

638

Tom Ruffin Collection



LSUS Archives and Special Collections

Noel Memorial Library

Louisiana State University in Shreveport

Tom Ruffin Collection

Biographical Notes

Thomas Fuller Ruffin (1925-2009) was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, to Trueheart and Xenia Fuller Ruffin on November 25, 1925. He attended Alexander Grammar School, graduated Byrd High School, and attended LSU and Centenary College. In 1943 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and entered the V-12 training program where his training took him to the University of Illinois, and Columbia University in New York. He was assigned to the USS Los Angeles which sailed to China and he was discharged from the service in 1946.

On returning home he continued his education at LSU and in 1947 earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He was a homebuilder, as assistant Manager for Acme Brick Co., owned and operated Ruffin Transport, Inc., was Regional Sales Manager for New Moon Homes, and a stock broker for Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, later for Francis I. DuPont, Inc., and E.F. Hutton Co. and its subsequent companies.

In 1953 he married Joyce Lucille Toler (1929-1993) from Monroe. They had one daughter, Rebecca Dru Ruffin. In 1996 he married Carol Miller Baker, a widow of a close friend and a Byrd High School classmate.

Mr. Ruffin had a very active civic and professional career. He was president of and on the board of a multitude of organizations, and participated in cultural, civic, educational, social and religious groups. In his words: "If you are going to live in a community, you should work to make it a better place." This he did. He was instrumental in getting the Symphony House placed on the National Register, was voted Outstanding Young Man of the Year, and authored several histories of his church, the Noel Memorial Methodist, and of his alma mater Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

In 2006 he was diagnosed with ALS and died in 2009.

Scope and Content Notes

The Tom Ruffin Collection contains four major categories of material: personal and family, work history, organizational affiliations and literary and research material. Correspondence, business records, photographs, certificates and research papers and notes document Tom Ruffin's extensive influence in his community and allow his legacy to be preserved.

Series Description

Series I: The Family/Personal /Tom Ruffin series (1925-2009) begins with Tom Ruffin's birth certificate, his grammar and high school records, his college courses, his artistic talents and ending with memories by his daughter.

Series II: The Family/Personal/Trueheart Ruffin series (1918-1977) has letters written from Trueheart to his wife, sister and Tom. There is some business information and a resolution of respect at his death.

Series III: The Family/Personal/Xenia Fuller Ruffin series (1915-1977) contains Xenia's high school invitation and photograph, her yearbook from Louisiana Normal School, memorabilia and medical bills.

Series IV: The Family/Personal/Joyce Tolar Ruffin series (1948-1993) contains Joyce's diplomas, newsclips, directories and her obituary.

Series V: The Family/Personal/Rebecca Dru Ruffin series (1968-1988) contains newsclips, birth announcements, birthday invitations, Captain Shreve High school and Centenary material, and some photographs.

Series VI: The Family/Personal/Genealogy Information series contains genealogical information along with some correspondence on the Ruffin family and the Walker family.

Series VII: The Family/Personal/Tom Ruffin's World War II Years series (1944-1946) begins with history of the ship USS Los Angeles, contains correspondence, publications, course work, and a scrapbook of Ruffin's military years with captions and descriptions.

Series: VIII: The Family/Personal/Business Correspondence series (1949-1999) contains business correspondence, land sales, oil and gas leases.

Series: IX: The Family/Personal/Photographs series contains ancestors photographs (scans), photographs of Trueheart, Xenia, Rebecca, Tom, Jaycee activities, and some unidentified photographs.

Series X: The Work History/Tom Ruffin series (1946-1999) chronicles Ruffin occupations beginning with Ruffin & Meeks Homebuilders, to Acme Brick Co., to Ruffin Transport Inc., to Ruffin Brick Company, to a brief job with New Moon Homes and finally to stockbroker, where he spent most of his work life.

Series XI: The Club Affiliations series contains correspondence, newsclips, and materials regarding the numerous organizations which Ruffin was affiliated with, most of them as president, board member or advisory board. There is an extensive section on the Shreveport Jaycees where Ruffin won numerous awards.

Series XII: The Research Notes series is alphabetical with the listing of Ruffin's published and unpublished articles for journals, and magazines.

Series XIII: The Memorabilia and Collectable series has football ticket stubs, yearbooks, identification cards, postcards, bank drafts, railroad certificates and an unknown family's scrapbook dated 1917.

Series XIV: The Shreveport Magazine series contains the publications that contain Ruffin's articles .

Series XV: The Book series boxes contain books about brick making, genealogy and some duplicate books.

Series XVI: The Certificate and Diploma series are in two oversized boxes which contain material from 1890-1953.

638

Tom Ruffin Collection

Family/Personal/Tom Ruffin

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Tom Ruffin's Birth Certificate	November 25, 1925
1	2	Report cards: Dallas schools	1932-1933
1	3	Letters from students, Alexander School to Tom after he moved to Dallas and after he was burned.	1933
1	4	Report cards from Alexander School Class prophecy by Tom Ruffin	1932-1935 1936-1937
1	5	Byrd High School years: Boy Scouts, diary, Ski Club patch, report cards	1938-1939 1941
1	6	Byrd High School years: Debate Club newsletter Tom, editor	1941
1	7	Byrd High School: graduation program, diploma, ROTC certificate, gift list	1942
1	8	Byrd High School: Reunion booklet & button	1982; 1987
1	9	LSU & Centenary report cards KME invitation	1943, 1947
1	10	Card to mother from Tom (LSU years)	1947

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	11	LSU class notes	1946-1947
1	12	LSU graduation invitation	1947
1	13	Ruffin's pilot certificate and identification	1948-1951
1	14	Ruffin's application and registration for Board of Professional Engineers Certificates	1952; 1960 1947; 1960
1	15	Marriage Certificate (copy): Thomas Fuller Ruffin and Joyce Lucille Toler	January 12, 1953
1	16	Letter from Tom & Joyce Ruffin re: travels	1954
1	17	Postcards from Tom & Joyce re: European trip	1960
1	18	Ruffin's artistic drawings	n.d.
1	19	Ruffin's notes possibly Sunday School class	n.d.
1	20	Newspaper clippings: Tom & Joyce Ruffin	1969; n.d.
1	21	Ruffin's Christmas Card designs	Before 1968
1	22	Ruffin's Christmas Card designs	After 1968
1	23	Ruffin's Chamber of Commerce designs	n.d.
1	24	Ruffin's postcard home from Orient trip (copy)	1976
1	25	Ruffin's resumes-various	1976; n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	26	Ruffin's miscellaneous certificates	n.d.
1	27	Ruffin's oral history (draft) 2 CDs	2001-2003
1	28	Birthday Parties: 80 th , 81 st (memories), 82 nd invitation	2005-2007
1	29	Ruffin's medical history	ca. 2006
1	30	Ruffin's obituary <i>Funeral Program</i>	May 2009
1A	31	"Tom Ruffin's Life Overview" by Rebecca Ruffin Leffler	1925-2009
1A	32	Memorabilia: Book from Ella Hunt Davis to Thomas Ruffin (as a youngster) Obituary: Howard Crumly (see Nichols OH)	n.d.
1A	32A 32B	Interview: Jean Ruffin Nichols, sisters <i>+ Claire Krane</i> Thomas Ruffin's baby book (copy)	2010

Family/Personal/Trueheart Ruffin-father of Tom Ruffin

1A	33	2 letters from Trueheart (WWI) to sister and mother	1918
1A	34	1 letter from Trueheart to Xenia Ruffin 1 letter from Trueheart to son, Thomas	1924 1933
1A	35	Publication: 'The Pug Mill' Trueheart Ruffin spotlighted	1928
1A	36	Trueheart's Mansfield real estate	1950

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1A	37	Photograph: Board of Directors of Acme Brick	1963
1A	38	Publication: Acme Brick, Denton, Texas	1968
1A	39	Trueheart's Income Tax Return	1972
1A	40	Trueheart's farm income	1974
1A	41	Newsclips: re: Trueheart	1970; 1974
1A	42	Resolution of Respect to memory of Trueheart	1974
1A	43	Estate of Trueheart Ruffin	1977
1A	44	Memorabilia: Partial certificate of Promotion, 1901 Partial letterhead of 'W.H. Ruffin & Son' 191_ Partial check signed by W.H. Ruffin 190_ Postcard from Trueheart to mother n.d. Check signed by Trueheart 1933 Card from Mayor of Baton Rouge	

Family/Personal/Xenia Fuller Ruffin-Mother of Tom Ruffin

1A	45	Xenia's graduation invitation from Minden High School and photograph	1915
1A	46	Potpourri -yearbook of LA Normal School Copy pages with Xenia, original in Box 22	1916
1A	47	Xenia's graduation invitation from LA Normal School Postcard to Xenia	1917
1A	47A	Xenia and Mirian Fuller entertain-newclip	1923
1A	47B	Letters and pamphlets from Elliott Tours	1923

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1A	47C	Letters from Xenia Fuller to Trueheart Ruffin While Xenia was on tours of England and Canada	1923
1A	47D	Passenger list from S.S. Melita	1923
1A	47E	Pamphlets from trip	1923
1A	48	Letter from Inez Ruffin to Trueheart & Xenia Postcard from Trueheart & Xenia	1923
1A	49	Yearbook: Oaklawn Methodist Church, Fannie James Class, Xenia member	1934
1A	50	Receipt from Sanger Bros. in Dallas	1934
1A	51	Publication: <u>Louisiana News Digest</u> Article about Murrell Cemetery, Minden. Xenia, pictured, descendant of Isaac Murrell	1951
1A	52	Xenia's medical bills	1976-1977
1A	53	Memorabilia: Wedding congratulations card Tally cards	1923 u.d.
1A	54	Lee Aura Fuller (sister of Xenia) -Literary Society Louisiana State Normal School, page from unknown publication	
1A	55	Thomas W. Fuller-(father of Xenia)-Obituary	1920

Family/Personal/Joyce Lucille Tolar Ruffin-Wife of Tom Ruffin

1A	56	Joyce's diplomas: Northeast Junior College 1948 LSU Bachelor of Arts 1950 LSU Certificate of Social Welfare 1951 LSU Masters of Social Welfare 1952	
1A	57	Phi Mu yearbook	1955-1956
1A	58	Newsclips, re: Joyce Ruffin	1956; 1973
1A	59	Board Certified Social Worker, info sheet, card	1975
1A	60	Directories: Shreveport Opera Guild Woman's Department Club Joyce listed	1983-1984 1984-1985
2	61	Directories: Louisiana Social Worker (2) Joyce listed	1985-1986 1989-1990
2	62	Joyce's obituary	1993

Family/Personal/Rebecca Dru Ruffin - Tom & Joyce's Daughter

2	63	Newsclip: Birth of Rebecca Ruffin	1968
2	64	Birth announcement "Dividend News" Let. From Avon Wallace	1968 1968
2	65	Invitation to 9 th Birthday Party	1977
2	66	Program: 1 st Baptist vs Natalbany	1982
2	67	Letters	1983; 1987

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	68	Handbook: Capt. Shreve High School	1984
2	69	Invitation: Shreve High School	1986
2	70	Newsclips	1987
2	71	Biography for college rush	1986
2	72	"The Conglomerate" Centenary's newspaper Rebecca was business manager	1986-1987
2	73	Presentation of Debutantes, Demoiselle Club ZETA invitation and publication	1987 1988
2	74	Photographs at various ages	n.d.

Family/Personal/Genealogy Information

2	75	Correspondence	1963; 1988
2	76	Correspondence	1968-1982
2	77	Articles and publications	n.d.
2	78	"The Fuller-Murrell Cemetery" by Tom Ruffin Published in N.La. Historical Journal	1974
2	79	Family of John Marshall Fuller	
2	80	Descendants of Thomas Fuller Ruffin Descendants of Ezekiel Fuller, Sr.	

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	81	Walker family	
	81A	Brown, Miller family	
2	82	Ruffin family	
2	83	Newsclips on Miriam Fuller; Fuller Cemetery	1975; 1984
2	84	Contact prints and notes	2007
<i>Family/Personal/Tom Ruffin's World War II Years</i>			
2	85	"History of the United States Ship Los Angeles"	
2	86	Correspondence	1944-1945
2	87	Card to mother, Xenia Ruffin	1944
2	88	Letter to father, Truheart Ruffin Re: business ideas and other thoughts	1944
2	89	Letter to father, re: subway in Shreveport	1944
2	90	Cards from Tom to parents	1945
2	91	'The Angeleno', the USS Los Angeles' newsletter Tom was editor and on advisory staff	1945-46
2	92	University of Illinois course work	1944
2	93	University of Illinois band formation	
2	94	Columbia University course notes	1944-1945

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	95	Memorabilia: program-Christmas dinner aboard USS Los Angeles at Sea enroute Shanghai; Flier-'What the Japs Can Do to Every American'; 2 ration books	1945
3	96	Publication: 'Pier 92 Transfers' Newsclip-Tom on leave	1945
3	97	Notebooks	1945-1946
3	98	Commissioning Ceremony invitation Notice of Separation 2 letters re: separation	1945 1946
3	99	Letters: From Tom to parents From USN Chaplain to Tom	1946 1946
3	100	WWII Scrapbook-photocopies	1944-1945
3	101	WWII Scrapbook-typescript	
3	102	WWII Scrapbook	1944-1945

Family/Personal/Business Correspondence

3	103	Business Correspondence	1949
3	104	Bill of sale: Tom sells frozen custard equipment to Crooks.	1952
3	105	Correspondence and patent application for Circuit Tester	1955-1957

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	106	Accounting	1960
3	107	Cash sale of home, 451 Huron St. to Vincent DeFatta	1962
3	108	Business Correspondence	1962-1969
3	109	Business Correspondence	1970-1977
3	110	Quit Claim Deed	1979
3	111	Business Correspondence	1981-1983
	111A	Business Correspondence: Ruffin vs. Florane	1983
4	112	Business Correspondence-Hollingsworth Lease	1983
	112A	Business Correspondence: Ruffin vs. Lumar	1983-1984
4	113	Oil and Gas Leases, Legal Suits, Right of Way	1984-1985
4	114	DeSoto land Right of Way	1985
	114A	Legal Files	1985
4	115	Business Correspondence	1986-1989
4	116	Farm lease	1987
4	117	Petition for Damages	1987
4	118	Bill of Sale	1988
4	119	Business Correspondence	1990-2002

Family/Personal/Photographs

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	120	Edward C. Bright	n.d.
5	121	Capt. Thomas W. Fuller, grandfather of Xenia Dole Fuller, from Biographical and Historical Memoirs of NW Louisiana	
5	122	Photocopies- Thomas W. Fuller, Alma Bright Fuller, Lee Aura Fuller Griffin, Xenia Doyle Fuller Ruffin, Thomas Wafer fuller, Letitia Fuller (Thomas' Sister); Nelia & Maggie Fuller, Mrs. Thomas Walker Fuller, Lizzie Taylor, Flora Glenn Watkins, Alma& Thomas Fuller	ca. 1890s
5	123	Thomas W. Fuller, Jr.	
5	124	Wedding of Robert & Maude Wright Tom was groomsman. Robert was WWII buddy	ca. 1949
5	125	Trueheart Ruffin-possible high school WWI uniform, teacher & class at Ramin	1918; 1922 ca. 1922
5	126	Xenia Doyle Ruffin and Trueheart Ruffin	1923
5	127	Trueheart Ruffin-Acme Brick office; meeting; addition to company	1957
5	128	Tom Ruffin-early years; Fuller home in Minden	ca.1927;1930s
5	129	Tom, Xenia Clair, and Alma Jean Ruffin	ca. 1934
5	130	Tom Ruffin-various	

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	131	Tom in group-Tank Truck Transportation School Michigan State University	1959
5	132	WWII-Tom Ruffin; USS Los Angeles	1944-1945
5	133	Tom Ruffin-various years	
5	134	Tom Ruffin in Shreveport Fire Dept. helmet	ca. 1950s
5	135	Group: Jaycee function, Tom and Joyce	1950s
5	136	Group meeting in Ruffin home	ca. 1957
5	137	Board of Directors-Acme Brick	1968
5	138	Jaycee activity	
5	139	Tom and Trueheart Ruffin at exhibit	
5	140	Claire Ruffin Kramer's bridesmaids	
5	141	Rebecca Ruffin	ca. 1977
5	142	Tom, Joyce, Rebecca, granddaughters	ca. 1980s
5	143	Trip to China	ca. 1970s
5	144	Unidentified, undated photos	

Work History/Tom Ruffin

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	145	Abstract of Title-Morningside Subdivision Ruffin & Meeks Homebuilders -they built homes in Morningside Subdivision	1946
6	146	Ruffin & Meeks Homebuilders-deed to properties	1947
6	147	Acme Brick Company Pamphlet: 'A Brief History of Acme Brick'	n.d.
6	148	Acme Brick-business letters	1950; 1952
6	149	Acme Brick-manuals	1948-1954
6	150	Acme Brick-manual prepared by Tom Ruffin 'Pricing System for Fire Brick'	1953
6	151	Acme Brick-Refractory Speciality Manual	n.d.
6	152	Acme Brick-letter re: reunion of Acme Refractory employees	1982
6	153	Ruffin Transport Inc. Tom was president and general Manager of Ruffin Transport, 1954-1962 Direct Mailing advertising program	1955-1956
6	154	Ruffin Transport Inc. - photograph	n.d.
6	155	Ruffin Transport Inc. -Publication:'The Gibbon Transporter' (2)	1958
6	156	Ruffin Transport Inc.- 2 Christmas cards	1958; n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	157	Ruffin Transport Inc. - letters	1963-1967
6	158	Ruffin Transport Inc. -invoices, checks, orders	1954; 1957
6	159	Ruffin Transport Inc. -blank delivery tickets	
7	160	Ruffin Brick Company - First Baptist orders Ruffin Brick supplied bricks for church	1960-1961
7	161	Ruffin Brick Company - orders for church	1961-1962
7	162	Ruffin Brick Company- advertising program	1961-1962
7	163	Ruffin Brick Company - advertising	
7	164	Ruffin Brick Company - Price lists	1960
7	165	Ruffin Brick Company - brick orders	1960
7	166	Ruffin Brick Company - brick orders	1961
7	167	Ruffin Brick Company - blueprint, Jewella School project	1961
7	168	Ruffin Brick Company - letter (2) Company in liquidation	1963, 1966
7	169	New Moon Homes - resume for position	1962
7	170	New Moon Homes - article in publication Tom was Regional Sales Manager	1962
8	171	Stockbroker - correspondence	1960s

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
8	172	Stockbroker - correspondence	1970s
8	173	Stockbroker - correspondence	1980-1983
8	174	Stockbroker - correspondence	1985-1988
8	175	Stockbroker - correspondence	1990-1998
8	176	Ads for E.F. Hutton drawn by Tom	n.d.
8	177	Stockbroker - hearings, notices, agreements	
8	178	Stockbroker - newsclips re: Tom Ruffin	1968-1969
8	179	Stockbroker - newsclips, general	1975
8	180	Stockbroker - Publications with articles about Ruffin	1966;1968;1977
8	181	Stockbroker - Programs - Ruffin speaks at various functions in his capacity as stockbroker	1968-1984
8	182	Stockbroker - certificates	
8	183	Stockbroker - DuPont Logo	1968
8	184	Stockbroker - architectural drawings Texas at Market Street	1968
8	185	Stockbroker - lease for building	1983
8	186	Stockbroker - lease 509 Market St.	1999

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
8	187	Stockbroker - Photographs - DuPont meeting, Milam St. DuPont, E.F.Hutton, J.J.Raskob	1969; n.d.
8	188	Stockbroker - Christmas cards from office	
8	189	Stockbroker - various publications	1964; 1987
8	190	Stockbroker - blank letterheads, business cards	
<i>Clubs/Organizations/Affiliations materials, newsclips, correspondence</i>			
9	191	American Legion - newsclip Ruffin was chairman of the membership drive	1971
9	192	Authors in April (LSUS) Ruffin was former chairman	1994-1995
9	193	C-BARC - former president	1977; 1980
9	194	Centenary College - president's advisory council	1997
9	195	The Demoiselle Club	1977-1995
9	196	East Texas Historical Association	1972; 1977
9	197	Forty and Eight - rosters	1982-1986
9	198	Historic Preservation of Shreveport Ruffin former board member	1973; 1981
9	199	Holiday In Dixie	1976-1991

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	200	Louisiana Blood Center Ruffin Board Member	1979-1981
9	201	Louisiana Committee for the Humanities Ruffin former Board Member	1982
9	202	Louisiana Engineering Society Ruffin former President	1963-1969
9	203	Louisiana Historical Association Ruffin former President	1980
9	204	Louisiana State Fair	1983
9	205	Louisiana State University in Shreveport Ruffin LSUS Archives Committee, LSUS Foundation donor, LSUS adjunct faculty	1971-1996
10	206	Louisiana State University Baton Rouge Ruffin- member of LSU Honors College Development Committee, member of LSU Athletic Council, and President of LSU Alumni Federation Correspondence	1974-1979
10	207	LSU - Correspondence	1980-1988
10	208	LSU - Correspondence	1990-2000
10	209	LSU - Publications	1978-1980
10	210	LSU - LSU vs ARK lineup from publication	1966
10	211	LSU- Photo - Ruffin crowning queen	1980

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
10	212	LSU - certificates and n ewsclips	1979-1984
10	213	LSU - invitations	2000
10	214	LSU - Publication: <u>Cultural Diffusion & Landscapes</u> 1990 By Dr. Fred B. Kniffen, Ruffin's former teacher Invitation: Clyde Connell Seminar sponsored by Ruffin	
10	215	<u>Under Stately Oaks, a Pictorial History of LSU</u> 2000-2001 by Tom Ruffin Advertisements, correspondence, invitations	
11	216	Metropolitan Dinner Club - newspaper clips	1968
11	217	Minden Bank - correspondence, publications Ruffin on Board of Directors	1982-1983
11	218	Noel Memorial Methodist Church - directory	1925-1926
11	219	Noel Memorial - Bulletin Postcards	1936
11	220	Noel Memorial - Letter citing Ruffin's faithfulness To Bible Class; Resolution on his departure to California	1944 1962
11	221	Noel Memorial - Publication - 'Noel Memorial Methodist Church 1906-1953' by Ella Mae Charlton	1952
11	222	Noel Memorial - Roster, Young Adult Class	1955-1956

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
11	223	Noel Memorial - church publications	1962; 1979
11	224	Noel Memorial - letters (2) Ruffin was on Board of Noel	1965; 1992
11	225	Noel Memorial - Roster, Mens Bible Class	1976-1977 1979; 1984
11	226	Noel Memorial - Master Plan	1986
11	227	Noel Memorial - lists and newsclip	1979; 1981; 1982
11	228	Noel Memorial - publications: <u>Noel Diamond Jubilee 1906-1981</u> <u>The Future Is Now A Centennial History</u> of Noel Church by Thomas F. Ruffin	1981 2009
11	229	Noel Church - research for publication	
11	230	Noel Church - rough draft of <u>Noel at Seventy</u>	
12	231	North Louisiana Historical Association - Correspondence, photos, newsclips Ruffin - former president	1970-1979
12	232	North Louisiana Historical Association - Articles of Incorporation, Amendments, Lists, minutes	1973; 1978
12	233	North-South Development Association - newsclip	1968
12	234	Optimist Club - publication (Ruffin included)	1964; 1977

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
12	235	Petroleum Club of Shreveport - roster	1962
12	236	Rotary Club - committee goals Ruffin chairman of literacy committee	n.d.
12	237	Shreveport Bicentennial Commission - Correspondence, newsclips, minutes Ruffin acting director of commission	1973; 1987
12	238	Shreveport's Capital Improvement Committee - 1968-1972 By-laws, report, newsclips, publications Ruffin chairman of committee	
12	239	Shreveport's Capital Improvement Committee - Proposals, newsclips	
12	240	Shreveport Club - rosters	2000-2001 2008-2009
12	241	Shreveport Country Club - correspondence Newsclips Ruffin Board Member	1962; 1977
12	242	Shreveport Country Club - booklets, rosters	1984-1995
13	243	Shreveport Jaycees - 'History of Louisiana Junior Chamber of Commerce'	1920-1964
13	244	Shreveport Jaycees - Amendments to Articles Of Incorporation 'Early Jaycee History' by Tom Ruffin	n.d. n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
13	245	Shreveport Jaycees - correspondence Includes Ruffin nomination for Jaycee Hall of Fame Includes Ruffin nomination for Outstanding Young Man of Year	1949; 1958; 1982
13	246	Shreveport Jaycees - National Extension Committee Seldon Waldo Memorial Entry	1957-1958
13	247	Shreveport Jaycees - scrapbook	1958-1961
13	248	Shreveport Jaycees - Ruffin's application Clayton Frost Memorial Award	1959
13	249	Shreveport Jaycees - Programs, awards Re: Ruffin	1959-1978
13	250	Shreveport Jaycees - Photographs	1960; 1974; 1977
13	251	Shreveport Jaycees - Campaign memorabilia Ruffin runs for President of National Jaycees	
13	252	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. Local- ShreveScope Articles about Ruffin	1967-1976
13	253	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. Local - 'Shreveport Jaycees' Articles about Ruffin	1958; 1960
13	254	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. Local - Handbook, reports and publications, lists	1953-1996
14	255	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. Article from Shreveport Magazine re: Ruffin	1968

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	256	Shreveport Jaycees - newsclips re: Ruffin	1948-1974
14	257	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. Local 'Spotlight' article re: Ruffin	1960
14	258	Shreveport Jaycees - Texas Jaycees Pub. (2)	1952; 1959
14	259	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. State - directory	1958-1960
14	260	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. State	1986
14	261	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National 'US Chamber of Commerce Silver Anniversary'	1946
14	262	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National 'On Being a Jaycee'	1984
14	263	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National and State	1958-1959
14	264	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National and State	1956-1970
14	265	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National and State Ruffin cited in articles	1956-1958
14	266	Shreveport Jaycees - Pub. National By-Laws and Policy Manual	1960-1961
15	267	Shreveport Regional Arts Council (SRAC) Newsclips. Ruffin was chairman of ad hoc Committee which created SRAC	1976
15	268	Shreveport Symphony - correspondence Ruffin was Executive VP for four terms	1971

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	269	Shreveport Symphony - lists	1979
15	270	Shreveport Symphony - minutes, application Booklets	1981; 1984
15	271	Shreveport Symphony - Photo - Ruffin holding up Photographs of Symphony House. He was instrumental In getting it placed on Historical Register	1973
15	272	Shreveport Symphony- Programs; newsclips	1971-1972
15	273	Shreveport Symphony - Guild Roster	1988-1989
15	274	Shreveporters for Progress - minutes Chairman of Executive Committee	1970
15	275	Society of Southwest Archivists - directory	1985
15	276	Southeastern Development Foundaiton - minutes, report Ruffin was on Board of Directors	1991; 1993
15	277	Southern University in Shreveport - donation form Ruffin was a member of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee	1992
15	278	United Fund - newsclips Ruffin was Division Head	1968; n.d.
15	279	University Club - Club profile, letter	1979
15	280	Volunteers of America (VOA) Certificates, 'The Volunteer' Ruffin p. 13 Ruffin: Past President, President of Advisory Board	1970-1971

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	281	General Correspondence re: congratulations etc to Ruffin for organizational Tributes and awards	1972-1980
15	282	Newsclips: Ruffin as speaker, letter to editor, articles about Ruffin	1975-1984

Research notes, drafts of articles and articles published and unpublished by Tom Ruffin

16	283	“Acadians in North Louisiana	1973
16	284	“The Agrarian Crusade”	1977
16	285	“Henry Watkins Allen, the Man Who Might Have Been”	1972
16	286	“Our 20,000 Thousand Human Heritage”	1974
16	287	Ark-La-Tex: “Ark-La-Tex’s Lost County” “Early Expeditions to the Ark-LaTex” “Spanish Missions in the Ark-LaTex”	1969; 1970
16	288	Ark-La Tex: “The Elusive Border”	1977
16	289	Ark-La-Tex: “State Capitals in the Ark-La-Tex”	1963
16	290	Baton Rouge, La - charter	ca. 1905
16	291	Bridges: “Shreveport’s First Bridge” “The Bridge That Linked North Louisiana”	1973; n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	292	Caddo: "It Almost Became Shreveport, Texas"	1970
16	293	Caddo Indians: "The Invasion of Shreveport"	1969
16	294	Caddo Lake: "Ownership of Caddo Lake"	1971
16	295	Caddo Lake - oil drilling	1975
17	296	Caddo Parish - courthouse "First Caddo Parish Courthouse"	1972
17	297	Caddo Parish - schools "Naming Our Schools"	1972
17	298	Chennault, Claire - newsclip only	1914
17	299	Christmas - "Antebellum Christmas"	1969
17	300	Colquitt, Alice Fuller Murrell "She Married a Politician"	1947
17	301	C.S.S. Webb - "Saga of the C.S.S. Webb"	n.d.
17	302	Currency - "When Shreveport Issued Its Own Currency"	1970
17	303	Davis, Williams, revolutionary hero	1962
17	304	Delta Airlines - "Shreveport's Earliest Airline"	1969; 1977
17	305	DeSoto Parish - "Origins of Sabine and DeSoto Parishes"	1967; 1972

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	306	Dirigibles - "Dirigible Over Shreveport" 1957-1958; 1962; 1978; n.d.	
17	307	DisneyWorld - "Hall of Presidents"	n.d.
17	308	ElCamino Real	n.d.
17	309	Emancipation Proclamation	n.d.
17	310	"The Fire Eaters" (radical successionists)	1968
17	311	First Baptist Church - Pub. 'Church Chimes'	1924-1929
17	312	First Baptist Church - bulletin	1916
		Dedication program	1951
		Hundred Anniversary History 1845-1945	
17	313	"Flags Over Louisiana"	1972
17	314	Flournoy, J. Howell - Sheriff Caddo Parish Report	1951
17	315	"Fort Humbug: In War and In Peace"	n.d.
17	316	Florida parishes	n.d.
17	317	"Fort Jesup: Prelude to the Presidency"	1972
18	318	Franklin, La. - newsclip	n.d.
18	319	Fullilove, J.P.- letter from to Paul Sippel	1931
18	320	Gaines, James	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
18	321	“The Galveston Storm”	n.d.
18	322	“Jay Gould Visits Shreveport”	1973
18	323	Grappe claim	n.d.
18	324	Greenwood High School - program minstrel show	1921
18	325	Gregg, Josiah - “Josiah Gregg and Shreveport in the 1840s”	1973
18	326	Henderson, W.K. - letter from Henderson to N.B. Stoer about the dire economic future of Shreveport	1932
18	327	Historical markers	1988
18	328	I-220 route	1970
18	329	Indians - Caddo, Choctaws, Cherokee	1977
18	330	Indians - Quapaw “The Tragic Trail”	1975
18	331	Lewis, Capt.T.C. - receipts	1884-1897
18	332	“Los Adaes - Louisiana’s Capital of Texas”	1969
18	333	Louisiana - booklet	ca. 1904
18	334	Louisiana Legislature - list	1977
18	335	Louisiana maps - list	1967

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
18	336	“Louisiana’s First Constitution”	n.d.
18	337	“Louisiana Secession “	1972
19	338	La-Texas Border Dispute	n.d.
19	339	Mansfield Female College - school newspaper	1928
19	340	“The Mexican Trade Expedition”	1971
19	341	“Mittie Stephens”	1985
19	342	“Natchitoches County Louisiana”	n.d.
19	343	Newman, William (Railroad magnate)	n.d.
19	344	New Orleans - newsclips from the <u>New Orleans Republican</u>	1874-1875
19	345	Oilfield, Barney - “Barney Oilfield at the State Fair”	n.d.
19	346	Railroads - “How Shreveport Became a Rail Center”	1963
19	347	Reconstruction - “Three Mayors”	n.d.
19	348	Red Light District - newsclip	1911
19	349	Red River Raft: “Capt. Shreve’s Tooth Puller” “The Great Raft” “Riverboats Come of Age” “Shreve Town”	1976-1977

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
20	350	Rio Hondo	1968
20	351	Rodessa, LA - pamphlet	1908
20	352	Santa Fe - "The Trail to Santa Fe"	n.d.
20	353	Shreve, Henry Miller - "The Shreve-Livingston Affair" "Capt. Shreve at the Mouth of Red River"	n.d.
20	354	Shreveport - "A Century Ago in Shreveport" "Preserving Old Homes"	1985; 1991
20	355	Shreveport Rate Case - "Fight For Economic Survival"	1977
20	356	Shreveport Water Supply	n.d.
20	357	Slack Family - photocopies	n.d.
20	358	Smith, Gen. E. Kirby - "Collapse of the Trans- Mississippi Confederacy"	1972; 1975
20	359	Textbooks - "The Textbook Trauma"	n.d.
21	360	Trackless Trolley - "The Trackless Trolley Years"	1982
21	361	Trackless Trolley (continued)	
21	362	Trackless Trolley - publications	1931; 1973
21	363	Trackless Trolley - ads, specifications	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
21	364	Trackless Trolley - newsclips, maps, Pamphlets	1965
21	365	Trackless Trolley - Photographs	1936
21	366	Trackless Trolley - "Shreveport the Trackless Trolley Years 1931-1965" By Tom Ruffin	1985
21	367	Train Robberies - "The Great Train Robbery"	n.d.
21	368	Wallace - "The Town of Shreveport alias Wallace"	1967
21	369	Voting - "The Common Man Fights Back"	1976
21	370	"Warren Parish - Louisiana's Forgotten Parish"	n.d.
21	371	Yellow Fever - "Shreveport in 1873"	n.d.
21	372	Other articles by Tom Ruffin	n.d.
21	373	Correspondence re: articles	1969-1977; 1988-1989
21	374	Book reviews by Tom Ruffin	1979-1984

Memorabilia and Collectables

22	375	<u>The Potpourri</u> - yearbook of Louisiana State Normal School Belongs to Xenia Fuller (Tom's mother)	1916
22	376	Phi Mu - History and songbook	

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
22	377	Shreveport maps and pamphlets	1941; n.d.
22	378	Sugar Bowl and Cotton Bowl Ticket stubs	1947-1984
22	379	Shreveport bank checks - blank	
22	380	Key to the city of New Orleans, Baton Rouge, HID coins	
22	381	Tom Ruffin's identification cards (various)	
22	382	Trolley tokens - student transfer tokens	
22	383	Book: "Guide to Confederate Money"	1971
22	384	Tom Ruffin's blank letterheads	
23	385	World War I and II <u>Soldier's Handbook</u> <u>Army Song Book</u> <u>Best War Time Recipes</u>	1917 1941 n.d.
23	386	WWII: <u>Achievement</u> 491 Bombardment Squadron 10 th USAF, India Edition yearbook (Ruffin's brother-in-law, removed to 657 John P. Toler WWII Materials)	1943
23	387	WWII: <u>The Bluejacket's Manual</u>	1944
23	388	WWII: <u>Log of Company D</u> (Ruffin was in 1944 class)	1945
24	389	Postcards to Miss Greenwood Hardy, Beaumont, Texas	1906; 1911

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
24	390	Bank drafts: California, New York, New Jersey 1872-1900	
24	391	<u>Register and Circular of State Normal School, NY</u> Lectures - <u>History of Normal School in America</u>	1849 1864
24	392	Graduation invitation: Spring Hill High School	1918
24	393	Blank letterhead: Washington Youree Hotel	
24	394	Photos: Fire trucks	
24	395	Railroad Certificates; currency (scans) (Originals in vault)	1863; 1891
24	396	'The Spectator' - a London Publication	1923
24	397	Family photos in small scrapbook (not Ruffin family)	1917
24	398	Inez Furniss - La.State Normal School graduation book, invitation, program	1910
24A	399	<i>Genealogy - The Slack Family, 1662-1938</i>	
	400	<i>Genealogy - DAR application, supporting documentation</i>	
		<i>Shreveport Magazines containing articles by Tom Ruffin 1968-1977</i>	

Boxes 25 and 26

Duplicate books, books about brick making, and genealogy books

Boxes 27, 28, 29

Oversize items

Box 30

T.F. Ruffin LSU Diploma 1947

Certificate of Registration Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors May 9, 1951

Certificate of Registration of Professional Engineers February 1953

Ist National Bank Brochure

1st National Bank Century publication

Collier's Magazine "Louisiana Purchase" March 21, 1953

Capt. Shreve High School newspaper "The Enterprise"

8 x 10 sepia portrait of Tom Ruffin by Ben Kinel, Broadmoor Studios n.d.

"Mr. Tom Ruffin" - name plate for desk from LSUS

Certificates and Diplomas

Box 31

Thomas W. Fuller, Jr. Centenary College, Franklin Institute 1890

John Howard Thigpen,

Keachie Male & Female College Bachelor of Arts 1892

Edward Fort Thigpen

Keachie Make & Female College Masters of Art and Liberal Studies 1896

Edward Fort Thigpen, attorney 1898

John Howard Thigpen, attorney at law, 1906

Xenia Doyle Fuller Minden High School diploma, May 28, 1915

Xenia Doyle Fuller certificate, Eclectic Literary Society, May 19 1917

Xenia Doyle Fuller kiploma State Normal School May 28, 1917

J.H. Thigpen Police Juror, DeSoto Parish Ward One March 12, 1924

J.H. Thigpen Police Juror, DeSoto Parish Ward One May, 1928

Poster: Tom Ruffin for national President of Jr. Chamber of Commerce ca. 1957

Family tree

Genealogy sheets from George Walker family

On shelf: 18 x 24 print by Cora Lee Robinson of Minden, Louisiana

Separation Sheet from the Tom Ruffin Collection. Following books placed in Louisiana Collection or Main Collection.

Acts Passed by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana at the First Session of the Third Legislature, January 6, 1873, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1873.

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Agassiz, Garnaut. Louisiana and the Story of a Mighty Heritage, Pask & Walbridge, New York, 1924

Agnew, Brad. Fort Gibson Terminal on the Trail of Tears, University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

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Bartlett, Napier. Military Records of Louisiana, LSU Press, Baton Rouge, LA. 1964.

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B'Nai Zion One Hundred Years, 1870-1970, Shreveport, Louisiana.

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Bogue, Allan G. (Ed) The University of Wisconsin One Hundred and Twenty-Five Years, University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, WI 1975.

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Boon, Daniel Horace. Monterey, Vivian, Louisiana, 1973.

Boston, Minnie Carter. I Played With Diamonds.

A Brief Discussion of the History of Sugar Cane Its Culture, Breeding, Harvesting, Manufacturing and Products , 1969

Brooks, Charles. Two Lectures: State Normal Schools in America, National Education for the United States, Boston; John Wilson and Son, 1864.

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Carruth, Viola. Caddo:1000 A History of Shreveport, Mid-South Press, 1970.

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Chariton, Wallace O. This Dog'll Hunt, WordWard Publishing Company, 1989.

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Following **framed items** were separated from the Ruffin Collection In map case or hanging in Map Room, or Hanging Art area

- PF 339 **Geographical, Statistical, Historical Map of Louisiana 1820**
638 17 x 20 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 340 **Louisiana Map. Showing canals, Roads, State and Steam boat Routes 1839**
638 12 x 14 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 341 **Asher & Adams Louisiana & Mississippi 1876**
638 18 x 24 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 342 **Johnson's New Military Map of U.S. showing the Forts, Military Posts**
6 38 **with enlarged plans of Southern Harbors, 1861**
18 x 24 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF343 **County Map of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana undated**
638 18 x 24 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 344 **Southern and Western States, 1855**
638 13 x 20 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 345 **The Century Atlas, Louisiana 1897**
638 11 x 15 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 346 **Louisiana published by J.H. Colton and Co. 1855**
638 12 x 14 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 347 **Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi 1860**
638 11 x 14 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 348 **Etching: - Gen Banks' Army Crossing Cane River 1864**
638 **Artist: C.E.H. Bonwill 11 x 15 XII R 2**
- PF 349 **Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida 1852**
638 12 x 16 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 350 **Description of Louisiana in 1860 (no map)**
638 13 x 15 (2nd Reading Room)

- PF 351 **Louisiana, Arkansas map and Description (up to 1830 statistics)**
638 11 x 17 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 352 **Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas map**
638 11 x 19 (2nd Reading Room)
- PF 353 **Photograph- Aerial of Downtown Shreveport 1927**
638 9 x 14 XII R 1
- PF 354 12 postcards of Shreveport (various dates)
638 1 postcard of Mansfield Female College
 12 x 24 (1st Reading Room)
- PF 355 Minden Folk Art print by Cora Lee Robinson
638 12 x 17 X L 2
- PF 356 Print-Commerce Street Shreveport ca. 1890
638 11 x 14 X L 2
- PF 357 4 bank notes (\$5, 10, 20, 50) issued by Citizen's Bank of Louisiana at
 Shreveport, 1857 X L 3
- PF 358 Photo (copy) by Grabill-Centenary Stadium Gents vs. LSU Tigers, Nov. 12,
638 1932. Newsclip "Gents Defeat Louisiana State , Nov. 13, 1932. X L 4
- PF 359 Photo (copy) Centenary College 1923 Master Plan
638 9 x 13 X L 4
- PF 360 \$5 Bond-issued by State of Louisiana 187_
638 9 x 13 X L 4
- PF 361 Photo-Tulips by Fletcher Thorne Thomson
638 7 x 10 (Processing Room)
- PF 362 2 postcards - 1st Baptist Church of Minden, and Academy Park, Minden, LA
638 6 x 8 X L 1
- PF 363 Letter: from Bill Clinton to Tom Ruffin, April 6, 1994. In appreciation of visit
 to Shreveport. 6 x 7 X L 2

- PF 364 Letter: from Richard Nixon to Tom Ruffin, July 8, 1960.
638 Thank you to Tom and Jaycees for 40th Anniversary Convention of Jr. Chamber
of Commerce 7 x 10 X L 2
- PF 365 Certificate of Appreciation to Tom Ruffin re: WWII Commemoration Committee
Sept. 638 11, 1995. 7 x 10 X L 1
- PF 366 6 Bank notes: 3 from Louisiana (\$5, \$20, 50cents)
638 1-Shreveport (50 cents); 1 Treasury Warrant-Texas (\$5)
1-Treasury Warrant- Arkansas (\$10)
9 x 12 (Processing Room)
- PF 375
638 Shreveport Home Mortgage Authority - \$5000 Bond Certificate
1979 Series
16 x 24 Located: Hanging Art IX L 4

APPENDIX A: Partial list of articles by Tom Ruffin

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Articles -- Tom Ruffin -- Shreveport Magazine

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Title</u>
Oct	1968	28	Caddo As Part of a County °
Nov	1968	22	Caddo's Diminishing Boundaries °
Dec	1968	17	Caddo's International Crisis °
Feb	1969	20	Islands in Red River °
Apr	1969	30	Town of Shreveport, Alias Wallace °
May	1969	28	Shreveport's Early Air Lines °
Jun	1969	22	Shreveport's Great Lake °
Jul	1969	26	Invasion of Shreveport ✓
Aug	1969	26	Early Missions of the Ark-La-Tex °
Sep	1969	20	Los Adaes - Louisiana's Capital of Texas °
Dec	1969	20	Three Civil War Capitals °
Feb	1970	18	Early Railroading in the Ark-La-Tex ✓
May	1970	26	It Almost Became Shreveport, Texas °
Jul	1970	24	When Shreveport Issued Its Own Currency °
Sep	1970	22	Lost County of the Ark-La-Tex °
Dec	1970	18	Early Explorations to the Ark-La-Tex °
Jan	1971	30	Exploration and Intrigue °
May	1971	20	The Texas-Louisiana Border Dispute of 1971 °
Jun	1971	24	Chihuahua Trail to Shreveport °
Nov	1971	28	Beginning of Eight Bridges °
Jan	1972	32	Henry Watkins Allen - Man of the Hour °
Jul	1972	20	Flags Over Louisiana °
Aug	1972	34	Capt. Shreve at the Mouth of the Red °
Sep	1972	18	Naming Our Schools °
Oct	1972	34	History Comes Alive at Disney World °
Nov	1972	24	When Shreveport Had 3 ... Count 'Em ... Mayors °
Dec	1972	36	Marking the Early Municipal Borders °

Recent articles by Thomas F. (Tom) Ruffin:

Eight-part series on the history of Louisiana State University and the Land-Grant College System

"Mr. Morrill's Dream"

LSU Magazine, Spring 1992, p. 18 ff

"The Early Years"

LSU Magazine, Summer 1992, p. 31 ff

"Louisiana Goes to College"

LSU Magazine, Fall 1992, p. 20 ff

"The A&M College"

LSU Magazine, Winter 1993, p. 25 ff

"Growing Pains"

LSU Magazine, Summer 1993, p.45 ff

"Coming of Age"

LSU Magazine, Fall 1993, p. 18 ff

"The Greater University"

LSU Magazine, Spring 1994, p. 24 ff

"Before Long"

LSU Magazine,

Prominent Shreveporter Endows NSU Scholarship

Thomas F. Ruffin, Vice President-Investments with Smith Barney in Shreveport, has established an endowed scholarship with the Northwestern State University Foundation to honor his parents, both graduates of the old State Normal.

His father, T.H. Ruffin, a native of DeSoto Parish, was a member of the first four-year graduating class at what is now Northwestern State University. He received his two-year "normal" degree, the only degree then offered, just before World War I. When he returned from the service, Ruffin resumed his studies in the school's new 4-year curriculum, completing his degree requirements in August 1920, the first person to do so. He had to wait for his diploma, however, until the Spring commencement, when the Normal awarded its initial bachelors degrees. After a short stint in education, he joined Acme Brick Company, the area's leading brick manufacturer, later becoming Divisional Sales Manager. Following his retirement, he continued to serve on the firm's Board of Directors.



Shreveport businessman, Tom Ruffin (l) discusses his endowed scholarship at Northwestern State with NSU Director of Institutional Advancement, Tony Gustwick. The endowed scholarship is in memory of Ruffin's parents who both graduated from "Normal."

Tom's mother, the former Xenia Fuller from Minden, was one of three sisters to attend the Normal, obtaining her two-year degree in 1919. She continued her studies at Peabody College in Nashville and Teachers College (affiliated with Columbia University) in New York City before embarking on a teaching career in Webster Parish, where her father was Superintendent of Schools.

The donor, Thomas F. Ruffin, a 1947 engineering graduate of Louisiana State University, is a well-known Shreveport business leader with a wide variety of civic interests. Tom served as President of the Shreveport Post of the Volunteers of America, the ARC of Caddo-Bossier, the Shreveport Section of the Louisiana Engineering Society, and the North Louisiana Historical Association. He was likewise State President and National Vice President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Executive Vice President of the Shreveport Symphony, and the Chancellor's Advisory Committee at LSUS.

A long-time supporter of higher education, he previously served his alma mater, LSU, as alumni president, an ex-officio board member of the Foundation, and as a member of the Athletic Council. He is currently a member of the LSU History Commission and the Honors College Advisory Committee. Yet, when it came to honoring his parents with an endowed scholarship, the only university he considered was their alma mater, not his own. "I was exposed to the State Normal all of my life. Many of my parents' closest friends were Normal alumni or faculty members," Tom continued. "I can remember visiting the campus with them many times when I was still a young child. Then in high school, I attended rallies there. I always came away impressed."

Tony Gustwick, NSU's Director of Institutional Advancement, in making the announcement, stated that the new endowed scholarship will be open to junior and senior students, including transfers, with a 3.0 GPA. Should the recipient be a junior, they may renew their scholarship for a second year by maintaining a 3.0 GPA. Interest from the endowment will determine the scholarship amount.

"This excites us for two reasons," concluded Gustwick. "First, it bolsters a weak spot in our overall scholarship program. Second, we have a non-alumnus with school ties elsewhere, choosing to endow a scholarship at Northwestern." The first recipient of the T.H. Ruffin and Xenia Fuller Endowed Scholarship will be announced this fall. "With an acute shortage of scholarships for upper class and transfer students," Gustwick emphasized, "we want to award this one without delay."