

Fort Smith Public Library

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Finding Aid For:	Judy Ware-Bishop
Dates:	1890 to 1988, bulk 1960s and 1980s
Size:	1 box and 1 framed painting; 1.08 linear feet
Creator/Collector:	Judy Ware-Bishop and Family
Call Number:	Special Collection (SC)
Language(s):	English
Abstract:	Julia “Judy” Earnestine Ware was born in 1918 to Earnest Harry Ware and Julia May Byers and she died in 1988. She had one son, Harry James Johnston-Bishop, and two grandchildren: Kimberly and Timothy. Judy spent her life as a freelance artist. Her art was featured on phonebooks, in downtown Fort Smith banks as a mural, and she was commissioned to do various pieces. Her specialty was oil paintings of animals and old historic paintings where she took an old photograph and painted a replica of it. This collection contains Judy’s family photos in albums and scrapbooks, ephemera, and her portfolio along with two framed paintings.
Subject Terms:	Ware-Bishop, Judy Family Collection Artist
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research.
Copyright:	Copyright has been assigned to the Fort Smith Public Library. Although copyright was transferred by the donor, copyright in some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s). For further information contact the repository.
Preferred Citation:	[Item], [Series], [Record Group], [Container #], Judy Ware-Bishop, Fort Smith Public Library, Fort Smith, Arkansas.
Acquisition Information:	The collection was donated by John Jones and Janet Jones on February 23, 2023, consisting of 1 box and 2 framed oil paintings.
Repository:	Fort Smith Public Library, Barbara Walker Genealogy and Arkansas History Collection, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Finding Aid Created By:	Rachel Sanford, 2023.
Processing Information:	The collection was donated in good condition, but in disarray. There appeared to be distinct divisions in the materials: photographs, memorabilia, and Judy Ware-Bishop's artwork. The photographs were

loose, so they were initially placed in an archive folder. Later, the photos were sorted by person and their age, to the best of our ability. The photos were labeled if it was clear who it is with a Copy Not NP Blue pencil then placed in protective sleeves. There was a picnic basket that was also donated but was removed from the collection due to it being damaged. The collection was processed by Mary Carson and Rachel Sanford in March 2023.

Collection Details

Biographical Note:

Julia “Judy” Earnestine Ware was born on July 28, 1918, in Fort Smith Arkansas and died on July 17, 1988, in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Judy spent her life as an artist, she taught classes and was commissioned to do paintings and murals.

Judy married her first husband, George McLaughlin in 1934 and was divorced within two years. Her second husband was James Harley Johnston. They got married in 1936, and they had one child, Harry James Johnston in 1941. After their divorce in 1949, Judy married James H. Bishop in 1950. They were married for 12 years when they got divorced in 1962. Judy went by Judy Ware Bishop for the rest of her life.

Judy’s mother is Julia May Byers born December 12, 1898, to James C. Byers and Margaret Ellen Baker, she died on August 9, 1986. Her father is Earnest Harrison “Harry” Ware, born September 29, 1891, to John Henry Ware and Margaret Jane Snodgrass, he died on August 30, 1968. Judy’s maternal grandmother Margaret Ellen Baker was born on February 26, 1877 to Billie Baker and Julia Ann McCabe, and she died on January 6, 1962.

Judy’s son Harry James Johnston went by Harry James Bishop all his life. He married Anita Duncan in 1940 and they had two children: Kimberly “Kim” Kaye Bishop and Timothy “Timmy” Wayne Bishop. Harry James Johnston-Bishop died April 17, 1965.

Scope and Content:

The records for the Judy Ware-Bishop family collection include family photo albums, ephemera, and Judy’s art portfolio. The strength of the collection is the family photos and the art portfolio.

The “Photo Albums” series ranges from 1890 to 1987 and includes five albums and 67 pages of loose photos. Photographs include Judy, her son and his wife, her grandchildren, her parents, grandparents, and great grandparents, along with many unidentified people. Some photographs were labeled, others were labeled during the processing of this collection using the labels there to identify the same person.

The “Ephemera” series contains Judy’s father’s wallet, newspaper clippings, copyright registration for art, invitation, card, and Judy’s funeral home memorial book. This series ranges from 1918 to 1988.

The “Judy Ware-Bishop” series contains her portfolio and two framed paintings, ranging from 1933 to 1984. The portfolio is photographs of her paintings, and inspiration for her art, all in scrapbook format.

System of Arrangement: This collection is organized into three series: "Series 1. Photo Albums," "Series 2. Ephemera," and "Series 3. Judy Ware-Bishop Artwork."

The loose photographs within the Photo Album series are arranged with Judy's grandchildren: Kim and Timmy first, then Judy's son Harry James Johnston-Bishop, followed by Judy, then her parents, grandparents, and unknown people are last. The labels that we created listed the people with their maiden name.

Related Materials: VF-FS Vertical File – Fort Smith, Judy Ware Bishop

Collection Inventory

Container 57: Judy Ware-Bishop, 1890 to 1988

Series 1: Photo Albums, 1890 to 1987

- 1 Polaroid Photo Album, 1960-1969
 1. 40 photos from the 1960s of Kimberly, Timothy, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, Anita, Judy Ware, Julia Byers, and Harry Ware
- 2 Green Photo Album, 1960 to 1969
 1. 38 photos from the 1960s of Kimberly, Timothy, Judy Ware, Julia Byers, Harry Ware, their dogs, and their house
- 3 Davis Studios Display Album, 1980
 1. 7 photos of Judy Ware, Julia Byers, and Harry Ware
- 4 “Ware” Photos, Yellow Album, 1960 to 1969
 1. 20 Photos. Photos include Kimberly, Anita, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, James Harley Johnston, Judy Ware, Julia Byers, and Harry Ware
- 5 Photographs, Maroon Album, 1890 to 1970
 1. Set up as a photo scrapbook. 59 pages with photos glued down and 13 blank pages in the back.
- 6 Loose Photographs, 1890 to 1987
 1. Page 1
 1. Timothy Wayne Bishop
 2. Timothy Wayne Bishop
 3. Timothy (age 5) and Kimberly (age 7)
 4. Timothy Wayne Bishop (age 5)
 2. Page 2
 1. Kimberly Kaye Bishop
 3. Page 3
 1. Kimberly Kaye Bishop (1969-1970, 1st grade)
 2. Kimberly Kaye Bishop
 3. Kimberly Kaye Bishop
 4. Kimberly Kaye Bishop (age 7)
 4. Page 4
 1. Anita Duncan, Timothy Bishop, Harry Ware, Julia Byers, Kimberly Bishop, Judy Ware (September 1966)
 2. Harry, Kimberly, Timothy, Julia Byers
 3. Kimberly, Judy, Timothy
 4. Kimberly, Harry, Timothy

5. Page 5
 1. Judy Ware with two unknown people, there is writing on the back, but it's cut off.
 2. Judy Ware, Harry Ware, and Julia Byers (1966)
 3. Julia (1966)
 4. Anita Duncan, Kimberly, Julia Byers, Timothy, and Harry War
6. Page 6
 1. Judy, Timothy, and Kimberly
 2. Judy, Timothy, and Kimberly
 3. Timothy, Judy, and Kimberly
 4. Timothy, Judy, and Kimberly
7. Page 7
 1. Kimberly Bishop (1969)
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (pencil coloring Judy made in 1946)
8. Page 8
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
9. Page 9
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
10. Page 10
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (age 17 months 3 weeks)
11. Page 11
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (black and white)
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (Judy colored it)
12. Page 12
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
13. Page 13
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
14. Page 14
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
15. Page 15
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (1945)
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
16. Page 16
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (1946)
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (age 5 years, 1946)
17. Page 17
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
18. Page 18
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop (1948)
19. Page 19
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 3. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 4. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 5. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
20. Page 20
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop

21. Page 21
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 3. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 4. James Harry Johnston-Bishop
 5. Kimberly Kaye Bishop and James Harry Johnston-Bishop
22. Page 22
 1. Julia, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, and Judy Ware
23. Page 23
 1. Harry Ware and James Harry Johnston-Bishop
24. Page 24
 1. Harry Ware, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, James Harley Johnston
25. Page 25
 1. Julia, Harry Ware, and James Harry Johnston-Bishop
26. Page 26
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop and Harry Ware
27. Page 27
 1. Back row: Julia Byers and Judy Ware; Front row: Harry Ware, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, and James Harley Johnson
28. Page 28
 1. Back: Judy Ware (picture has been cut so that James Johnston is not in it), Front: Harry Ware, Julia Byers, and James Harry Johnston-Bishop
29. Page 29
 1. Photograph standing across the Arkansas River looking at Fort Smith. Caption on back: This is an view of Ft. Smith. In the beginning Fort Smith built on the river front and called it Front Street. You can see the Fort - Rogers Hotel. The garrison was the parade ground for the troops.
 2. James H. Bishop, Judy Ware, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, Julia Byers, and Harry Ware
30. Page 30
 1. Julia Byers and Judy Ware
 2. Judy Ware and Julia Byers (at Houston, TX Xmas Time)
 3. Judy Ware and Julia Byers (1930)
 4. Judy Ware and Julia Byers (1936)
31. Page 31
 1. Harry Ware, Julia Byers, and Judy Ware (Caption: Julia M and E. Harry Ware with 6 months old baby Julia E. Ware. January 1919)
 2. Judy Ware
 3. Judy Ware
 4. Judy Ware and James Harry Johnston-Bishop with unknown people (Caption: Our Renters)
32. Page 32
 1. Judy Ware
33. Page 33
 1. Judy Ware
34. Page 34
 1. Likely Judy Ware
 2. Likely Julia Byers

35. Page 35
 1. Judy Ware
 2. Judy Ware
36. Page 36
 1. Judy Ware
37. Page 37
 1. Judy Ware
38. Page 38
 1. James H. Bishop
39. Page 39
 1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop and Julia Byers
 2. James Harry Johnston-Bishop and Judy Ware
40. Page 40
 1. Judy Ware
 2. Judy Ware
 3. Judy Ware, Harry Ware, and Julia Byers
 4. James Harry Johnston-Bishop and Judy Ware
 5. Photo of James Harley Johnston, James Harry Johnston-Bishop, and Judy Ware, with cuts over James Harley Johnston to insert a photo of Julia Byers.
41. Page 41
 1. Julia Byers
 2. Julia Byers and Margaret Ellen Baker
 3. Margaret Ellen Baker, unknown man, Julia Ann McCabe, and Julia May Byers
 4. Unknown man (likely Byers or Wehrfritz), Margaret Ellen Baker, and Julia Byers
 5. Margaret Baker, unknown man, and Julia Byers
 6. Group of women and girls (back middle is Margaret Baker, and the bottom far right girl with her hand covering her eyes is Julia Byers)
 7. Margaret Baker and Julia McCabe
42. Page 42
 1. Julia Byers, Harry Ware, and Judy Ware (Caption: Julia M and E. Harry Ware with 6 months old baby Julia E. Ware, January 1919)
 2. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
43. Page 43
 1. Julia Byers
 2. Julia Byers
 3. Julia Byers
 4. Julia Byers
 5. Julia Byers with two unknown people
 6. Julia Byers on a horse
44. Page 44
 1. Julia Byers
45. Page 45
 1. Julia Byers
 2. Julia Byers
46. Page 46
 1. Julia Byers
47. Page 47
 1. Julia Byers

48. Page 48
 1. Julia Byers (1948)
49. Page 49
 1. Julia Byers and Harry Ware
50. Page 50
 1. Harry Ware and Julia Byers (1954)
51. Page 51
 1. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
52. Page 52
 1. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
53. Page 53
 1. Julia Byers
 2. E. Harry Ware
 3. Julia Byers
 4. Harry Ware
54. Page 54
 1. Harry Ware with dogs
 2. Julia Byers
 3. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
 4. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
55. Page 55
 1. Harry Ware and Julia Byers
 2. Julia Byers
 3. Julia Byers and Judy Ware
 4. Julia Byers, Kimberly, and Judy Ware
56. Page 56
 1. Margaret Ellen Baker and Thomas Bridges
 2. Possibly Harry Ware and Julia Byers
57. Page 57
 1. Julia Ann McCabe (Caption: Julia Mae Bridges died 1931, daughter- Margaret Ellen Baker-Byers-Wherfritz died 1963, daughter Julia Mae Byers-Ware alive in 1976, daughter Julia Ware-Bishop alive in 1976, son James Harry Johnston-Bishop killed in car wreck April 17,1965)
 2. Margaret Ellen Baker, Judy Ware, and Julia Byers (1938)
 3. Margaret Ellen Baker
 4. Margaret Ellen Baker (Caption: Mrs. Margaret Collins)
58. Page 58
 1. Margaret Ellen Baker
59. Page 59
 1. Unknown couple
 2. Unknown children
 3. Ware & Ware Plumbers sign (1930)
 4. Unknown group of people, the little girl appears to be Julia Byers (is the man James C. Byers, seems like the same man in the photos on page 50)
 5. Unknown family
60. Page 60
 - Front*
 1. Group of people. the young girl in the center is Julia Byers. the woman behind her is Julia McCabe, and the woman to her left (next to the two men between them) is

Margaret Baker

Back

1. Julia Byers

2. Julia Byers

3. Margaret Ellen Baker, unknown man (likely James C. Byers), and Julia Byers

61. Page 61

1. Residence at 1518 South R Street, Fort Smith, AR

62. Page 62

1. Unknown Baby

63. Page 63

1. Unknown Baby

64. Page 64

1. Unknown woman (Caption: Korlty Holava, age 86)

2. Unknown man (Caption: Floyd Wehrent, November 1, 196?)

3. Unknown children (Caption: Monica age 9, Donna age 4, Tom Jr age 3)

4. Margaret Ellen Baker

65. Page 65

1. Unknown man

66. Page 66

1. Robert Danison, Class 1967, Lancaster High School, Lancaster, Ohio

2. Cathy, 17 years, she will graduate in June of 1968

3. Linda Sue Levandowski, age 5, 1965-1966 Reese Road School, kindergarden

4. Debbie, age 9

5. Chris, age 8

67. Page 67

1. Unknown boy

2. Lana Michael McLaughlin, 18 months

3. Tommy Nicholas, Tom and Linda Ware's one year old, 1966

4. Unknown couple, caption: Our 50th anniversary, May 15, 1987

Series 2: Ephemera, 1919 to 1988

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Judy Ware Ephemera, 1919 to 1970

1. Polaroid Photos sleeve

1. Zam's store

2. Judy Ware and possibly Kimberly Bishop

2. Small Photo sleeve

1. Two photos of Judy Ware with an oil painting of horses

2. Larger photo is Julia Byers, smaller photo is Judy Ware

3. Envelope with the following contents:

1. James Harry Johnston-Bishop's invitation to his Fort Smith High School commencement on 1959 May 29

2. Fort Smith High School Commencement Sermon, 1959 May 24

3. Thank you card to Julia Byers and Harry Ware from Harry James Johnston-Bishop

4. Postcard of Vista Del Litoral A La Costa Grande, Acapulco, Mexico to Judy Ware from Bonnie Percival, 1971 January 30

5. Mother's Day Card to Judy Ware from James Harry Johnston-Bishop

6. You Made The News! Laminated newspaper clipping of Judy Ware and her paintings.
7. Newspaper clipping about E. Harry Ware
8. Four newspaper clippings of Carl Albert's photo
9. Newspaper clipping of J. Harry Bishop Obituary (James Harry Johnston-Bishop)
10. Judy Ware Bishop's Funeral Card
11. Certificate of Copyright Registration for Judy Ware-Bishop's Oil Painting titled Old Fort Smith on the Front Cover of the Telephone Directory, 1986
12. Judy's list of the Paintings hung in the Catfish Cove on 1976 September 10-11
13. Catfish Cove paper menu, at the bottom it states, "Art works furnished by Judy Ware Bishop

8 E. Harry Ware's Wallet, 1968

1. Black leather bi-fold wallet. Contents include:
 1. Paper Driver's License for Harry Ware, expired 1969
 2. Note stating he was allergic to Penicillen and sulfa drugs
 3. Identification Card with attached photo
 4. Holt Krock Clinic Card
 5. Photograph of Judy Ware (daughter) and E. Harry Ware
 6. Photograph of Judy Ware (daughter) and Julia Byers (wife)
 7. Photograph of Kimberly Kaye Bishop (great-granddaughter)
 8. Photograph of James Harry Johnston-Bishop (grandson)
 9. Photograph Timothy Wayne Bishop (great-grandson)
 10. Photograph of unknown man and Judy Ware (daughter)
 11. Photograph of E. Harry Ware, Judy Ware (daughter), and Julia Byers (wife)
 12. Health Insurance Card
 13. Judy Ware-Bishop's business card "Judy Ware Free Lance Artist"
 14. Thurston National Insurance Company Card
 15. Social Security Card

9 Memorial Book, 1988

1. Judy Ware Bishop's Memorial Book From Funeral

Series 3: Judy Ware-Bishop Artwork, 1938 to 1986

10 Judy Ware-Bishop Loose Photographs from Portfolio, 1980 to 1986

1. Page 1
 1. Judy Ware with self portrait painting
 2. Judy Ware Bishop, Kings Table Party 1980
 3. Judy, gift from Mary and Marilyn, 1980
 4. Judy, gift from Charlott Eddy, 1980
2. Page 2
 1. Judy, Jan's Christmas Party, 1980
 2. Judy Ware and Rena Smith, 1980
 3. Julia Byers and Judy Ware, 1980
 4. Julia Byers and Judy Ware, 1980
3. Page 3
 1. Miguel, Rita, Julia Byers, January 1984

2. Van Ann Pham and Judy Ware, March 1984
3. Judy in Class Room, 1984 December 14
4. Judy Ware and 10 year old student, 1985 June 15
4. Page 4
 1. Pat Tabar and Judy, 1984 December 14
 2. Judy with figurine, 1984 December 14
 3. Photographs of artwork inside Catfish Cove 1984 December 14 - Willa Dana, Cyrus David, Joan and Maggard, Dustin Graham, DeLois Adamson, Sue Jones, and Shirley Thrift
 4. Cyrus, Willa Dana Carolyn, Susan and David, Mr. and Mrs. Dunrant, Mr. Maggard
5. Page 5
 1. Judy Ware at art room desk, 1985
 2. Judy Ware finishing Motor 86 Cover, 1985
 3. Judy, Helen, and Annie, 1986 December 17
 4. Judy Ware
6. Page 6
 1. Judy opening gifts, 1986
 2. Judy with gift, 1986
 3. Judy with gift, 1986
 4. Judy with Helen's gift, a glass butterfly, 1986

11 Judge Parker Sketch in Oval Frame, 1969

1. Judge Isaac Parker color pencil sketch for mural in K.F.S.A. TV Studio Fort Smith, Arkansas. Painted by: Judy Ware Bishop. Started 1969 May 3. Completed 1969 June 6.

Container 58: Judy Ware-Bishop, 1938 to 1986

Series 3: Judy Ware-Bishop Artwork, 1936 to 1938

12 Judy Ware-Bishop Portfolio is scrapbook format, 1938 to 1986

Container 134: Barber Shop by Judy Ware

Series 3: Judy Ware-Bishop Artwork, 1938 to 1986

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