Register

of the

Eli Camden Henderson Papers

Manuscript Collection (Ms 141)

Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
1997
This collection was the gift of Dr. Sam Clagg and was received on various dates from 1984 until 1989.

Linear feet of shelf space: 9

Literary rights: Not assigned to Marshall University
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Explanatory Note:
"Bx" refers to the box in which papers are filed.
"Fd" refers to folder.
CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION

The Cam Henderson papers consist primarily of papers related to his career as a football and basketball coach at Muskingum, Davis and Elkins and Marshall Colleges. A significant part of the collection relates to his wife Roxie Bell Henderson and includes many personal and family items as well as material related to her career as a public school teacher. Included also is material gathered by Dr. Sam Clagg for his biography of Henderson and afterward.

Printed materials comprise most of the collection: yearbooks, newspaper clippings, textbooks, and books related to coaching basketball and football. The bulk of the correspondence is that of Roxie Bell Henderson. There are also numerous photographs of the Bell and Henderson families.

The collection was the gift to Dr. Clagg from Henderson’s daughter, Camille Henderson Waldeck., and was originally organized by Dr. Clagg in preparation for writing The Cam Henderson Story: His Life and Times (Parsons, W. Va.: McClain Printing Company, 1981).
ELI CAMDEN HENDERSON, 1890 - 1956

Eli Camden 'Cam' Henderson was born in Joetown, Marion County, West Virginia on February 5, 1890, the son of John and Kate Strosnider Henderson. He attended public schools in Marion County, West Virginia Wesleyan College Academy, Waynesburg College (Pennsylvania), and graduated from Glenville State Normal School (West Virginia) in 1911. In 1912, he married Susan Roxie Bell of Glenville and the young couple began teaching in Harrison County, West Virginia schools. In 1916, the Hendersons enrolled at Salem College, where Cam graduated in 1917. Roxie Henderson continued a career as a public school teacher. Their only child, daughter Camille, was born in 1928.

After coaching positions at Shinnston High School, Muskingum College and Davis and Elkins College, Henderson became athletic director and head basketball, football and baseball coach at Marshall College, now Marshall University, in 1935 and remained at Marshall until his retirement in 1955. He eventually relinquished responsibilities for the athletic department and football and baseball coaching to concentrate on basketball. The overall success of Henderson-coached teams is unparalleled in school history; he is the only coach to win two championships in two different sports: the Buckeye Conference football championship in 1937, and the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball (NAIB) tournament in 1947.

Shortly after his retirement in 1955, Henderson succumbed to heart disease complicated by diabetes.

Henderson is credited with inventing the zone defense, which was a key element in Marshall basketball strategy for years after his retirement. He received recognition for his achievements in coaching through selection as Coach of the Year by the West Virginia Sportswriters Association (1947) and his election to the NAIB Hall of Fame (1952), West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame (1955), and the College Basketball Hall of Fame (1974).

In 1981, Henderson was recognized on the Marshall University campus with the dedication of the Henderson Center, a multipurpose athletic facility and home court of the Marshall University basketball team.¹

SERIES I. Cam Henderson Papers

Bx 1 Cam Henderson

Fd 1 Letters sent, 1935; undated 2 items
Fd 2 Letters to Cam Henderson and others, 1913-1939 3 items
Fd 3 Letters received, 1922-1970 34 items
Fd 4 Farley Bell papers, 1925-1951 24 items
Fd 5 Farley Bell papers, 1913-1945 49 items
Fd 6 Waldeck papers, 1918-1966 10 items
Fd 7 Camille Henderson papers, 1935-1981 34 items
Fd 8 Camille Henderson papers, 1956-1979 33 items
Fd 9 Kate Carrico Dakon papers, 1977-1981 9 items
Fd 10 Bessie Bell newspaper clippings, 1937-1949 5 items
Fd 11 James E. Allen family newspaper clippings, 1955-1956 2 items
Fd 12 Cam's estate, 1956 6 items
Fd 13 Finances and taxes, 1933-1955 9 items
Fd 14 New house (Fifth Avenue), 1938-[1981] 29 items
Fd 15 Cam accepting Marshall job, 1935 39 items
Fd 16 Miscellaneous programs, clippings, etc., 1948-1967 11 items
Fd 17 Marshall contracts, 1945-1949 5 items
Fd 18 Big Green Club, 1947-1952 79 items
Fd 19 Big Green Club, 1952-1959 71 items
Fd 20 Newspaper clipping, 1936 1 item
Fd 21 Henderson Day, June 12, 1954 33 items
Fd 22 Appreciation document, May 13, 1955 1 item
Fd 23 Newspaper clippings, programs, 1937-1979 23 items
Fd 24 Graduation from Salem, 1917 1 item
Fd 25 Muskingum College, 1910-1975 27 items
Fd 26 Muskingum College bulletin, 1933 4 items
Fd 27 Glenville College newspaper clippings, 1953-1978 3 items
Fd 28 Bristol days, 1910-1981 48 items
Fd 29 Charleston auto affair, 1949-1953 10 items
Fd 30 Auto insurance, 1955 3 items
Fd 31 Medical papers, 1954-1956 22 items
Fd 32 Cam Henderson obituaries, 1956 55 items
Fd 33 Indian controversy, 1949-1956 22 items
Fd 34 Membership cards; other ephemera 10 items
SERIES II. Roxie Bell Henderson Papers

Bx 2  Roxie Bell Henderson

Fd 1  Letters received, 1949-1956  9 items
Fd 2  Letters received, 1964-1969  31 items
Fd 3  Letters received, 1971  13 items
Fd 4  Letters received, 1972  4 items
Fd 5  Letters received, 1973  36 items
Fd 6  Enclosures in letters, 1973  10 items
Fd 7  Letter received, 1974  1 item
Fd 8  Invitations, announcements, etc., 1935-1973; undated  9 items
Fd 9  Bank statements, 1956-1973  35 items
Fd 10 Deposit slips, 1961-1962  7 items
Fd 11 Check stubs, 1956-1957  10 items
Fd 12 Check stubs, 1958-1959  13 items
Fd 13 Check stubs, 1960-1962  11 items
Fd 14 Check stubs, 1964-1969  6 items
Fd 15 Financial, 1934-1973  14 items
Fd 16 Lists  3 items
Fd 17 Ledgers, 1928-1940  14 items
Fd 18 Diaries, notes, 1971-1975  4 items
Fd 19 Diploma, Muskingum College, 1922  1 item
Fd 20 Photographs, 1972: Roxie and Camille Henderson  2 items
Fd 21 Sheet music  9 items
Fd 22 Printed material  22 items
Fd 23 Newspaper clippings  3 items
Fd 24 Newspaper clippings  12 items
Fd 25 Newspaper clippings  7 items
Fd 26 Newspaper clippings  4 items

Note: additional Roxie Bell Henderson materials at end of finding aid.

Bx 3  Cam Henderson Illness and Death

Fd 1  Diary of Cam’s illness, 1956  1 item
Fd 2  Receipts, 1955-1956  24 items
Fd 3  Committee for Henderson legal papers, 1956  3 items
Fds 4-9 Get well and sympathy cards, 1956  109 items (total)
Fds 10-11 Funeral floral enclosures, 1956  65 items (total)
Fd 12 Committee for Henderson bank records, 1955-56  44 items
Fd 13 Bank records, June 1955-July 1956  12 items
Fd 14 Funeral register and cards  6 items
SERIES III. Athletic Materials

**Bx 4  Basketball**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fd</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1946-1952; undated</td>
<td>5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Buckeye Championship keepsake order, 1938</td>
<td>6 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1944</td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1945</td>
<td>5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>NAIB publicity, 1947</td>
<td>16 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, Kansas City, 1947</td>
<td>3 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1947-1973</td>
<td>19 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1950-1951</td>
<td>2 items</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1952</td>
<td>9 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1953</td>
<td>6 items</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1954</td>
<td>16 items</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1955</td>
<td>18 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1956</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Basketball programs, 1945-1955</td>
<td>9 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Davis and Elkins College basketball: printed items</td>
<td>9 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><em>Indiana Basketball</em> / by Everett Dean (1932)</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Paul 'Tony' Hinkle's Offense (1936)</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td><em>Basketball by Henderson</em></td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Notations, programs and other miscellany</td>
<td>15 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Basketball notes</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td><em>Basketball Hints</em> (1936); Official playing rules, 1937-38</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Basketball Score Book, Marshall College, 1941-1942</td>
<td>1 item</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Play diagrams; typescript</td>
<td>7 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Poster, undated</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bx 5  Football**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fd</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Football rules, fundamentals</td>
<td>3 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Coaching clinics; play diagrams</td>
<td>45 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Davis &amp; Elkins Athletic Association football operating statement, 1934</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Programs; Davis &amp; Elkins reunions; other articles</td>
<td>23 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scouting report form (player)</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Scouting report, Xavier, 1940</td>
<td>6 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Scouting reports, Miami, 1935, 1936, 1939</td>
<td>18 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Scouting report, Scranton, 1940</td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Scouting report, V.P.I, 1940</td>
<td>3 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Fds 24 and 25 are not included in the count.*
Fd 10 Scouting report, Western Kentucky, 1941 2 items
Fd 11 Scouting report, Dayton, 1939 7 items
Fd 12 *Football Notes* by Fielding Yost (1929) 2 items
Fd 13 Mimeographed and typescript notations 2 items
Fd 14 "Football by Cam;" other notations 10 items
Fd 15 *Principals of Football* by John Heisman (1921) 1 item
Fd 16 Drills 1 item
Fd 17 *Modern Foot-ball for Players and Coaches* by M. B. Banks (1919) 1 item
Fd 18 Play diagrams and fundamentals; Ohio Wesleyan roster; equipment measurements for Marshall players, ca. 1939 30 items
Fd 19 Cam’s coaching school; AFCA brochures; schedules and previews 9 items
Fd 20 Quiz and play diagrams 3 items
Fd 21 Scouting report, Toledo, 1939 8 items
Fd 22 Scouting report, Wake Forest, 1940 3 items
Fd 23 Scouting reports, Morris Harvey, 1939; 1940 4 items
Fd 24 Play diagrams 86 items
Fd 25 Newspaper clippings, Davis & Elkins College 21 items
Fd 26 Newspaper clippings, Buckeye Conference 13 items
Fd 27 Reunion, 1939-1941 Marshall College football team roster 19 items
Fd 28 Newspaper clippings, Cam Henderson, 1935; 1942 2 items
Fd 29 Newspaper clippings, football 1935 1 item
Fd 30 Newspaper clippings, football 1937 7 items
Fd 31 Newspaper clippings, football 1939 1 item
Fd 32 Newspaper clippings, football 1940 2 items
Fd 33 Newspaper clippings, football 1941 15 items
Fd 34 Newspaper clippings, Milton High School football; others 10 items
Fd 35 Holograph music score, ‘Standin’ in the need o’cheer’ 1 item

Bx 6 Other Sports; Additional Materials 21 Folders

Fd 1 Davis and Elkins College bonds, 1943 6 items
Fd 2 Memorandum books, football tactics, etc. 3 items
Fd 3 Farley Bell notebooks, Cam’s coaching school; other subjects 8 items
Fd 4 Memorandum book, speeches, scouting notes, etc. 1 item
Fd 5 Baseball notebooks 3 items
Fd 6 Baseball publications 3 items
Fd 7 *How to Box* by Jack Dempsey (1936) 1 item
Fd 8 Track and field instruction 2 items
Fd 9 ‘Modern trends in physical education,’ typescript, undated 1 item
Fd 10 Davis and Elkins College ephemera, 1925-1956; undated 6 items
SERIES IV. Other Personal and Printed Materials

Bx 7 Photographs 39 Fds; 2 albums

| Fd 1 | Early Cam Henderson | 22 items |
| Fd 2 | Early Cam Henderson | 20 items |
| Fd 3 | Cam Henderson, alone | 36 items |
| Fd 4 | Henderson with teams | 35 items |
| Fd 5 | Henderson with others (not team photos) | 13 items |
| Fd 6 | Henderson at public events | 9 items |
| Fd 7 | Henderson players and coaches (individual shots) | 29 items |
| Fd 8 | Henderson players and coaches (individual shots) | 20 items |
| Fd 9 | Henderson players and coaches (groups) | 11 items |
| Fd 10 | Henderson players, unidentified | 9 items |
| Fd 11 | Baseball teams and players | 9 items |
| Fd 12 | Basketball team photographs | 8 items |
| Fd 13 | NAIB championship team, 1947 | 15 items |
| Fd 14 | Football team and player photographs | 25 items |
| Fd 15 | Football action shots | 17 items |
| Fd 16 | Track team | 1 item |
| Fd 17 | Henderson family | 17 items |
| Fd 18 | Roxie Bell Henderson | 14 items |
| Fd 19 | Camille Henderson baby book | 1 item |
| Fd 20 | Camille Henderson wedding photographs | 29 items |
| Fd 21 | Camille Henderson photo album | 1 item |
| Fd 22 | Loose photographs from Camille Henderson album | 54 items |
| Fd 23 | Henderson home, Fifth Avenue, Huntington, W. Va. | 2 items |
Bx 7, continued

Fd 24 Bell family 31 items
Fd 25 Farley Bell 55 items
Fd 26 Farley Bell, teams and other groups 14 items
Fd 27 Bristol High School 34 items
Fd 28 Davis and Elkins coaching school 1 item
Fd 29 Homecoming, Marshall and Ohio University, 194_ 9 items
Fd 30 Memorial Field House; plaque 3 items
Fd 31 Muskingum College 2 items
Fd 32 Western trip 24 items
Fd 33 Photo album pages 7 items
Fd 34 Loose photographs from album 17 items
Fd 35 Identified people and places 57 items
Fd 36 Unidentified photographs 78 items
Fd 37 Unidentified photographs 61 items
Fd 38 Unidentified photographs 49 items
Fd 39 Unidentified tintypes 3 items
2 Albums

Bx 8 Yearbooks and Artifacts 5 Fds; 13 books

Davis and Elkins College Senator, 1925
Glennieville State Normal College Kanawhachen, 1911
Muskingum College Muscoljuan, 1922-1924
Salem College Fensterscheibe, 1917
Shinnston High School Courier, 1913.
Wellsburg High School Hottentot, 1925
Weston High School Collicola, 1926, 1927

Fd 1 Tobacco pouch 4 items
Fd 2 Athletic monogram, "D-E" 2 items
Fd 3 Engraver's blocks
Fd 4 Reel-to-reel tapes

Bx 9 Books 19 items

Bible. [Presentation copy, 1911].
Bible (Philadelphia, n.d.).
Bilik, S. E. *Athletic Training* (Champaign, Ill., 1917).
The *Blue Book of College Athletics* (Cleveland, Ohio, 1942).
Gullion, Blair. *100 Drills for Teaching Basketball Fundamentals* (Knoxville, Tenn., 1933, 1937).
Peterman, Mark A. *Secrets of Winning Basketball* (Springfield, Ill., 1935).
*The Revolt of Ralph Day* (Hartford, Conn., 1940).
Shakespeare, William. *As You Like It* (New York, 1910).

[Stephens, Alexander H. *The War Between the States*. n.p., n.d. Title pg. missing]


*Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, vol. 12, 1945-46.


**Bx 10  Other Printed Material**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fd</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fd 1</td>
<td>Booklets and pamphlets about World War II</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 2</td>
<td>Magazine and newspaper articles about World War II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 3</td>
<td>Books about World War II; Maine waterfowl book</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 4</td>
<td>Books about World War II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 5</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, pamphlets about Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 6</td>
<td>Magazine article about Dwight D. Eisenhower</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 7</td>
<td>Booklet, <em>American Diplomacy</em> by Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner* (1940)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SERIES V. Sam Clagg Material**

**Bx 11  Material Related to Henderson Biography**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fd</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fd 1</td>
<td>Clagg letters, 1970-1981</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 2</td>
<td>Letters received, 1979-1982</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fd 3</td>
<td>Letters from Henderson prospects, n.d.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bx 11, continued

Fd 4  Letters to Henderson, 1955-1956  7 items
Fd 5  Letters to Henderson on his retirement, 1955  18 items
Fd 6  Letters to Henderson from administrators, 1936-1938  3 items
Fd 7  Copyright information on Henderson biography, 1982  3 items
Fd 8  Maps for biography, undated  7 items
Fd 9  Newspaper clippings and articles about the Henderson Center, 1977-1979  15 items
Fd 10 Henderson Center dedication printed material  9 items
Fd 11 Newspaper clippings about the opening of the Henderson Center, 1979  19 items
Fd 12 Henderson Center opening, 1981  5 items
Fd 13 Henderson Center dedication program, including Clagg remarks, 1937-1981  14 items
Fd 14 Henderson Center clock design  2 items
Fd 15 Cartoons of Cam Henderson, 1938  2 items
Fd 16 Biographical material on Henderson (secondary sources)  13 items
Fd 17 Clagg notes, note cards for book  3 items
Fd 18 Clagg notes for book  14 items
Fd 19 Book promotion materials  8 items
Fd 20 Clagg notes  9 items
Fd 21 Book content items; letters about book, 1981-1982  18 items
Fd 22 Book reviews, 1981-1982  16 items
Fd 23 Book promotion materials  2 items
Fd 24 Maps  3 items
Fd 25 Photocopies of Kessler articles on Henderson  3 items
Fd 26 Travelhost (May 29, 1983) [contains map by Clagg]  1 item
Fd 27 Newspaper clippings, 1915-1980  4 items
Fd 28 Photographs for Henderson biography  21 items

Bx 12 Research Materials for Henderson Biography

Fd 1  "Plaque" [1922-1981]  20 Fds
Fd 2  "Player Tributes" [1951-1971]  7 items
Fd 3  "Plug In Material" [1954; undated]  6 items
Fd 4  "Presidential Letters" [1935-1952]  56 items
Fd 5  "Prospects" [1934-1954]  31 items
Fd 6  "Randolph, Jennings" [1935-1979]  5 items
Fd 7  "Records – BB & FB" [1923-1954]  4 items
Fd 8  "Resignation – End" [1955]  43 items
Bx 12, continued

Fd 9  "Resignation -- Football 8 Nov 1949"  18 items
(includes letter [1981] from Pete Pederson, who succeeded Henderson as football coach in 1949)
Fd 10 "Ripley Material" [1933-1981]  9 items
Fd 11 "Rosters" [1935]  1 item
Fd 12 "Stubby Currence" [1935, 1948]  2 items
Fd 13 "Telegrams" [1938-1956]  69 items
Fd 14 "Thesis"  [Robert Crabtree, 1975]  2 items
Fd 15 "Warner, Pop" [1955]  1 item
Fd 16 "Waynesburg -- Pics" [undated]  3 items
Fd 17 [West Virginia Centennial Commission]  4 items
Fd 18 "West Virginia University" [1924-195_]  9 items
Fd 19 "Point of Attack Football Check-off System"  1 item
Fd 20 "Zone Defense & Fast Break" [1955-1987]  18 items
Box 13, Oversize Materials

Severely water damaged rolled paper, possibly a diploma. Unable to unroll.
Framed letter from Edward Martin regarding the Cam Henderson Dinner
Bristol High School and college scrapbook (all photographs), 1910s
Marshall College and personal scrapbook (all photographs), 1940s
Rolled panoramic photo of Davis & Elkins Football Squad in Washington, D. C. in 1932

Box 14, Oversize Materials

Book of clippings regarding Bristol High School sports, 1910s
Photo of unidentified older woman
Marshall Basketball team photo, undated
Marshall College NAIB 1947 Champions Illustration by Irving Dugan
Bristol High School Basketball Photo, 1915
Bristol High School Basketball Photo, 1916
Bristol High School Champion Basketball Photo, 1916
Photo of soldiers or scouts, “Elo Henderson” on back
Scrapbook of clippings (bulk), telegrams, and letters from the 1940s and early 1950s, including wedding photo of Henderson
Scrapbook titled “Cam Henderson, 1890-1935, Before Marshall College: D + E, Salem, Waynesburg, Pa., Bristol”, extensive photographs and clippings (bulk)
Copy of March 19, 1947 Parthenon about NAIB championship win

Additional materials found in Box 2, belonging to Series II: Roxie Bell Henderson Papers, and added to Box 2:

Folder 27 Lora Bower
Folder 28 Floyd W. Bell, 1879-1915 (love letters?)
Folder 29 Envelopes
Folder 30 Misc. letter fragments (including by Floyd Bell), journal entry, and clipping
Folder 31 Receipts
Folder 32 Letters, mostly illegible

Oversize:

4 foot by 6 foot illustration of Cam Henderson