

Albert Gore

ALBERT GORE RESEARCH CENTER

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Title: Emmett Gowen Scrapbook Collection

Dates: Bulk 1940s–1960s

Creator: Emmett Gowen

Summary/Abstract: The Emmett Gowen Scrapbook Collection consists of three scrapbooks composed of articles written by and pertaining to Emmett Gowen, an avid outdoorsman, journalist and novelist. Specifically, the scrapbooks relate to hunting and fishing, both locally and globally. Gowen's articles were published in both local newspapers like *The Tennessean* and national magazines like *Sports Illustrated* and *Field & Stream*. This collection is particularly useful for research in outdoor recreation, Middle Tennessee journalism, world traveling, and national sports journalism.

Quantity/Physical Description: 3 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository: Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, (615) 898-2632

Restrictions on Access: None

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Preferred Citation: (Box Number, Folder Number), Emmett Gowen Scrapbook Collection, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Acquisition: James Francis, January 2006

Processed By: Original processor undetermined.

Arrangement: The Gowen Collection contains three scrapbooks, each of which is associated with a different outdoor pursuit—hunting, freshwater fishing, or saltwater fishing. Each of the collection's three boxes contains one scrapbook. Articles within scrapbooks are not arranged alphabetically, by publication, or chronologically. The creator's original arrangement appears to be random and has been preserved within each scrapbook.

Biographical Note: Gowen, a native of Davidson County, was a prominent figure in the outdoors life community throughout the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. A self-made man, Gowen used his field expertise from the Tennessee forests and lakes to command expeditions in Mexico, Africa, and Central America. These experiences translated well into a journalism career, as he contributed heavily to magazines such as *Atlantic Monthly*, *Esquire*, *True*, *Argosy*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Outdoor Life*, *Field and Stream*, and *Sports Afield*. The high-spirited adventurer practiced his remarkable editorial skills for the *Fourth Estate* (now *Editor and Publisher*), composed scenarios for the Hollywood film industry, and reported for many notable newspapers, including the *Nashville Tennessean*. Ultimately, his storytelling skills and colorful life experiences culminated into a livelihood as a novelist, and he penned several tales of mild to wide literary acclaim. Honored in local publications as “one of the best writers in the business,” Gowen will be forever remembered as the embodiment of the cunning, adventurous Tennessee outdoorsman.

Scope and Content: A vast majority of the collection consists of articles composed by Gowen spanning the 1940s to the 1960s and subsequently published in outdoor magazines. The scrapbooks also contain a few articles by fellow outdoorsmen which directly quote Gowen. One Gowen article about the Jack Daniels Distillery, an expose on Gowen's perceived “comeback,” a couple of brief biographical magazine pieces on Gowen, a hand-drawn map of the Central American coast by Gowen, and Gowen's obituary complete the compilation. A more complete inventory of articles is available upon request.

Related Collections: None

Subject Terms

Persons

Emmett Gowen

Places

Nashville, Tennessee

Mexico

Africa

Central America

Subjects (General)

Hunting

Freshwater fishing

Saltwater fishing

Outdoor activities

Material Types

Scrapbooks

Articles

Maps

Inventory:

Box	Description of Contents
1	Emmett Gowen Hunting Scrapbook; includes twenty articles, from <i>True</i> , <i>Hunting & Fishing</i> , <i>Field & Stream</i> , <i>Outdoor Life</i> , <i>Nashville Tennessean Magazine</i> , and <i>the Tennessean</i> ; 1946 - 1973
2	Freshwater Fishing Scrapbook; twenty-six articles from <i>Ford Times</i> , <i>Hunting & Fishing</i> , <i>True</i> , <i>Field & Stream</i> , <i>Sports Illustrated</i> , <i>The Fisherman</i> , <i>Outdoor Life</i> , <i>Fawcett Publications</i> , <i>Fishing Waters of the World</i> , <i>Sports Afield</i> , <i>Ashaway Sportsman</i> ; 1950 – 1960
3	Saltwater Fishing Scrapbook; twenty-one articles from <i>Outdoor Life</i> , <i>Sports Afield</i> , <i>True</i> , <i>The Fisherman</i> , <i>Field & Stream</i> , <i>Water World</i> , <i>Sports Illustrated</i> , <i>Fishing Waters of the World</i> ; 1953 - 1966