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2024

### Osburn Family papers

Arkansas State University - Jonesboro

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Finding Aid of

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# OSBURN FAMILY PAPERS

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1859-1990

NEAD 010

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Archives & Special Collections  
Arkansas State University  
Dean B. Ellis Library  
P.O. Box 2040  
State University, AR 72467  
Phone Number: 870-972-2960  
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## Summary Information

**Compiled By:** Meredith McFadden

**Creator:** Lela Ruth Osburn Thompson

**Date:** 1859-1990

**Physical Description:** 0.1 linear feet. This collection consists of 3 folders in 1 document box.

**Language:** English

## Abstract

The Osburn family lived in Northeast Arkansas in the late 19th and early 20th century. This collection includes Osburn family genealogies, personal histories, pictures, and legal documents, in addition to birth and death certificates.

## Acquisition

The collection was transferred to the archive by the Arkansas State University Museum in 2013. Further additions to the collection are not expected.

## Processing Information

This collection was processed by Meredith McFadden, Jennifer Hardin, and Flora Smith.

## Conditions Governing Access

This manuscript collection consists of physical materials. This collection has not been digitized. This collection is open for research use only in the Reading Room. It is not available for request through Interlibrary Loan. Please contact the archive via email ([archives@astate.edu](mailto:archives@astate.edu)) at least a week in advance of your arrival to ensure the availability of the material.

## Rights Statement

Copyright has not been transferred to Archives & Special Collection. Standard copyright laws (U. S. Title 17) still apply.

## Preferred Citation

Osburn Family Papers, Item Name and Date, Box and Folder Numbers, Archives and Special Collections, Dean B. Ellis Library, Arkansas State University.

## Biographical Note

Della Christine Daily was born June 6, 1907. Harrison Henry Osburn was born January 13, 1906. Della and Harrison were married on September 15, 1925 and welcomed their only child, Lela Ruth Osburn, on February 5, 1926. Shortly after her first birthday, Della and Harrison divorced.

Della quickly remarried to Horice Benjamin Thompson who was born January 19, 1905. Together they raised Lela, who assumed her stepfather's last name, in addition to seven children of their own.

Likewise, Harrison began his second marriage to Nettie Leo Duncan Osburn who was born December 15, 1912. Harrison lost touch with his daughter Lela, but had seven children with Nettie. In 1969, Lela traveled with her husband from California to Arkansas in order to track down her father, who she had not seen for decades, for a reunion.

## Scope and Content Note

The Osburn Family Papers contains information on both the Osburn and Ozbirn families. In 1918, the census bureau misspelled Osburn on their collection form. Lela's grandfather was illiterate and unable to give the proper spelling, leading to two official spellings of the same family name.

## Subjects

- Family records
- Financial statements
- Genealogy
- Photographs
- Southern States -- Genealogy

## Names

- Thompson, Lela Ruth Osburn

## Collection Inventory

### *Box 1:*

Folder Number	Folder Name	Dates
1	Genealogy & History	1918, 1937, 1990
2	Legal and Financial Records	1859-1977
3	Photographs	