



Descriptive Summary:

Title: The DeBolt-Fry Collection

Repository: Beulah Williams Library Archives and Special Collections, Northern State University

Creator: Charles A. Fry, Priscilla Ann DeBolt-Fry, Priscilla Joan Fry, and relatives

Dates: 1860s-2012

Extent: 6 linear feet

Administrative Information

Acquisitions Information: This collection was donated by Pat Turner.

Processing Information: This collection was processed by Sarah Jones

Access Restrictions: Some materials have been restricted from public use.

Copyright Notice: Literary rights and copyrights, when applicable, have been assigned to Beulah Williams Library

Preferred Citation: [Item Name], The DeBolt-Fry Collection, Beulah Williams Library Archives and Special Collections, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD.

Biographical Note

Charles A. Fry was born July 23, 1913 in Presho, South Dakota to Harry M. Fry and Jesty Redd.

Charles was one of three children: Donald Reed and Mary Arlene (McAllister).

Priscilla Ann DeBolt was born on September 16, 1912 to James Henry DeBolt III and Jessie

Gertrude Hall. Priscilla was one of six children: Mary Alberta (Urban), Jessie Blanche

(Grossenburg), Hazel Elizabeth (Sanders), James Henry DeBolt IV, and Ray "Mike" Alpheus.

Priscilla and Charles grew up on adjoining farms. Charles Fry married Priscilla DeBolt on November 2, 1940. They had one daughter, Priscilla Joan Fry in 1943.

Scope and Content:

This collection illustrates the lives of Charles Fry and Priscilla DeBolt Fry as they grew up on the homestead in South Dakota in the early 20th century, as well as the lives of their close family. This collection has been arranged into three series: Photos, Family History, and Artifacts. All of these series are arranged chronologically. The formats within this collection include: books, certificates,

correspondence, family trees, government records, newsletters, newspaper clippings, oil lamps, photographs, school records, and scrapbooks. This collection is entirely in English. Books donated by the family have been separated and cataloged separately. Search “DeBolt-Fry” in the [Library Catalog](#) to locate these items.

Series Descriptions:

Series 1: Photos

Boxes: 1,2

Dates: 1907 – 2002

This series includes mainly family photos, but also photos of family homes. It is arranged chronologically. Scrapbooks are not in this series, but can be found in Series 3: Artifacts.

Series 2: Family History

Boxes: 3,4

Dates: 1860s – 2012

This series is divided into two sub-series: Correspondence and Genealogy. The correspondence sub-series includes emails, handwritten letters, invitations, newsletters, and postcards. It also has folders of “Round Robin” correspondence – a package of letters about each family member sent to everyone throughout the year. The genealogy sub-series includes certificates, family trees, funeral programs, government records, handwritten stories, newspaper clippings, and school records (including diplomas). Both series are arranged chronologically.

Series 3: Artifacts

Boxes: 1, 5-7

Dates: 1910 – 1940s

This series includes scrapbooks, two oil lamps, two ledgers, a replica belt buckle, a wallet, and bound maps. It is arranged chronologically.

Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Series 1: Photos

Box #1

- FF1 Photos – DeBolts (1907-1929)
- FF2 Photos – DeBolt (1907-1932)
- FF3 Family Photos – SD (1907-1949)
- FF4 Family Photos (1909-1934)
- FF5 Photos – Fry and Extended Family (1910-1994)
- FF6 Family Photos (1918-1974)
- FF7 Photos – Charles and Priscilla Fry Family (1918-1992)
- FF8 Family Photos (1919-1926)
- FF9 Black Snapshots Photo Album of Family in SD (c.a. 1920s)
- FF10 Photos - Priscilla Ann DeBolt Fry and Priscilla Joan Fry (1924-1946, 1983)

Box #2

- FF1 Family Photos (1929-1995)
- FF2 Family Photos (1930s-1950s)
- FF3 Photos – Charles Fry and Northern (1937, 1987)
- FF4 Photos – Charles Fry and Okaton High School Activity (1938-1939)
- FF5 Photos – Sanders Family, Hazel DeBolt (1940-1986)
- FF6 Photos - Charles and Priscilla Fry (and Family) (1940-2001)

- FF7 Photos – Guam – 69th Air Service Group (and book) (1940s)
- FF8 Photos – Jessie Gertrude Hall (1941, n.d)
- FF9 Photos – Sylvia DeBolt (1944, 1997)
- FF10 Photos – James Henry DeBolt (1947 – 1967)
- FF11 Photos – Jessie Gertrude Hall DeBolt and James Henry DeBolt III 50th Anniversary (1951)
- FF12 Photos – Priscilla Fry Travel (c.a. 1970s)
- FF13 Photo – 1st Fry Reunion (1970)
- FF14 Photos – Grossenburg (n.d., 1971-1992)
- FF15 Photos – 2nd Fry Reunion (August 7, 1971)
- FF16 Photos – 3rd Fry Reunion (August 20, 1972)
- FF17 Photos – 4th Fry Reunion (1973)
- FF18 Photos – 5th Fry Reunion (August 2, 1974)
- FF19 Photos – 6th Fry Reunion (August 3, 1975)
- FF20 Photos – 7th Fry Reunion (August 1, 1976)
- FF21 Photos – Turner Family (1977-2005)
- FF22 Photos – 8th Fry Reunion (July 30, 1977)
- FF23 Photos – 9th Fry Reunion (August 6, 1978)
- FF24 Family Photos, Part 1 (1978)
- FF25 Family Photos, Part 2 (1978)
- FF26 Photos – 10th Fry Reunion (August 5, 1979)
- FF27 Photos – Fry Reunion (July 19, 1981)
- FF28 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 21, 1982)
- FF29 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 20, 1983)
- FF30 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 19, 1984)
- FF31 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 18, 1985)
- FF32 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 16, 1986)
- FF33 Photos – Fry Reunion (August 16, 1987)
- FF34 Photos – Rassmussen’s Home in South Dakota (1989, 1992-1993)
- FF35 Photos – Birthday Dinner (1992)
- FF36 Photos – Graveyard Tombstones in Presho, SD (1992, July 1996)
- FF37 Photos – Mary Urban’s Birthdays (and newspaper clippings) (November 1992-2002)
- FF38 Photos – Cedar School Reunion (August 1993)
- FF39 Family Photos (1994)
- FF40 Photos – Family Trip to SD (July – August 1994)
- FF41 Photos – Jim Dalitsch’s Visit to 59 Ross St. (August 1994)
- FF42 Photos – Presho High School Reunion (August 1994)
- FF43 Photos – Charles A. Fry’s 83rd Birthday (July 1996)
- FF44 Photos – C.J. Grossenburg and Son (July 1996)
- FF45 Family Photos (July 1996)
- FF46 Photos – Mike’s (Priscilla DeBolt’s Brother) Funeral (July 1996)
- FF47 Photos – Winner, SD (July 1996)
- FF48 Photos – Family in Pennsylvania (1998)
- FF49 Photos – DeBolt’s from Barrington, Illinois visit the Fry’s in Williamsport, Pennsylvania (July 1998)
- FF50 Photos – Organ Recital (October 1998)
- FF51 Photos – Mary Urban (1998-2000)
- FF52 Photos – Priscilla Fry’s 90th Birthday (September 2002)

- FF53 Photos – Presho and Oacome, SD visit (November 2002)
- FF54 Family Photos (n.d.)
- FF55 Photos – DeBolt with Index (n.d.)
- FF56 Photos – Family Homes (n.d.)
- FF57 Photos – Urban Family (n.d.)
- FF58 Framed Baby Photo – Priscilla Ann DeBolt (n.d.)
- FF59 Framed Grad Photo – Arlene Fry (n.d.)
- FF60 Miscellaneous Family Photos

Oversized – OS3:DR1

- FF1 Family Photos

2. Series 2: Family History

a. Sub-Series 2a: Correspondence

Box #3

- FF1 Handwritten Copies of Letters (1860s, 1925)
- FF2 DeBolt Family correspondence including checks and family stories (1907, 1916-1977)
- FF3 Correspondence to Harry Fry from David Dykstra (1917-1921)
- FF4 Correspondence to Priscilla DeBolt (1924)
- FF5 Correspondence to Priscilla DeBolt while she was recuperating from an appendectomy (1924)
- FF6 DeBolt/Fry Correspondence (1924-1925 (copies); 1995-2000)
- FF7 DeBolt Family Invitations, Letters (1928, 1940, 1960-1990, 2004)
- FF8 Correspondence from Charles to Priscilla (1930-1936, 1940-1941)
- FF9 Correspondence from Priscilla DeBolt to her Parents/Siblings (1936-1937)
- FF10 Cards and letters from various family members (1938-1959)
- FF11 Hall Family Invitation (1941)
- FF12 Correspondence between Charles and Priscilla/Priscilla Joan (1945)
- FF13 Harry Fry's Estate Correspondence (1945-1949)
- FF14 Correspondence to Priscilla and Ray DeBolt (1948-1999)
- FF15 Family Correspondence (1957-1964, 1976-1984)
- FF16 McAllister Family Invitations, Letters (1960, 1987-1992, 2003)
- FF17 Family Correspondence (1961-1997)
- FF18 Correspondence from Priscilla Joan to Parents, Charlie and Priscilla (1963-1964, 1967)
- FF19 Mary Urban – Priscilla and Charles Fry Correspondence (1965, 1984-1996)
- FF20 Hazel and Darrell Sanders to Priscilla and Charles Fry Correspondence (1966, 1973-1974)
- FF21 Lillian DeBolt to Priscilla and Charles Fry Correspondence (1966, 1981, 2007)
- FF22 Hazel Sanders Invitation and Letters (1973, 1983-1987)
- FF23 Grossenberg Family Program, Invitations (1978-1984)
- FF24 Urban Family Program, Invitations (1981-1986, 2004-2005)
- FF25 Donald Fry Program, Invitation (1983, 1990)
- FF26 Turner Family Invitations (1987, 1994)
- FF27 Family Correspondence (1989)
- FF28 DeBolt's Round Robin Correspondence (1989-1990)
- FF29 Family Christmas Letters (1989-1994)
- FF30 50th Anniversary Love Letters between Charles and Priscilla (1990)
- FF31 DeBolt Round Robin Correspondence (1991-1995)

- FF32 DeBolt Round Robin Correspondence (1993-1994)
- FF33 DeBolt Family Trip to South Dakota – Letters of Reflection (1994)
- FF34 James DeBolt to Priscilla Fry Correspondence (1995-1996)
- FF35 Family Christmas Letters (1995-2000)
- FF36 Family Correspondence (1999-2003)
- FF37 DeBolt Newsletters: Letters and Emails about DeBolt Family News (2002-2006)
- FF38 Family Correspondence (2005-2006)
- FF39 Wooden Album of newspaper clippings and correspondence - Priscilla Ann DeBolt (n.d.)

b. Sub-series 2b: Genealogy

Box #4

- FF1 Financial Paperwork – Presho/Homesteading (1904-1913)
- FF2 So. Dak. Records for Harry M. Fry: Homestead entry and financial papers – NARA copies (1906-1912)
- FF3 So. Dak. Records for J. H. DeBolt – NARA Copies of Homestead Papers from the Department of the Interior (1908-1912)
- FF4 History of lymn county and cedar school (photos and newspaper article) (1910-1940, 1993)
- FF5 Bunnell Development Company Paperwork and correspondence (1914-1917)
- FF6 Government Documents – Birth Certificates, Baptism Certificate, Wills (1926, 1942-1948)
- FF7 Presho/Okaton High School (including Charles Fry Diploma) (1927-1932, 1976)
- FF8 Priscilla DeBolt Fry – High School Diploma (1930)
- FF9 Charles H. Fry School Records – NNIS & Southern State Normal (1932-1938, 1987) – RESTRICTED**
- FF10 Charles A. Fry Work Documents (1938-1939)
- FF11 Agriculture Financial Papers (1940s)
- FF12 Charles A. Fry Army Papers (1940-1946)
- FF13 Charles H. Fry War Papers (1943-45)
- FF14 Family History Newsclippings (1948-1974)
- FF15 Priscilla D. Fry's Election Papers (1960, 1980)
- FF16 Williamsport HS Graduation – Priscilla Joan Fry (1962)
- FF17 Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Certificate for Charles Fry (1965)
- FF18 Misc. Newspaper clippings about family events (1968-2000)
- FF19 DAR and Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania (1969-1975)
- FF20 Presidential Inaugurations (1969, 1979)
- FF21 Certificate of Charles Fry's knighthood into the Knights Templar (1974)
- FF22 C.J. & Blanche Grossenburg Funeral Info (1979, 1998)
- FF23 The Governor's Certificate of Commendation (1986)
- FF24 Blanche and CJ Grossenburg News (1987-1995)
- FF25 Application and Delayed Birth Certificate for Priscilla Ann DeBolt (1988) - RESTRICTED**
- FF26 50th Anniversary – Priscilla and Charles, Lillian and Jim (1990)
- FF27 Senate of Pennsylvania Congratulatory 50th Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Fry (October 3, 1990)
- FF28 Hall-Bowman family Genealogies (1992-1993)
- FF29 Fry Family Histories (1993)
- FF30 Walter Dalitsch – Naval Reserve (1993)
- FF31 Heather Bryant Death – Granddaughter of Lillian and Jim DeBolt (1994)

- FF32 Raymond "Mike" DeBolt Funeral (December 1995)
- FF33 Priscilla DeBolt-Fry: DeBolt Family History (1960-1996)
- FF34 Nodaway Hideaway Papers (2003)
- FF35 Mary Urban's Funeral (2005)
- FF36 Eric and Sonya Donaldson Newsletters (2005-2006)
- FF37 James Henry DeBolt's Memorial (December 2006)
- FF38 Lillian DeBolt – Life Memories (2009)
- FF39 Life on the Prairie (c.a. 2012)
- FF40 DeBolt family Tree (n.d.)
- FF41 Family History, Registry book, and Documents (n.d.)
- FF42 Family Timelines (n.d.)
- FF43 Fry/Flickinger Genealogy (n.d.)
- FF44 Hall Family Tree/History (n.d.)
- FF45 Priscilla and Charles Fry Childhood Stories (n.d.)

3. **Series 3: Artifacts**

Box #1

- FF11 Charles Fry Loose Scrapbook Pages (1910-1940)
- FF12 Fry/DeBolt Family Scrapbook Pages (1911-1938)
- FF13 DeBolt Family Scrapbook - newspaper clippings, photographs, hand written letters, cards (1948-1996)
- FF14 Replica belt buckle James Henry DeBolt II wore during fighting in Civil War (n.d.)
- FF15 Wallet made by Charles Fry while in Guam (c.a. 1940s)

Boxes #5, 6, 7

Oil Lamps x 2

Oversized – OS3:DR1

- Item 1 Ledger (1865-1871)
- Item 2 Ledger (1870-1898)
- Item 3 Bound maps of townships in Lyman County, SD, with names of landowners (ca. 1910s)