

Litton, George W., Papers

George W. Litton Papers

1927-1983



Title Statement

Litton, George W., PapersGeorge W. Litton Papers, 1927-1983 Ms.1981.099

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1981.099

Unit Date

1927-1983

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains the papers of George W. Litton (1910-1989), professor of Animal Husbandry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (V.P.I.) from 1940 to 1970. These papers date from 1927 to 1983 and include poetry, essays, V.P.I.'s Agricultural Extension station reports, notes, lecture material, publications, personal and professional correspondence, photographs from Litton's portrait hanging, and bound compilations like "Foolishness, Poems, and Philosophy" that function similarly to commonplace books.

Creator

Litton, George W., 1910-1989

Extent

3.2 Cubic Feet 3 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The collection was donated to Special Collections in 1981.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the George W. Litton Papers was completed in May 2013.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], George W. Litton Papers, Ms1981-099, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

George Washington Litton was born in Lee County, Virginia, on February 22, 1910. He married Maria Boren and had two children. From 1927-1931 he studied at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (V.P.I.) and graduated in 1931 with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry. After graduating from V.P.I., Litton worked as a County Agent in Tazewell County from 1933 to 1939. He returned to V.P.I. for graduate work and earned his M.S. in 1940, whereupon Litton joined the Animal Husbandry faculty at V.P.I. In 1942, Litton was named V.P.I.'s first Extension Sheep Specialist and held that position until 1952, at which time he became the head of the Department of Animal Husbandry. He stepped down as department head on March 1, 1970, but held the position of Director of Centennial Programs for the V.P.I. Centennial Celebration in 1972. Litton also served as Co-chair of the of the Bicentennial Commission for Montgomery County in 1976. Litton died in 1989.

Throughout his career, Litton received several awards and recognitions for his work at V.P.I. and in the field of Animal Husbandry. These awards include:

- *Progressive Farmer* magazine's "Man of the Year in Agriculture" (1961)
- Wine Award Winner for Teaching at V.P.I. (1961)
- Cattleman of the Year from the Virginia Beef Cattle Association (1966)
- Kentucky Colonel (1970)
- Distinguished Service Award, Southern Section (1972) and Fellow (1973), American Society of Animal Science (ASAS)
- Member, Board of Directors, Warm Hearth Inc. (1974)
- Distinguished Alumnus of V.P.I. Alumni Association (1979)
- Saddle and Sirloin Hall of Fame, Portrait Presented at North American Livestock International in Louisville, Kentucky (1980)

Scope and Contents

The collection contains the papers of George W. Litton, professor of Animal Husbandry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (V.P.I.) from 1940 to 1973. These papers date from 1927 to 1983 and include poetry, essays, V.P.I.'s Agricultural Extension station reports, notes, lecture material, publications, personal and professional correspondence, photographs from Litton's portrait hanging, and bound compilations like "Foolishness, Poems, and Philosophy" that function similarly to commonplace books. Many of the writings relate to Litton's career in Animal Science and Animal Husbandry and include such topics as animal husbandry (sheep, cattle, pigs), animal nutrition, and the agricultural profession.

The papers in this collection were bound in volumes prior to their donation, presumably by Litton. The materials within each bound volume exhibit no clear chronological or thematic order. Additionally, items

from one previously bound book often correspond with the papers in another, with numerous article or publication drafts appearing in multiple volumes within this collection.

Related Archival Materials

See the Montgomery County Bicentennial Commission Records, Ms1976-001, which includes the papers of the commission chair George W. Litton, also at Virginia Tech Special Collections and University Archives.

Keywords

Faculty and staff

Science and Technology

Students and alumni

University History

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (1896-1944)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Animal Science Department

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged in the original order in which it was received.

Description of Subordinate Components

The Centennial Director's Diary

Unit Date 1969-1972

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

United States Bicentennial Papers

Unit Date 1975-1976

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Convention Papers and Programs

Unit Date 1975-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Portrait Hanging Papers I (Part I)

Unit Date 1971, 1980-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Portrait Hanging Papers I (Part 2)

Unit Date 1980-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Portrait Hanging Papers II (Part 1)

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Portrait Hanging Papers II (Part 2)

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Litton Scholarship Papers

Unit Date 1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Comprehensive Report and Research Write Ups

Unit Date 1962-1968

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Livestock Research Report

Unit Date 1961-1967

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Livestock Management Course Materials (Part 1)

Unit Date 1963

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Livestock Management Course Materials (Part 2)

Unit Date 1963

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Livestock Management Course Materials (Part 3)

Unit Date 1963

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Sheep Articles and Writings

Unit Date 1954-1967

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Writings - Beef Cattle Mostly

Unit Date 1953-1968

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Letters and Articles I (Part 1)

Unit Date 1973-1977

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Letters and Articles I (Part 2)

Unit Date 1938-1976

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Letters and Articles I (Part 3)

Unit Date 1975-1977

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Letters and Articles II

Unit Date 1927-1975

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Letters and Miscellaneous Items I

Unit Date 1952-1972

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Letters and Miscellaneous Items II

Unit Date 1940-1972

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1932-1969

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Speeches

Unit Date 1959-1971

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Poems and Writings

Unit Date 1953-1969

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Foolishness, Poems, Philosophy (Part 1)

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Foolishness, Poems, Philosophy (Part 2)

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Poems I

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Poems I (Associated Notes and Poems)

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Miscellaneous Bound Papers I

Unit Date 1970-1972, n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Miscellaneous Bound Papers II

Unit Date 1959-1967

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Miscellaneous Bound Papers III

Unit Date 1954-1967

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Miscellaneous Bound Papers III (Associated Notes)

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Scope and Content

These notes were found inserted between pages 61 and 62 of the Miscellaneous Bound Papers III. As such, these research notes may correspond with the article beginning on page 61, entitled "Article for THE LIVESTOCK BREEDER JOURNAL."

Litton Genealogical Study

Unit Date 1983

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Speech by H. C. Besuden

Unit Date 1981

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)