

Archives & Manuscript Collections
National Sporting Library
Middleburg, VA

Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.
Hunting Diaries
1948-1963

Name: **Shepherd, Lemuel C. Jr. (1896-1990)** **MC0021**

Materials: Hunting diaries

Dates: 1948-1963

Volume: 0.25 cubic feet

Donation: Gift of Wilson Shepherd, 2002

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

Biographical Note

Lemuel Cornick Shepherd, Jr. was born in Norfolk, Virginia on February 10, 1896. Upon graduation from the Virginia Military Institute, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in 1917 and almost immediately thereafter sailed for France as part of the American Expeditionary Forces. He would see active duty during World War I, World War II, and Korea. Shepherd was responsible for the official recognition granted to the Marine Corps, as well as revamping its training programs. He was decorated several times throughout his career, including receiving two Silver Stars for service in France in 1918 and Korea in 1950, as well as the Purple Heart for his service in World War I. After a lifetime of military service, the general retired in September 1959, and sojourned to his family estate near Warrenton, Virginia. Here he participated actively in foxhunting until a serious riding accident in 1963 forced him to abandon the pursuit. Shepherd spent the remainder of his life in La Jolla, California, where he had relocated in 1967; he died there of bone cancer on August 6, 1990. He was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

Shepherd had married Virginia Tunstall Driver of Norfolk on December 30, 1922. The couple had three children: Lemuel (b. 1925), Wilson (b. 1928), and Virginia (b. 1930). Both Lemuel and Wilson became Marines, and Virginia married one of her father's former aides. Virginia Shepherd died a year before her husband in 1989; her ashes were held until being put to rest next to him at Arlington.

Collection Description

The Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Hunting Diaries are contained in two volumes written by Shepherd on hunting excursions from 1948 to 1963. The first volume, 1948-1958, details a trip to London to see the dedication of a statue of Franklin D. Roosevelt as well as foxhunting in Virginia. The latter is also the subject of the second diary, which dates from 1959 to 1963. This last volume ends on the very day of the serious accident that ended Shepherd's hunting days. The diaries, which are arranged in chronological order, are followed by a folder of biographical information on Shepherd.

Series and Subseries

- I. Hunting diaries, 1948-1963** **2 diaries**
- 1. Diary, 1948-1958**
 Contains descriptions of Shepherd's trip to England in 1948 for dedication of a statue, as well as foxhunting seasons in Virginia from 1950 to 1958.
- 2. Diary, 1959-1963**
 Continues descriptions of foxhunting in Virginia from first volume. Ends with day on which Shepherd suffered a serious fall from his horse, ending his hunting career.
- II. Biographical Information** **1 folder**
 Consists of two biographical sketches of Shepherd and one autobiographical account of his early hunting days in Warrenton, Virginia.

Container List MC0021

I. Hunting Diaries, 1948-1963

<u>Location</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MC0021 01	Hunting diary	1948-1958
MC0021 02	Hunting diary	1959-1963

II. Biographical Information

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	01	Sketches about Shepherd	c1978-1990

This collection was processed by Michele M. Tourney, June 2004.