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
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
1977
HARRY EDMUND DANFORD PAPERS, 1902-1969

Accession Number: 66

Processed by: Debra Artrip and Lisle Brown

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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.


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

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.

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.

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.

Fd 4 Academic awards and records, 1913-1918

Fd 5 Teaching contracts, 1921-1924

Fd 6 Income tax return, 1928

Fd 7 Receipts, 1927

Fd 8 Robert W. Turney papers, 1905-1927

Fd 9-20 English assignments V-XII, XVII-XXIV; 1925, undated
Includes an autobiographical sketch (Fd 13).

Fd 21 The Keith concert band, ca. 1916

Fd 22 Chapters from an unidentified work

26 Fd
1 SBk
| Fd 23  | Notations                     | 1 item |
| Fd 24  | Calling Cards                 | 4 items |
| Fd 25  | Scrapbook of letters and newscuttings, 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 |

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

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,” West Virginia Review, v. 4, n. 3 (December, 1926), p. 82.


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

## II. Manuscript Material

### Bx 4  *Soakum, 1910*  

**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  *The West Virginian, 1926*  

**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 *The West Virginian*.

**Fd 2**  Critiques of *The West Virginian*  
5 items

These are Mr. Danford’s own critical remarks regarding his work.

**Fd 3-27**  *The West Virginian*: title page through chapter twenty-five.

These folders contain the typescript manuscript, with holograph corrections.

**Fd 28**  *The West Virginian*: book cover and advertisement  
4 items

**Fd 29**  *The West Virginian*: newspaper clippings  
7 items

### Bx 6  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon, 1928*  

**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  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon: Related Papers, 1928-1929*  
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 *The Trail of Gray Dragoon*.

**Fd 3**  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon*: critiques  
2 items

**Fd 4**  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon*: newspaper clippings  
15 items

**Fd 5**  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon*: newspaper clippings  
15 items

**Fd 6**  *The Trail of the Gray Dragoon*: advertisements  
5 items

**Fd 7**  Photographs  
10 items

### Bx 8  *Ohio Valley Pioneers, 1929-1931*  
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
Fd 1  Letter received, 26 September 1946

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

Fd 19  Maps

Fd 20  Research material


Bx 10 *Foxfire, 1949*  

Fd 1  Letter received, 3 August 1949

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*  

Fd 1  Letters received, 1966  

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

Fd 3-27  Holograph and typescript chapters

Fd 28  Notations