family - Addie Lillian Lawrence memorial book, 1966
Lawrence family - John E. Lawrence memorial book, 1965
Loe family - James Loe probate
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - Our Family History
Genealogy - Lawrence and Abernathy family sheets
Lawrence family - family sheets
Richardson family - family sheets
Richardson - Ray Richardson - Personal Papers - miscellaneous
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt notebooks
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - History of Novinger draft
Truitt - Cyrus Truitt - History of Novinger, 1972
Mount Vernon - history, Founder's Day
Mount Vernon - Alumni newsletter, 2009
Photographs - Fox family
Photographs - Henry C. Truitt store, 1908
Maps - Mount Vernon, Missouri
Genealogy - Crane Community Cemetery index, no date
American Red Cross, First Aid textbook, 1940
Ray Richardson - Military
Ray Richardson - How to pamphlets, 1970s
Ray Richardson - manuals, radios, 1942-1948

Page 12 of 15
Box 14

Cyrus Truitt - Photographs
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Berry, Miller, Sloop
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Bretz
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Nimmo
Cyrus Truitt - Schott family papers
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Truitt
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Lawrence family
Cyrus Truitt - newspaper articles
Cyrus Truitt - Truitt genealogy
Cyrus Truitt
Cyrus Truitt - Truitt family correspondence
Cyrus Truitt - transportation images
Cyrus Truitt - cemeteries
Cyrus Truitt - Hocker family
Cyrus Truitt - county merchant license
Cyrus Truitt - mine strike, 1927
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - railroads, mining
Cyrus Truitt - History of Novinger
Cyrus Truitt - history of Novinger newspaper articles
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Novinger
Cyrus Truitt - negatives
Cyrus Truitt - postcard images, Novinger
Cyrus Truitt - family land records
Cyrus Truitt - estate papers
Cyrus Truitt - Adair County
Cyrus Truitt - Novinger homecoming, 1967-1976
Cyrus Truitt - religion, Novinger
Cyrus Truitt - postmaster, Novinger
Cyrus Truitt - newspaper articles, Novinger alumni, 1940-1969

Box 15

Cyrus Truitt - newspaper articles, Novinger alumni, 1970-1980
Cyrus Truitt - Novinger school, 1953, 1974
Cyrus Truitt - Photographs - Novinger school, 1890-1940s
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1945
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1954-1955
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1957, 1959
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1960-1961
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1963-1964
Yearbooks - Mountaineer, 1965-1966
Missouri, Drivers’ Guide
Ray Richardson - Memoirs of World War II, 2015
Family videos - trips, 1985, 1992

**Box 16**

Family videos
Family videos
Family videos
Family videos - Richardson
Film
Cassette tapes
Negatives - George Webdell
Negatives - pinhole
Slides - Gorden Becker
Negatives
Negatives
Ray Richardson - Ray Richardson memorial CD, 2017
CDs - Family genealogy, family tree data

**Box 17**

CDs - Family genealogy, family tree data

**Box 18**

CDs - Family genealogy, family tree data

**Box 19**

Oversize - Ray Richardson
Oversize - Ray and Betty Richardson scrapbook
Oversize - Photographs
Oversize - Land Records
Oversize - Diplomas
Oversize - Awards and certificates
Oversize - Cyrus Truitt 48-star American flag
Oversize - Benjamin Richardson descendant’s chart

**Box 20**

Oversize - Katherine Joann Richardson ancestors, family chart
Oversize - Salem Cemetery burial map
Oversize - Salem Cemetery burial map

**Box 21**
Panorama – Missouri Boys State, 1946
Panorama – Annual Session Missouri Division of National Anti-Horse Thief Association, 1926
Panorama – Camp Crowder, Area 19C, 1942