

1974

0066: Harry Edmund Danford Papers, 1902-1969

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**REGISTER
OF THE
Harry Edmund Danford Papers**

Accession Number: 1974/03.0066



Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
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Huntington, West Virginia
1977

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HARRY EDMUND DANFORD PAPERS, 1902-1969

Accession Number: 66

Processed by: Debra Artrip and Lisle Brown

Register Prepared by: Cora P. Teel

Date Completed: May 1977

Location: Special Collections Department

This collection was the gift of Mr. Harry E. Danford, Jr., and was received in March, 1974.

Linear feet of shelf space: 3 ½

Literary rights: not assigned to Marshall University.

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Explanatory notes:

“Bx” refers to box in which papers are filed.

“Fd” refers to folder.

“SBk” refers to scrapbook.

CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION

The Harry E. Danford papers consist primarily of the original manuscripts of his books *Soakum* (1910), *The West Virginian* (1926), *Trail of the Gray Dragoon* (1928), *Ohio Valley Pioneers* (1931), *Builders of the West* (1959), and *Paths of Glory* (1969). Also included are resource material related to his books and his personal comments and criticism of the books.

Correspondence about the publication of the books, papers concerning his political interests and career as an educator, printed material, and a small number of photographs are also a part of the collection.

HARRY EDMUND DANFORD, 1879-1972

Harry Edmund Danford was born in Noble County, Ohio, on August 31, 1879, the son of John and Margaret Kappel Danford. He was educated in local schools and began teaching at the age of eighteen. He later moved to Caldwell, Ohio, where he taught school and served as manager and editor of the *Republican Journal*, a weekly newspaper. During this period his first novel, *Soakum*, was privately printed.

In 1917 he moved to Huntington, West Virginia, where he served as principal of Ensign School, Simms School, Lincoln School, and Enslow Junior High School. He also operated a retail business store, campaigned unsuccessfully for mayor on the Republican ballot in 1936, and served as chairman of the Cabell County Republican Executive Committee. He was elected president of the Cabell County Board of Education in 1952. Through his efforts, the music departments in Cabell County schools were established and the first local high school band was formed.

He published two school reference books, *Ohio Valley Pioneers* and *Builders of the West*, and three novels: *The West Virginian*, *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon*, and *Paths of Glory*.

In 1921, Mr. Danford married Emma Belle Turney of Huntington; they were the parents of one son, Harry E. Danford, Jr. Mrs. Danford died in 1971; Mr. Danford died soon after on May 5, 1972. He was survived by his son, two grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a brother, H. C. Danford of Dexter City, Ohio.

HARRY EDMUND DANFORD PAPERS, 1902-1969

I. Personal and Professional Papers

Bx 1	Personal Papers, 1902-1953	26 Fd 1 SBk
Fd 1	Letter sent, April 30, 1934 Huntington, WV: requesting Smoot Advertising Company to remove signboards from a lot on which Mr. Danford intends to begin construction.	1 item
Fd 2	Letters received, 1934-1953 Sept. 6, 1949 - New York, NY: letter from A. L. Feirst, literary agent, stating fee for manuscript appraisal and expressing interest in Mr. Danford's manuscript.	10 items
Fd 3	Letters received, undated. Charleston, WV: letter from Roy Bird Cook commenting on his article about the Battle of Scary and inquiring about Mr. Danford's next writing project.	2 items
Fd 4	Academic awards and records, 1913-1918	3 items
Fd 5	Teaching contracts, 1921-1924	3 items
Fd 6	Income tax return, 1928	1 item
Fd 7	Receipts, 1927	6 items
Fd 8	Robert W. Turney papers, 1905-1927	12 items
Fd 9-20	English assignments V-XII, XVII-XXIV; 1925, undated Includes an autobiographical sketch (Fd 13).	1 item per Fd
Fd 21	The Keith concert band, ca. 1916	1 item
Fd 22	Chapters from an unidentified work	4 items

Fd 23	Notations	1 item
Fd 24	Calling Cards	4 items
Fd 25	Scrapbook of letters and newsclippings, 1926	1 item

Includes letters from Morris Shawkey, president of Marshall College; Robert Armstrong of the Department of English at West Virginia University; George M. Ford, state superintendent of schools; and Walter Barnes of the Fairmont State Normal School Department of English.

Fd 26	Photographs, 1902; undated	10 items
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SBk 1

Bx 2 Professional and Personal Papers, 1925-1936 13 Fd

Fd 1	List: Enslow Junior High School 9-A class, 1927	1 item
Fd 2	Assembly programs, 1930-1934	3 items
Fd 3	Assembly programs, undated	2 items
Fd 4	Assembly schedules, 1925-1933	12 items
Fd 5	Assembly schedules, undated	5 items
Fd 6	Principal's term report, 1928	2 items
Fd 7	Principal's term report, 1928-1929	2 items
Fd 8	Enslow Junior High School annual report, 1927-1928; 1933-1934	2 items
Fd 9	Enslow Junior High School financial statement, 1933-1934	2 items
Fd 10	Junior High School course of study	5 items
Fd 11	County and state educational material	8 items
Fd 12	School board election campaign material, 1931	3 items
Fd 13	Mayoral campaign, 1936	3 items

Bx 3 Printed Material, 1911-1934**19 Fd**

Fd 1	Programs, 1917, 1937	2 items
Fd 2	Directory: Huntington public schools, 1921-1927	6 items
Fd 3	Educational publications, 1934; undated	3 items
Fd 4	Brochures and catalogues	6 items
Fd 5	Magazine and magazine articles, 1926-1934	2 items
Fd 6	Brooks, A. B. "Gauley River Camp School for Boys," <i>West Virginia Review</i> , v. 4, n. 3 (December, 1926), p. 82.	
Fd 7	Watt, Edna "'Sunset', a Summer Home in the Mountains," <i>West Virginia Review</i> , v. 4, n. 2 (November, 1926), p. 42	
Fd 8	Broadsides	3 items
Fd 9	Newsclipping: family history, undated	1 item
Fd 10	Newsclipping: Huntington history, 1927	1 item
Fd 11	Newsclipping: Enslow Junior High School art exhibit, 1929	1 item
Fd 12	Newsclipping: political, 1938	7 items
Fd 13	Newsclipping: political, 1940	1 item
Fd 14	Newsclippings: general	3 items
Fd 15	Newsclippings: parks and forests, 1926-1932	5 items
Fd 16	Newsclippings: floods, 1926	1 item
Fd 17	Newsclippings: Civil War	2 items
Fd 18	Miscellaneous newspapers	2 items
Fd 19	Buck, Philo Melvin. <i>Milton's 'L'Allegro il penseroso, Comus and Lycidas'</i> . New York, American Book Company, 1911.	

II. Manuscript Material

Bx 4	<i>Soakum, 1910</i>	2 Fd
Fd 1	Newspaper clippings, undated	3 items
Fd 2	Typescript manuscript	1 item
This box also contains a galley proof and five copper plate etchings.		
Bx 5	<i>The West Virginian, 1926</i>	29 Fd
Fd 1	Letter received, August 17, 1926	1 item
Charleston, WV: Letter from Governor Howard Gore thanking Mr. Danford for sending him a copy of <i>The West Virginian</i> .		
Fd 2	Critiques of <i>The West Virginian</i>	5 items
These are Mr. Danford's own critical remarks regarding his work.		
Fd 3-27 <i>The West Virginian</i> : title page through chapter twenty-five.		
These folders contain the typescript manuscript, with holograph corrections.		
Fd 28	<i>The West Virginian</i> : book cover and advertisement	4 items
Fd 29	<i>The West Virginian</i> : newspaper clippings	7 items
Bx 6	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon, 1928</i>	47 Fd
Fd 1-23	Holograph chapters	
Fd 24	Typescript chapters	2 items
Fd 25-46	Holograph chapters	
Fd 47	Miscellaneous holograph pages	7 items

Bx 7	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon: Related Papers, 1928-1929</i>	7 Fd
Fd 1	Letters received, 1929	3 items
	20 February 1929 - Ironton, Ohio: letter from Daisy Cook of the Ironton Bookstore explaining the disposition of two of the twelve copies of Mr. Danford's book, enclosing a check for the remaining ten copies, and requesting three more copies.	
Fd 2	Letter received, unsigned and undated	1 item
	A typescript note identifies this letter as being written by Thomas J. Arnold, nephew of Stonewall Jackson. Mr. Arnold comments on the review he has read of <i>The Trail of Gray Dragoon</i> .	
Fd 3	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon</i> : critiques	2 items
Fd 4	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon</i> : newspaper clippings	15 items
Fd 5	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon</i> : newspaper clippings	15 items
Fd 6	<i>The Trail of the Gray Dragoon</i> : advertisements	5 items
Fd 7	Photographs	10 items
Bx 8	<i>Ohio Valley Pioneers, 1929-1931</i>	19 Fd
Fd 1	Letters received, 1929-1931	4 items
	20 July 1929 - Charleston, WV: letter from Clifford Myers, the state historian and archivist, informing Mr. Danford about the best sources for information about the life of Daniel Boone.	
Fd 2	Outlines	9 items
Fd 3-16	Holograph chapters	
Fd 17	Bibliography	2 items
Fd 18	Illustrative material	15 items
Fd 19	Newspaper clippings	1 item

Bx 9	<i>Builders of the West, 1946-1959</i>	20 Fd 1 Bk
Fd 1	Letter received, 26 September 1946	1 item
	New York, NY: letter from James A. Michener, associate editor of the Macmillan Company, informing Mr. Danford that the company cannot offer him a publishing contract at this time because of the “difficult paper and manufacturing conditions.”	
Fd 2-17	Holograph chapters	
Fd 18	Bibliography	1 item
Fd 19	Maps	3 items
Fd 20	Research material	10 items
Bk 2	<i>Builders of the West</i> . New York, Vantage Press, 1959.	
Bx 10	<i>Foxfire, 1949</i>	33 Fd
Fd 1	Letter received, 3 August 1949	1 item
	Bright Waters, New York: letter from Myrtle Graffagnino of C. V. Parkinson Associates, Inc., Authors Representation Division, providing Mr. Danford with a detailed critique of his novel.	
Fd 2-33	Typescript chapters	

Bx 11 *Paths of Glory*, 1966-1969

28 Fd 9
1 Bk

Fd 1 Letters received, 1966

4 items

29 August 1966 - New York, NY: letter from Daniel Mead of Mead Company recommending a professional analysis in order to prepare Mr. Danford's manuscript for the professional market.

Fd 2 Letter received, undated

1 item

Fd 3-27 Holograph and typescript chapters

Fd 28 Notations

5 items

Bk 3 *Paths of Glory*. New York, Carlton Press, 1969.