0467: Berlin Basil Chapman Papers, 1942-1980

Marshall University Special Collections

Follow this and additional works at: https://mds.marshall.edu/sc_finding_aids

Part of the Genealogy Commons, and the Public History Commons
Berlin Basil Chapman Papers, 1942-1991

Summary:

Title: Berlin Basil Chapman Papers
Span Dates: 1942-1991
Creator: Berlin Basil Chapman
Repository: Marshall University Special Collections, Morrow Library (Huntington, WV)
Processed by: Elizabeth James, 2019
Accession Number: 1987/11.0467
This collection also includes 1988/09.486
Date Completed: October, 2019
Access to Collection: Open
Extent: 1 foot
Donor: Berlin Basil Chapman

Search Terms:

Oklahoma history
Oklahoma A&M history
West Virginia history
Webster Springs history

Biographical Notes:

"The son of George W. and Alice Anderson Chapman, Berlin Basil Chapman entered the world near Webster Springs, West Virginia, on July 23, 1900. After attending and teaching in public schools in Marion County, West Virginia, he received a bachelor's degree from the University of West Virginia in 1924 and a master's degree in history from Harvard University in 1927. From 1927 to 1930 he served on the history faculty at Oklahoma A&M College (now Oklahoma State University, OSU) and then attended the University of Wisconsin, earning a doctorate in history in 1931. His dissertation, titled "Federal Management of Lands of Oklahoma Territory, 1865–1907," a seminal study, was published in 1979.

In the 1930s he taught economics at State Teachers' College, Fairmont, West Virginia, but he returned to OSU in 1941 and remained there through 1966. After retiring from OSU, he taught briefly at Florida State University. Chapman's lengthy publishing career extended through the early 1990s and included sixteen books and more than sixty articles. As he once wrote, "Oklahoma is a historian's paradise." His Oklahoma studies, published under the name B. B. Chapman, centered on Indian land allotment and reservations, the 1889, 1892, and 1893 land runs, and the development of Oklahoma City, Stillwater, Guthrie, and other territorial towns. Titles include The Founding of Stillwater (1948), Oklahoma City: From Public Land to Private Property (1960), The Otoes and Missourias: A Study of Indian Removal and the Legal Aftermath (1965), and Oklahoma State University, Pioneers on the Prairie (1992).

Chapman served on the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors from 1951 to 1966. A Mason and a Baptist, he was a member of the American Historical Association, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Society of American Historians. He was inducted into the


Scope and Content:

This collection primarily consists of publications by or contributed to by Berlin Basil Chapman. These publications relate to his interests in West Virginia and Oklahoma history, as well as Chapman genealogy. Also included are photographs of Webster Springs High School Alumni and newscloppings about various speeches given by Chapman. Notable in the collection is a microfilm copy of a manuscript titled “Teaching Soldiers American History Under Direction of the War Department, 1943-1944” Secret Papers Revealed, 1978.

Processing Notes:

This collection was already processed at the time the finding aid was created. No changes in folder content or name were made.

Preferred Citation:

Berlin Basil Chapman Papers, Accession No. 1987/11.0467, Special Collections Department, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.

Access and Use:

For more information or to use any collection, contact:
Special Collections, Morrow Library
Marshall University
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755
(304) 696-2343
speccoll@marshall.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Microfilm 55-Year Echo of a Ph.D degree in History, Conferred on Berlin Basil Chapman by the University of Wisconsin (1931-1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfilm</td>
<td>“Teaching Soldiers American History Under Direction of the War Department, 1943-1944” Secret Papers Revealed, 1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfilm</td>
<td>“Teaching Soldiers American History Under Direction of the War Department, 1943-1944” Secret Papers Revealed, 1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfilm</td>
<td>Factors in the Ruin of Antiquity: A Criticism of Ancient Civilization by</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
James Paton Isaac

Volume Adventures in Education by Charles Evans, LL.D

Volume Adventures in Education by Charles Evans, LL.D

Volume Old Central in the Crisis of 1955: A Chapter in the History of Oklahoma State University, edited by Berlin Basil Chapman, Ph.D.

Volume Oklahoma City, From Public Land to Private Property by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume Oklahoma City, From Public Land to Private Property by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume The Sigma Literary Society, 1893-1897: A Chapter in the History of the Oklahoma A. and M. College by Willa Adams Dusch

Volume Dr. Henry G. Bennett As I Knew Him, by Berlin B. Chapman

Stapled Papers One Family in the Twentieth Century: The Chapmans of Webster County, West Virginia: A Case Study by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume Four Principles that Portray the Pattern of All History, Applied to the War Against the States, 1861-1865 by Berlin B. Chapman

Volume West Virginia and Regional History Collection, Class Pin of Webster Springs High School, placed by Berlin B. Chapman

Volume What They Did Here by Berlin B. Chapman (about the Civil War)

Volume Inside the Jury Room, A Study of Justice in Orange County, Florida by Berlin B. Chapman

Volume Benjamin Franklin, A Bicentennial Look at his Two Countries by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume Benjamin Franklin, A Bicentennial Look at his Two Countries by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume Grafton High School: A Memoir by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume West Virginia University: A Memoir by Berlin Basil Chapman

Volume West Virginia University: A Memoir by Berlin Basil Chapman

Folder Webster High School Alumni (photographs and letter)

Folder (Originally Accession 0486) Berlin Chapman Clippings

Box 2

Microfilm Microfilm reads: “B.B. Chapman, Education in West Virginia, A high school, West Virginia University, Fairmont State College, Log-Cabin Scrapbook, A Teacher’s Tale, Glenville State College” (commas are the transcriber’s best guess at content on the microfilm)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microfilm</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert H. Ferguson, History of Mason County, West Virginia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Room Schools of Mannington District, Coal Lick, Marion County [WV], 1920-1922</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Family in the Twentieth Century: A Case Study by B. B. Chapman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Family in the Twentieth Century: A Case Study by B. B. Chapman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>