



2013

# Dorothy Perry Thompson Papers - Accession 1352

Dorothy Perry Thompson

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**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

**ACCESSION 1352**

**DOROTHY PERRY THOMPSON PAPERS**

1984-2008, nd

9 Boxes, 29 Folders, &  
1 Bound Volume

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

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PROCESSED BY: Charlene Drummond  
DATE: November 22, 2013  
NO. OF SECTIONS: 3

**DOROTHY PERRY THOMPSON PAPERS**

**I**

The papers of Dorothy Perry Thompson, writer, poet, Professor of English at Winthrop University, and coordinator of Winthrop University's African American Studies program, were deposited in the Winthrop University Archives on December 5, 2008 by Donya and Johnny Thompson via Gloria Kelley, Head of Reference at Dacus Library. On February 14, 2012 Dr. Peter Judge, Professor of Philosophy at Winthrop University gifted 6 bound volumes of Dr. Thompson's poetry.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 2.25  
Approximate number of pieces: 4500

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.


Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Scope and Content Note: **Dr. Dorothy Perry Thompson was a Winthrop professor of English and an accomplished poet and writer. As well as teaching in the English Department, Dr. Thompson also coordinated the African American Studies program which she helped found. The Dorothy Perry Thompson Papers consists of her poems and writings, drafts, research, notes, contract agreements, awards and certificates, speaking engagement flyers and records, thank you letters, and promotion and tenure records.**

## II

### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### DOROTHY PERRY THOMPSON

June 25, 1944	Born in Springfield, SC	
1962	Graduated from Booker T. Washington High School	
1968	Received B.A. in English from Allen University	
1974	Received M.A. in Teaching from the University of South Carolina, Columbia	
ca 1974-ca 1985	Taught English at Riverside High (Greer), Lower Richland High (Hopkins), and Dreher High (Columbia)	
1985	Began teaching English at Winthrop College	
1987	Received Ph.D. in English from the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Became the second African American in the school's history to earn a Ph.D. in English and the first to complete a creative writing dissertation.	
1995	Published <i>Fly With The Puffin</i>	
2001	Published <i>Priest in Aqua Boa</i>	
2001	Published the anthology <i>Out of the Rough</i>	
2001	Became Full Professor of English at Winthrop University	
2002	Published <i>Hurrying the Spirit: Following Zora</i>	
January 4, 2002	Died in Rock Hill, SC	

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>WINTHROP RECORDS</b>			
1	1, 3	PROMOTION AND TENURE FILE Consists of Dr. Thompson's records and applications for promotion at Winthrop University and a <i>Portfolio for Consideration for the Rank of Professor</i> by Dr. Thompson submitted in the Fall of 2000.	2000, nd
5	14	COURSE SYLLABUSES Consists of syllabuses for courses taught by Dr. Thompson as well as two syllabuses of a Black literature course taught by Winthrop Instructor, Harris Heath in 1984 and 1985.	1984, 1985, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000
9	29	AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES Consists of a report by Dr. Thompson on the African American Studies minor at Winthrop for the 1999-2000 academic year.	2000
3, 5	8, 16	STUDENT WRITINGS Consists of student poetry and Dr. Thompson's corrections and suggestions.	1986-1989, 1996, nd
3	10	COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT SURVEYS Consists of Smith/Thompson Project student surveys concerning racial issues and Fresman Composition Evaluation Forms.	1996, 2001
6-7	17-21	COURSE EVALUATIONS Consists of course evaluations of Dr. Thompson's classes by her students.	1994-2000
<b>PROFESSIONAL RECORDS: SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND READINGS</b>			
2	7	SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND FLYERS Consists of several programs and flyers advertising Dr. Thompson's speaking engagements, poetry readings, and many other events that she participated in.	1993-2000
2	6	ISHER PROGRAM AND LECTURE NOTES Consists of programs and session lectures of the Twelfth Biennial Conference of the International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR) which Dr. Thompson participated and lectured in.	1999

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1	2	THANK YOU LETTERS Consists of thank you letters to Dr. Thompson for her participation speaking engagements, poetry readings, and for various other events.	1987-2000
1	4	CERTIFICATES AND CONTRACT AGREEMENT Consists of a contract between Dr. Thompson and Black American Literature Forum to publish <i>My Fancy Tea Room</i> in 1988, Certificate of Appreciation by the Xi Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha for Dr. Thompson's participation in an 1999 Oratorical Contest, and a Certificate of Achievement from the Roddey-McMillan Record (Winthrop's multicultural student newspaper) in 2000.	1988, 1999, 2000
<b>PROFESSIONAL RECORDS: PUBLICATIONS AND WRITINGS</b>			
3, 9	9, 28	RESEARCH Consists of articles and research collected by Dr. Thompson. Also includes notes and writings of other authors.	1991-2002
5	13	RESEARCH: CIVIL RIGHTS Consists of research accumulated concerning the Civil Rights Movement, including a timeline of the Rock Hill, SC and Charlotte, NC sit-ins.	2002, 2008, nd
5	15	RESEARCH: LINGUISTICS Consists of research and writings on linguistics as it pertains to minorities especially in the academic setting. Also included is Dr. Thompson's <i>Rescuing the Failed, File Away, and Forgotten: African Americans and Eurocentricity in Academic Argument</i> and <i>From "It Easy" to "It IS Easy": Empowering the African-American Student in the Racially Mixed Classroom</i> .	1990, 1992, nd
4	12	BOOKS Consists of <i>priest in aqua boa</i> written by Dr. Thompson, <i>A Note on Demographics</i> by Phebe Davidson which is dedicated to Dr. Thompson, <i>Dream eater</i> by Phebe Davidson with a blurb by Dr. Thompson on back of book, a published interview, <i>A Conversation with Dorothy Perry Thompson</i> , by William B. Thesing and Amy C. Reeves, and <i>The Ninety-Six Sampler of South Carolina Poetry</i> which includes several of Dr. Thompson's poems.	1996, 1998, 2001, 2007

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1 Bd. Vol.		BOOK Consists of the <i>Ties That Bind</i> published by the Greenville County Museum or Art and Emrys Foundation which includes Dr. Thompson's <i>Poem, Remembering the Neighbors</i> .	2003
2, 3	5, 11	PUBLICATIONS Consists of a few articles and poems written by Dr. Thompson. See Appendix 1 for listing of publications.	1990, 1999-2000
8-9	22-26	POETRY AND WRITINGS Consists of copies of Dr. Thompson's poetry, some with edits and notes. Folder 22 contains a copy of <i>Out of the Rough: Women's Poems of Survival and Celebration</i> which was edited by Dr. Thompson and Folder 26 contains a copy of Dr. Thompson's Doctoral Dissertation, <i>Wheeler Hill and Other Poems</i> . See Appendix 1 for listing of poems and other writings.	1987, 1997, 2001, nd
9	27	ARTWORK Consists of several drawings and illustrations for of <i>Out of the Rough: Women's Poems of Survival and Celebration</i> which was edited by Dr. Thompson.	nd

APPENDIX I  
PUBLICATIONS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
20/20 Vision	9	25
“1017 to Orlando”	8	24
“Advice From Sister”	9	26
“African American History”	8	22
“African Americans and the Rhetoric of Academic Argument in Education”	2	6
<i>African Americans and the Rhetoric of Race-Based Argument</i>	9	26
“African-Americans on Senior Citizens Day, Stands African Hall, County Museum”	9	25
“Africana Womanist Revision in Gloria Naylor’s Mama Day and Bailey’s Café”	2 3	5 11
“Again, The Dance”	8	24
“The Ballard of Real and Carrie”	8 9	23 26
“The Baptism”	9	25
“The Bargain”	8 8	23 24
“The Beachfront Bar”	8	24
“Becoming Felis Leo”	9	26
“Because I Like You, Jincy Vaitkunas”	9	26
“Before Cancer”	8	22
“Benjamin”	9	26
“Best Hands in Town”	8 8	23 24



APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>
“Biker Enters the Bar”	8	23
	8	24
“Black Boy in the Storm”	9	25
“Black Thunder”	8	22
“Blues at 1”	4	12
	8	23
“Boomerangs and U.F.O.’s”	8	24
“Bo-Shang”	8	24
“Bo Shang (a look at the 37 years)”	8	24
“Boy in a Yellow Hat”	8	24
“The Burger Store Owner”	8	23
	8	24
“Calling Home (to Sister)”	8	23
“Charlie, Smart and Different”	9	26
“Chasing Shapes”	8	23
	9	25
“The Cigar Tree”	4	12
“The Color of the Car: A Pledge for 1929”	9	25
“A Conversation with Dorothy Perry Thompson”	4	12
“Counting”	9	26
“Daddy, Saved in Snatches: The Quilting”	3	11
“To Danya, My Daughter”	8	22
	8	24

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
“Decision”	9	26
“Designer”	8	24
“Deviling”	9	26
“Disappointment”	9	26
<i>Dorothy Kemp King</i>	8	24
<i>Ebonics</i>	9	26
“The Face of the New Rebellion (Cuba, 1990’s)”	8	24
“Fever Scan”	9	26
“Finding the Dance”	8	22
	8	24
<i>First Order to Sisters Recently Armed and Promoted</i>	4	12
	8	23
“Flatworking”	9	26
<i>Florida Stories: Making Like Zora</i>	9	25
<i>Following Zora</i>	8	23
	8	24
“For Any Lonely Time”	9	26
“For Dana, the Student Who Never Heard Directions”	9	26
“For Rudy, In Celebration of His Divorce”	9	26
<i>From “It East” to “It IS Easy:” Empowering the African-American Student in the Racially Mixed Classroom</i>	2	5
	5	15
	8	24
“Gargoyles”	9	25

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
“God, After Atheism”	8	22
	8	24
“Half Century Mark”	9	25
“Hanan, Acting and Faithful”	8	22
	8	23
	8	24
“Harold in Asheville”	8	22
	8	24
“Heritage”	9	26
““Hesitate” and “Tremble”: A Song in Two Notes”	8	22
“How Cats Become Swans (become men)”	4	12
	8	23
“How I Come to understand Dickinson’s Circumferences”	8	24
“Houses”	9	26
<i>Hurrying To The Spirit/Kissing Zora</i>	3	11
	8	22
	9	25
“Husband”	8	22
“Husband Talking”	8	24
“If Amy Land’s For Sale In Gbonwea”	8	23
Information Packet Prepared For King Day Celebration Discussion Groups	5	15
“In Lettie’s Eyes”	8	22
	8	24
“In Lety’s Eyes”	8	22
	8	23

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
“In My Fancy Tea Room”	9	26
“In the Absence of Trees”	8	24
“In the Storm”	8 9 9	23 25 26
“Joe Willie Jakes: a True Florida tale From Sixty Miles West of Eatonville“	8 8	23 24
“Kissing Zora”	8 8	23 24
“Laurel Hill, 1950”	8 9	23 25
“Learning the Tricks”	9	26
“Leather, Death, and Crabs”	8 9	23 26
“Les Professeurs”	9	26
“Letter to the Spirit”	8 8	23 24
“Lies”	8 9	23 25
“A lizard ran up the altar (at the Maitland Art Center)”	8	23
“Maggie Wilson’s Party”	8 9	23 26
“Man Takes First Successful Swoon Walk”	9	26
“Maypops”	8	23
“Memories”	9	26

**APPENDIX I**

**PUBLICATIONS (cont.)**

<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>
“The Middle Room”	8	23
	9	26
“Miss Clara’s”	8	23
	8	24
“Miss Jaunita’s Beauty Salon”	9	26
“Movement”	9	26
“Ms. Lorene”	8	22
	8	24
“Ms. Vidalia”	8	23
“My Fancy Tea Room (for Bertha West Nealy)”	8	23
“My Daughter’s Last Hero”	9	26
“Night March”	9	25
“Nommo and Necromancy: Word and Ritual in Toni Morrison’s Paradise”	2	5
“Noonsleeping”	8	24
“Not Knowing, He Sells Chic-o Sticks”	8	22
	8	23
	8	24
“November Sunday”	9	26
“Old Maid Scatology”	8	23
“Old Maid, Instead”	9	25
“Oleander (for Johnnie and Zora)”	8	23
“On Being Married to Johnnie”	8	24

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
“One Year to 50—A Birthday Poem”	4 9	12 25
“On the Piercing of Eggs at 1308 Elliott Way”	9	25
“The Other Side of the Bottle”	8 9	23 26
<i>Out of the Rough: Women’s Poems of Survival and Celebration</i>	8 8	22 25
“Passages: Father’s Porch”	8 8	22 24
“Pig Dennis”	8	23
“Pickens Street”	8	23
“Picture Poem for My Father”	9	25
“Pink, the Bootlegger”	8 9	23 26
“Poem for Baby Brother”	8 8	22 24
“Poem for Patriarchs”	8 8	22 24
“Poem For Rhodie Washington”	9	26
“Poems (and What I Did for Brother Josh)”	9	25
“Poems for Lottie (Grandma Sees)”	9	25
<i>Poems I’ve Got To Tell Somebody Sometime</i>	3 8 8	11 22 23
“The Power”	9	25

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
<i>Priest In Aqua Boa</i>	3	11
	4	12
	8	22
	8	23
	8	24
“Punishment”	8	23
	9	25
<i>The Quiet Man: Henderson Corbitt</i>	3	11
	8	24
“The Rain Couch”	8	24
“Ray Seals” “Big Plays””	8	22
“Red and Royal in Ntozake Shange’s FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF”	8	23
	9	26
“Relationships: In The Potter’s Oven”	9	26
“Remembering the Neighbors”	8	24
“Repetition”	8	23
	9	26
“Rescuing the Failed, Filed Away and Forgotten: African-Americans and Eurocentricity in Academic Argument”	3	11
	5	15
“Reserved for Artists”	8	24
“Robbie’s Spirit at the Purple Cow (a visit, 40 years later)”	8	24
“Rock Me to Thunder”	9	26
“Run Screaming Through My Life”	8	23
“Saturday Morning in Orlando”	8	22
“Shotgunning”	8	23

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
"Sister Lakin and Lally"	8	23
	9	26
"Smooth Drowning"	8	23
"Snuke, and Other Uncles (for Lowman Corbitt)"	8	23
"Spacing"	9	26
"The Sparrowweavers"	8	22
"Sometimes"	9	26
"Something Red"	9	25
"South Lake Sybelia Beach"	8	23
	8	24
"The Spread Man"	8	22
"Storing"	9	25
"Sunday"	9	25
	9	26
"Symbiosis in Mauritania"	8	24
"Tapes"	8	23
	9	25
"Teacake, Again"	8	24
"Teaching Again"	9	25
"Telephone Call"	9	26
"They Left Us Rich"	9	25
"Thunderstruck"	9	26



APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
“To Fly With The Puffin”	9	25
“To Scoot and Susan: For the Glad Difference”	9	26
“Tour”	9	26
“Tourists”	9	25
“Vina”	8	23
	8	24
“Waiting”	8	22
“Waiting (at 52, finally with flowers)”	8	24
“Watching Sister Separate”	8	23
	9	25
<i>Wheeler Hill</i>	8	23
	9	25
	9	26
<i>When I Came to Winthrop College</i>	9	25
“When You Call...”	9	26
“When You Wouldn’t Eat the Pumpernickle”	8	24
<i>Where is the Head?: A Southern Writer Looks at Writing a Decapitated South</i>	2	5
	9	26
“Women Into Night”	8	23
	9	25
	9	26
“The Women’s Movement”	3	11
“Writing in a bare house”	8	22
	8	24

**APPENDIX I**

**PUBLICATIONS (cont.)**

<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>
“Yard Party”	9	25