

Dorothy Elderdice (1892-1979) Papers

REQUEST AS

Title: Dorothy Elderdice (1892-1979) Papers

Collection Number: MS2009.4

Repository: McDaniel College Archives, Hoover Library, McDaniel College

Creator: Dorothy Elderdice (1892-1979)

Dates: 1903-1997, bulk 1903-1930 & 1948-1979

PROCESSING INFORMATION

Initially processed: July 2009, by Victoria A. Childs; Barbara O'Brien, Former Archivist

Re-processed: April 2016, by Jessica Anderson, Intern; Andrea Briggs, Archivist

Quantity: 9 document cases, 1 artifact box (4.5 linear ft.)

ACQUISITION INFORMATION

Accession Number: 2009.4

Provenance: Dorothy Elderdice gave the monograph of her father's life to Hoover Library at McDaniel College on February 15, 1973. A second copy of the monograph of her father's life came to the Archives with her papers, which were given to Hoover Library with the permission of Dorothy Elderdice's family on August 19, 1981. Her medals were given to College Archivist Samuel B. Schofield for the museum room and special display for the College's 100th anniversary in 1967.

TERMS OF USE

Access: 1 folder of restricted materials; see Archivist for use. This folder is restricted according to the Archives Access Policy regarding materials originating from the President's Office. All other materials are unrestricted.

Preferred Citation: Dorothy Elderdice (1892-1979) Papers, MS2009.4, McDaniel College Archives.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dorothy Elderdice was born in Westminster, Maryland, on April 6, 1892, to Annabel (née Smith) and Dr. Hugh Latimer Elderdice. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Western Maryland College in 1911, and went on to Emerson College of Oratory in Boston from 1912 to 1913. She then studied at the University of Tennessee in 1914 before returning to Boston to study at the Leland Powers School in 1917. In the spring of 1919, she attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. In 1920, she enrolled as an Inter-Theater Arts student in New York City and spent the summer of 1922 with the Outdoor Players in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

Dorothy took many jobs teaching speech, drama, and French, and doing public orations while she wrote pageants. She taught French at the Idaho Technical Institute in Pocatello, Idaho from 1922 to 1923, then was the drama director at the Church of All Nations (COAN) in New York City from 1923 to 1924. After her position with the COAN ended, she moved to West Virginia for work, then to West Palm Beach, Florida to direct community theatre from 1925 to 1927. Between jobs, Dorothy often came home to Westminster to write pageants and work at the Westminster Theological Seminary, where her father was president.

Dorothy finally settled in Westminster, Maryland in 1927, taking a permanent job at the Westminster Theological Seminary to teach religious drama and speech. She also worked at Western Maryland College teaching drama during the summer. Since money was a problem for Dorothy, she lived with her parents during her time in Westminster. After her parents died, she remained in their home, where she started her own costuming business. Dorothy died of cancer on October 1, 1979.

Dorothy's most well-known works were written while she was in Westminster. *The Sheathing of the Sword*, a pageant exhorting peace among all nations, was written and performed for the dedication of Hoffa Field at Western Maryland College in 1922. *The Carroll County Caravan* was written in 1936 for the Centennial Anniversary of Carroll County, Maryland. She wrote and produced *We Have Spoken for World Without War*, presented in 1965 at The Hague in the Netherlands for the 50th anniversary of the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom. In 1966, Dorothy wrote *Vietnam Calling*, a dialogue between the United States and Vietnam over differing views on the Vietnam War.

References:

Dorothy Elderdice (1892-1979) Papers, MS2009.4, McDaniel College Archives.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection consists of materials produced and collected by Dorothy Elderdice. Materials include diaries, plays, awards, and photographs of Dorothy's family, friends, and college professors, along with three monographs that she wrote on her father and her time at Western Maryland College. Dorothy's diaries are sporadic in the beginning, and focus on her friendships and family relationships. After 1948, her diaries feature social issues including the Civil Rights Movement and her political opinions. Her last entries are about her dealing with her cancer.

Most of the papers and diaries came to the College Archives shortly after Dorothy passed away. Dorothy wrote diaries when she was in Florida and in Idaho; however, these diaries were not received with her papers. There are a number of years for which no diaries have been located (1931-1947). Condolence letters sent to Lillian Shipley in 1979 were sent to the Archives at a later date. There was also a file from former College President Ralph John's office placed with her papers, and is restricted according to the Archives Access Policy regarding materials originating from the President's Office.

ORGANIZATION AND ARRANGEMENT

Diaries have been placed in folders arranged chronologically. Some diaries have been removed from their binding for preservation purposes and have been placed in folders chronologically by page number. Dorothy's monographs are kept in Box 7. There are two copies of "Hugh Latimer Elderdice: President of Westminster Theological Seminary, 1897-1932," as one copy was willed to the Carroll County Historical Society, and they returned it to the College. Box 8 contains Dorothy's pageants arranged in chronological order by the year they were written, with the exception of *Vietnam Calling* being dated incorrectly in the original order. Series 10: Awards and Medals was removed from Box 9 and put into its own box, Box 10, for preservation purposes. Series 6: Photographs (F87-F89) has been removed from Box 8 and placed in cold storage for preservation purposes.

LANGUAGE OF MATERIALS

English.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1: Series 1: Diaries 1903-1928

Box 2: Series 1: Diaries 1925-1930, 1948-1949

Box 3: Series 1: Diaries 1950-1959

Box 4: Series 1: Diaries 1960-1967

Box 5: Series 1: Diaries 1968-1973

Box 6: Series 1: Diaries 1974-1979

Box 7: Series 2: Monographs

Box 8:

Series 3: Pageants & Writings

Series 4: Papers including Correspondence

Series 6: Photographs (*see Organization and Arrangement*)

Box 9:

Series 5: Family Papers

Series 7: Estate & Memorials

Series 8: American Association of University Women

Series 9: Lillian Shipley

Box 10:

Series 10: Awards and Medals

INVENTORY

Box 1: Series 1: Diaries 1903-1928

F1: Diary 1 (1903-1928)

F2: "My Commencement," (1907)

F3: Diary 2 – Bindings (1915-1920)

F4: Diary 2 – Memorabilia (1915-1920)

F5: Diary 2 – "My Recitals from May 11, 1915"

F6: Diary 2 – The Columbus Trip (u.d.)

F7: Diary 2 – pg. 16-21 (1915-1920)

F8: Diary 2 – pg. 22-27 (1915-1920)

F9: Diary 2 – pg. 28-35 (1915-1920)

F10: Diary 2 – Letter to Rev. Edgar T. Read from Leland T. Powers (1917)

F11: Correspondents and Letters (1917, u.d.)

F12: Diary 3 (1924)

F13: Diary 3 – Letter to "Girls" (1924)

F14: Diary 4 – Bindings (1924-1925)

F15: Diary 4 – pg. 1-14 (1924-1925)

F16: Diary 4 – pg. 15-26 (1924-1925)

F17: Diary 4 – pg. 27-33 (1924-1925)

F18: Diary 4 – pg. 34-47 (1924-1925)

F19: Diary 4 – pg. 48-54 (1924-1925)

F20: Diary 4 – pg. 55-66 (1924-1925)

Box 2: Series 1: Diaries 1925-1930, 1948-1949

- F21:** Diary 5 – Bindings (1925-1930)
- F22:** Diary 5 – pg. 1-10 (1925-1930)
- F23:** Diary 5 – pg. 11-22 (1925-1930)
- F24:** Diary 5 – pg. 23-33 (1925-1930)
- F25:** Diary 5 – pg. 34-41 (1925-1930)
- F26:** Diary 5 – pg. 42-52 (1925-1930)
- F27:** Diary 5 – pg. 53-59 (1925-1930)
- F28:** Diary 5 – pg. 60-75 (1925-1930)
- F29:** Diary 5 – Letter from Charles E. Road (1978)
- F30:** Diary 6 – “Travel Diary” (1930)
- F31:** Diary 6 – Miscellaneous Items (1930)
- F32:** Diary 7 (1929-1930)
- F33:** Diary 8 (1948)
- F34:** Diary 9 (1949)

Box 3: Series 1: Diaries 1950-1959

- F35:** Diary 10 (1950)
- F36:** Diary 11 (1951)
- F37:** Diary 12 (1952)
- F38:** Diary 13 (1953)
- F39:** Diary 14 (1954)
- F40:** Diary 15 (1955)
- F41:** Diary 16 (1956)
- F42:** Diary 17 (1957)
- F43:** Diary 18 (1958)
- F44:** Diary 19 (1959)
- F45:** Diary 19 – Letter to Doctor (1959)

Box 4: Series 1: Diaries 1960-1967

- F46:** Diary 20 (1960)
- F47:** Diary 21 (1961)
- F48:** Letter to Unknown (1961)
- F49:** Diary 22 (1962)
- F50:** Diary 23 (1963)
- F51:** Memorabilia (1963)
- F52:** Diary 24 (1964)
- F53:** Diary 25 (1965)

F54: Diary 26 – “European Trip” (1965-1966)

F55: Diary 27 (1966)

F56: Diary 28 (1967)

F57: Diary 28 – Papers (1967, u.d.)

Box 5: Series 1: Diaries 1968-1973

F58: Diary 29 (1968)

F59: Diary 30 (1969)

F60: Diary 30 – Papers (1969, 1981)

F61: Diary 31 (1970)

F62: Diary 32 (1971)

F63: Diary 33 (1972)

F64: Diary 34 (1973)

Box 6: Series 1: Diaries 1974-1979

F65: Diary 35 (1974)

F66: Diary 36 (1975)

F67: Diary 37 (1976)

F68: Diary 38 (1977)

F69: Diary 39 (1978)

F70: Diary 40 (1979)

Box 7: Series 2: Monographs

F71: Monograph – “Hugh Latimer Elderdice: President of Westminster Theological Seminary, 1897-1932,” by Dorothy Elderdice (1957)

F72: Monograph COPY – “Hugh Latimer Elderdice: President of Westminster Theological Seminary, 1897-1932,” by Dorothy Elderdice (1957)

F73: Memoir/Manuscript – “On Campus: 1897-1911, Informal Reminiscences of College Days at Western Maryland,” by Dorothy Elderdice (1971)

Box 8: Series 3: Pageants & Writings; Series 4: Papers including Correspondence; Series 6: Photographs

F74: “The Sheathing of the Sword” (1922)

F75: “The Carroll County Caravan” (1937)

F76: “We Have Spoken for World Without War” (1965)

F77: “Westminster Windows on the World” (1966)

F78: “From Fence Rail to Alter Rail: The Hundred Years of Grace Lutheran Church 1867-1967, A Dramatization of Historic Highlights” (1967)

- F79:** "Vietnam Calling" (1966)
- F80:** Publications – "The Emerson Quarterly" (1930, 1931, 1932)
- F81:** Papers on "The Sheathing of the Sword" (1922, u.d.)
- F82:** Papers, Correspondents, and Notes (1948, 1949, 1966, 1967, 1971, u.d.)
- F83:** "Excerpts from Letters Written Home: My European trip, 1965" (1965)
- F84:** Christmas Letters (1957-1976)
- F85:** Newspapers, Bulletins, and Programs (1915, 1916, 1920, 1930, 1958, 1976, 1977, 1978, u.d.)
- F86:** Report Cards, Business Card, and Program (1914-1917)
- F87:** Family Photographs
- Dorothy Elderdice
 - Latimer Elderdice
 - Hugh Latimer Elderdice
- F88:** Photographs of Classmates
- Mercedes Bowman and May Townsend
 - Mary Delashmutt
 - Helen Englar
 - Esther Kauffman
 - May Lippy
 - Ruth Monroe
 - Olive Pennell
 - Isabel M. Roop
 - Olive Simpson
 - Grace Steele
 - Marguerite L. Stern
 - Ava Taylor
 - Geraldine Waters
- F89:** Photographs of Classmates
- Anna Marie Crumrine
 - Ellen Jackson
 - Laura Ruark
 - Marguerite Stern
 - Mary Stonesifer
 - Lulu Wooden

Box 9: Series 5: Family Papers; Series 7: Estate and Memorials; Series 8: American Association of University Women; Series 9: Lillian Shipley

F90: Apostolic Benediction (1925)

- F91:** Awards and Citations (1965, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978)
F92: Obituary, Notices, and Memorials (1979)
F93: Letters of Condolences (1979)
F94: Estate Inventory (1981)
F95: American Association of University Women Carroll Chapter (1930, 1932, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, u.d.)
F96: Chronology of Dorothy's Life (u.d.)
F97: Lillian Shipley Papers (1979)
F98: Dr. John's Papers (1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1986, 1987) **RESTRICTED**

Box 10: Series 10: Awards and Medals

- A379 – Browning Literacy Society Pin, initials MHF
A381 – Browning Literacy Society Pin, initials BLS
A397 – Philomathean Society Pin
A398 – Philomathean Society Pin, initials VG
A401 – Freshman Honors Medal (1908)
A402 – Sophomore Honors Medal (1909)
A406 – Junior Honors Medal (1910)
A409 – Elocution Award (1911)
A415 – Freshman Norment Prize (1908)

ADDITIONAL CATALOG ENTRIES

Persons:

- Ahern, Sadie
Bowman, Mercedes
Coe, A. B.
Crumrine, Anna Marie
Dalashmutt, Mary
Elderdice, Annabel
Elderdice, Dorothy
Elderdice, Hugh Latimer
Elderdice, Latimer
Englar, Helen
Jackson, Ellen
John, Dr. Ralph
Kauffman, Esther
Lippy, May
Monroe, Ruth

Pennell, Olive
Read, Edgar T.
Roop, Isabel
Ross, Betsy
Ruark, Laura
Schofield, Samuel
Shiple, Lillian
Shroyer, Helen
Simpson, Olive
Steele, Grace
Stem, Marguerite
Stigers, Kitty
Stonesifer, Mary
Taylor, Ava
Townsend, May
Tracy, Margaret E. Rinehart
Waters, Geraldine
Wooden, Lulu

Corporate Bodies:

American Association of University Women
Emerson College of Oratory
Historical Society of Carroll County
Idaho Technical Institute
McDaniel College
National Council of Defense
United Methodist Historical Society
Wesley Theological Seminary
Western Maryland College
Westminster Theological Seminary
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Associated Titles:

The Carroll Country Caravan (1937)
"The Emerson Quarterly"
From Fence Rail to Altar Rail: The Hundred Years of Grace Lutheran Church 1867-1967 (1967)
Hugh Latimer Elderdice, President of Westminster Theological Seminary 1897-1932 (1957)

On Campus: 1897-1911, Informal Reminiscences of College Days at Western Maryland (1971)

The Sheathing of the Sword (1922)

Vietnam Calling (1966)

We Have Spoken for World Without War (1965)

Subjects:

Cancer – Women – United States

Colleges – History – United States

Colleges – Women’s history – United States

Education – Religion – United States

Education – Women – United States

History – American – World War I

History – America – Vietnam Police Action

Politics – Civil Rights

Politics – 19th Amendment – Women’s Rights

Genres and Forms:

Awards

Diaries

Letters

Manuscripts

Medals

Newsletters

Photographs