Guide to the Arthur Garfield Kennedy Papers

Daniel Hartwig
Stanford University, Libraries. Department of Special Collections and University Archives
Stanford, California
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Guide to the Arthur Garfield Kennedy Papers

Overview

Call Number: SC0044


Title: Arthur Garfield Kennedy papers

Dates: 1903-1954

Physical Description: 13.5 Linear feet

Summary: Personal and professional correspondence, notes, reviews, notebooks, bibliography of writings on the English language, and other papers. Material relates to specific works of Dr. Kennedy on English philology and current use of English, Stanford University during World War II, scholarly groups to which Kennedy belonged, Stanford groups, and official Stanford agencies. Correspondents include Hardin Craig, Helge Kökeritz, Lucia B. Mirrieless, Clark S. Northrup, Louise Pound, John S. P. Tatlock and Philip Sheridan.

Language(s): The materials are in English.

Repository: Department of Special Collections and University Archives

Green Library

557 Escondido Mall

Stanford, CA 94305-6064

Email: specialcollections@stanford.edu

Phone: (650) 725-1022

URL: http://library.stanford.edu/spc

Gift of Kennedy family, 1968.

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Cite As

Arthur Garfield Kennedy Papers (SC0044). Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, Calif.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Professor of English Philology at Stanford (1914-1945; emeritus 1945-1954) and Chairman of the English Department (1941-1945).

Arthur Garfield Kennedy was born on June 29, 1880, in Weeping Water, Nebraska. He received his A.B. from Doane College in 1902, and his A.M. degree from the University of Nebraska in 1905. He taught high school English and German until 1912 at which time he came to Stanford where he received his Ph.D. in English Philology in 1914. He began his career of teaching at Stanford in 1914 as an instructor, and advanced steadily in the department to the rank of Professor of English Philology in 1929. From 1941 until his retirement in 1945 he was executive head of the department. He died on April 21, 1954.

Dr. Kennedy's several books include a Bibliography of Writings on the English Language (1927); A Concordance to the Complete Works of Chaucer, with J.S.P. Tatlock (1927); Current English (1935); English Usage (1940); and A Concise Bibliography for Students of English (1940).

The contents of this collection consists primarily of Dr. Kennedy's correspondence with academic colleagues, though some personal letters are included. Of special interest is his wartime correspondence with Philip Sheridan, one of his graduate students, which contains accounts of Stanford and the English department during the war years. Also included in the collection are materials dealing with Dr. Kennedy's various published works, copies of his earliest publications on grammar, some grade books from his years as a teacher, and copies of A concise Bibliography for Students of English and Bibliography of Writings on the English Language.
Description of the Collection
Personal and professional correspondence, notes, reviews, notebooks, bibliography of writings on the English language, and other papers. Material relates to specific works of Dr. Kennedy on English philology and current use of English, Stanford University during World War II, scholarly groups to which Kennedy belonged, Stanford groups, and official Stanford agencies. Correspondents include Hardin Craig., Helge Kökeritz, Lucia B. Mirrieless, Clark S. Northrup, Louise Pound, John S. P. Tatlock and Philip Sheridan.

Access Terms
Craig, Hardin, 1875-1968.
Kökeritz, Helge.
Mirrieless, Lucia B.
Northrup, Clark S.
Sheridan, Philip.
Stanford University. Department of English. Faculty.
Tatlock, John S. P.
English literature--Study and teaching.
World War, 1939-1945--California--Stanford.

Papers

Correspondence A – C. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:
Box 1, Folder 1 Ackermann, Robert W., 1947-50, re An Index of Arthurian Names in Middle English
Box 1, Folder 1 Alden, Raymond and Donald, 1930-?
Box 1, Folder 1 Bailey, Margery re request for recommendations 1920-1928
Box 1, Folder 1 Bonner, Willard D. re conditions in graduate department of English as that time 1925
Box 1, Folder 1 Briggs, William D. and wife 1928-1941
Box 1, Folder 1 Bryan, W. F., re bibliography of the English language 1921-1927
Box 1, Folder 1 Burt, Thomas G. re Kennedy’s membership in Phi Beta Kappa 1926
Box 1, Folder 1 Carruth, W. H. including a report on the Chaucer dictionary 1915-1919
Box 1, Folder 1 Craig, Hardin 1922-1954
Box 1, Folder 1 Craige, W. A. 1925-1930
Box 1, Folder 1 Curry, Walter C. 1927-1928

Correspondence D – G. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:
Box 1, Folder 2 Doane College 1932-1949
Box 1, Folder 2 Elsasser, Albert 1935-1941
Box 1, Folder 2 Farnham, O. E. re Rose Bowl 1940
Box 1, Folder 2 Flügel, Felix re gift of his father’s papers (see also, folder on Chaucer Concordance) 1925-1932
Box 1, Folder 2 Greaves, John re spelling reform 1949

Correspondence H – K. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:
Box 1, Folder 3 Hanley, Miles, L. re Hempl papers 1937
Box 1, Folder 3 Harrer, Charlotte Forster 1936, 1947
Box 1, Folder 3 Hartwig, George H. 1934-1939
Box 1, Folder 3 Hoover, Herbert re faculty opinion at Stanford (2 letters) 1941
Box 1, Folder 3 Ichikawa, Sanki re membership in English Literary society of Japan 1936
Box 1, Folder 3 Jordan, Mrs. David Starr 1929
Box 1, Folder 3 Kenyon, John S. 1935-1939
Box 1, Folder 3 Kokeritz, Helge 1939-1942

Correspondence L – P. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:
Box 1, Folder 4 Lindberg, J. C. 1927
Box 1, Folder 4 Lipman, Charles B., Univ. of California re departmental rating 1930
Box 1, Folder 4  Loomis, Roger S. 1944
Box 1, Folder 4  Magoun, Francis P. 1951
Box 1, Folder 4  Meritt, Herbert Dean re "Old English Glosses" report 1942
Box 1, Folder 4  Mirrielee, Lucia B. 1927-1950
Box 1, Folder 4  Northrup, Clark S. re Von Patten conflict (see also Middle English Dictionary folder) 1925-1934
Box 1, Folder 4  Pound, Louise 1928-1950

Correspondence R – S. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:

Box 1, Folder 5  Sato, Masaru 1949-1952
Box 1, Folder 5  Shearin, Mrs. Hubert G. re Dr. Shearin's papers 1930
Box 1, Folder 5  Stegner, Wallace 1945

Correspondence, Philip Sheridan 1943-1946

Philip Sheridan was a graduate student of Prof. Kennedy whose studies were interrupted by World War II. Dr. Kennedy's letters deal extensively with Stanford, in general, and the Department of English, in particular, during the war years. (for more Sheridan material, see also SC 255 John McClelland Papers)

Correspondence T – Z. Includes among miscellaneous correspondence letters from:

Box 1, Folder 6  Tatlock, John S. P. (see also, folder on Chaucer Concordance) 1915-1944
Box 1, Folder 6  Taylor, W. A. re academic standards for graduation 1924-1932
Box 1, Folder 6  Tucker, Gilbert M. 1923
Box 1, Folder 6  Vizetelly, Dr. Frank H., 1924-1926, re Funk and Wagnalls Dictionaries 1924-1926
Box 1, Folder 6  Wintors, Ivor 1940
Box 1, Folder 6  Zandvoort, R. W. 1927-1933

Academic Associations, membership in and correspondence with:

Box 1, Folder 8  American Association of University Professors
Box 1, Folder 8  California Writers Club (see correspondence with Katharine Bennett)
Box 1, Folder 8  Linguistic Society of America (see correspondence with Aurelio M. Espinosa)
Box 1, Folder 8  Mediaeval Academy of America
Box 1, Folder 8  Middle English Language and Literature (see correspondence with A. C. Baugh)
Box 1, Folder 8  Modern Language Association of America
Box 1, Folder 8  Phi Beta Kappa (see correspondence with Thomas G. Burt)
Box 1, Folder 8  Simplified Spelling Association

Family affairs and correspondence:

Box 1, Folder 9  Letters, genelaogical references, family business 1928-1953
Box 1, Folder 9  Also, Palo Alto concerns.

Office of the President, Stanford University, official correspondence with:

Box 1, Folder 10  Administrative actions relating both to the English Department as a whole and to Dr. Kennedy in particular – salary, departmental organization, academic council, parking problems, etc., 1917-1953

Stanford Groups and Organizations, membership in and correspondence with:

Box 1, Folder 11  Academic Council
Box 1, Folder 11  Fellowship Forum
Box 1, Folder 11  The Research Club of Stanford University
Box 1, Folder 11  Residents Club of Palo Alto
Box 1, Folder 11  Stanford Faculty Club
Box 1, Folder 11  Stanford Library Association

American Speech:

Box 2, Folder 12  American Speech was a “quarterly of linguistic usage” to which Dr. Kennedy often contributed reviews and articles. This folder contains correspondence with W. Cabell Greet, long-time editor of the magazine, material relating to the bibliography of American Speech, and other letters and material relating to the quarterly.

Bibliographical Guides for the Study of English 1931

Box 2, Folder 13  Reviews, letters requesting copies, critical comments by colleagues
Box 2, Folder 14  A Bibliography of Writings on the English Language 1927
Box 2, Folder 14  Letters requesting copies, critical comments by colleagues

Box 2, Folder 15  Copy of "Forward," clipping of review, Kennedy's directions to the editor, notes involved in the Bibliography’s preparation, critical comments by colleagues

A Concordance to the Complete Works of Geoffrey Chaucer and to the Raumont of the Rose: 1927

Box 2, Folder 16  Letter to the President of the Carnegie Institution (1916) on "history, present state, and prospects of the Chaucer concordance," correspondence with John S. P. Tatlock concerning the book, copy of "Instructions to collaborators," copy of "Chaucer research in progress in 1941," list of contents of various boxes of materials ready for printing

Current English 1935

Box 2, Folder 17  Letters requesting copies, correspondence with the publisher, critical comments from colleagues

English Usage 1942

Box 2, Folder 18  Notes involved in preparation of English Usage, correspondence with the publishers, critical comments from colleagues, clipping of a review of the book

The Middle English Dictionary:

Box 2, Folder 19  Correspondence with Clark Northrup, editor, and with others concerned in the publication; copy of "Observations concerning a standardized spelling for the main entries in the MED;" copy of "an announcement of the Middle English dictionary;" copy of the reprint, The Middle English Dictionary, L-Laik; minutes of the committee on the English Period Dictionaries

Thornike-Barnhart Junior and Collegiate Dictionaries:

Box 2, Folder 20  Comments made by Kennedy in his capacity as a member of the editorial board, and other correspondence with the publisher 1936-1942


Box 2  Grade books from Dr. Kennedy's years as a teacher 1903, 1906, 1909, 1938

Box 2  A. G. Kennedy. A Bibliography of Writings on the English Language; from the beginnings of printing to the end of 1922. Harvard University Press 1927


Notebook #1, Volume I. Materials pertaining to The Anglo-Saxon Reader circa 1929

Box 3A  Correspondence with George Philip Krapp, co-author of the Anglo-Saxon Reader 1924-1930

Box 3A  Correspondence with Henry Holt and Co., Inc. 1927-1930

Box 3A  Critical comments and suggestions by academic colleagues undated

Box 3A  Contents also include sample tables of contents, notes and plans used in organizations of the materials, examples of slips used in glossary, and tables of materials undated

Notebook #2, Volume I. Materials pertaining to Bibliography of Writings on the English Language c. 1927 (1st of 2 notebooks) 1919-1925

Box 3A  Correspondence with Harvard University Press and Yale University Press, joint publishers 1924-1925

Box 3A  Critical comments and suggestions by academic colleagues 1919-1925

Box 3A  2 letters from Ray Lyman Wilbur, polite inquiries about Dr. Kennedy’s progress on his book 1921, 1923

Box 3A  Contents also include copy of a paper on need for a bibliography of the English language read at a meeting of the Philological Association of the Pacific Coast, Nov. 28, 1919; reprint of "A Bibliography of the English Language" appearing in the Correspondence section of Modern Language Notes; samples of prefaces; list of periodicals to be used in work on the Bibliography; table of contents; typographical notes; note to the editor and/or proofreader; and rules for Index. 1924-1925

Notebook #3, Volume II. Materials pertaining to Bibliography of Writings on the English Language c. 1927 (2nd of 2 notebooks) 1926-1935
Box 3A  Correspondence with Harvard University Press and Yale University Press, joint publishers 1926-1931
Box 3A  Critical comments and suggestions by academic colleagues 1926-1935
Box 3A  2 letters from Ray Lyman Wilbur congratulating Kennedy on his book undated
Box 3A  Correspondence from academic colleagues re A Concordance to the Complete Works of Geoffrey Chaucer 1927
Box 3A  Contents also include: copy of "A Bibliography of Writings on the English Language from the Beginning of Printing to the end of 1922," a note to appear in the Fall Announcement, 1926, Harvard University Press; paper, "The Making of a Bibliography" (not further identified); review list for book; notes to the editor about corrections; and royalty statements.

Notebook #4, Volume I. Materials pertaining to Current English (1st of 2 notebooks) -1935
Box 3A  Correspondence Correspondence with Ginn and Co., publishers 1932-1934
Box 3A  Criticisms and suggestions re manuscript from academic colleagues
Box 3A  Letters to various publishers requesting permission to use copyrighted materials
Box 3A  Contents also include: Agenda (Kennedy's schedule for work on the book); lists of errata; tentative plan of book; sample table of contents; copy of statement of plans and goals--"A Select Bibliography of Writings on Modern English"; pagination of first draft; typed comments requested by Ginn and Co. from four authorities in the field; and rejected portions of the manuscript.

Notebook #5, Volume II. Materials pertaining to Current English (2nd of 2 notebooks) circa 1935 1934-1947
Box 3A  Correspondence with Ginn and Co. 1934-1947
Box 3A  Critical comments and suggestions by academic colleagues
Box 3A  Contents also include: copy of pamphlet in memory of Roswell Thornton Pearl (1887-1934), one of Ginn's editors; copies of announcement of book and advertising circulars; list of periodicals for review; notes and instructions to the editors and/or proofreaders; and clipping of review in the San Francisco Examiner.

Box 4, Folder 1  English Language & Literature, Part i, chap. 1-199 undated
Box 4, Folder 2  English Language & Literature, Part i, chap. 200-end undated
Box 4, Folder 3  English Language & Literature, Part ii undated
Box 4, Folder 4  English Language & Literature, Part iii undated
Box 4, Folder 5  English Language & Literature, Part iv, div. 2 undated
Box 4, Folder 6  English Language & Literature, Part iv, div. 7-10 undated
Box 4, Folder 7  English Language & Literature, Part v undated
Box 4, Folder 8  English Language & Literature, Part vi undated
Box 4, Folder 9  English Language & Literature, Part vii, chap. 1-124 undated
Box 4, Folder 10  English Language & Literature, Part vii, chap. 130-end undated
Box 4, Folder 11  English Language & Literature, Part viii, chap. 1-99 undated
Box 4, Folder 12  English Language & Literature, Part viii, chap. 100-end undated
Box 4, Folder 13  English Language & Literature, Part ix, chap. 1-20 undated
Box 4, Folder 14  English Language & Literature, Part ix, chap. 21-24 undated
Box 4, Folder 15  English Language & Literature, Part ix, chap. 25-28 undated
Box 4, Folder 16  English Language & Literature, Part ix, chap. 28-42 undated
Box 4, Folder 17  English Language & Literature, Part ix, chap. 43-end undated
Box 4, Folder 18  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 1-99 undated
Box 4, Folder 19  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 100-114 undated
Box 4, Folder 20  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 117-139 undated
Box 4, Folder 21  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 148-161 undated
Box 4, Folder 22  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 162-200 undated
Box 4, Folder 23  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 200-274 undated
Box 4, Folder 24  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 275-324 undated
Box 4, Folder 25  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 325-400 undated
Box 4, Folder 26  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 400-466 undated
Box 4, Folder 27  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 500-600 undated
Box 4, Folder 28  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 600-699 undated
Box 4, Folder 29  English Language & Literature, Part x, chap. 700-899 undated
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