Guide to the Helen Tunnicliff Catterall and Ralph C. H. Catterall Family Papers circa 1840s-1956
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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.CATTERALL

Title Catterall, Helen Tunnicliff and Ralph C. H. Catterall Family. Papers

Date circa 1840s-1956

Size 14.5 linear feet (18 boxes)

Repository Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Helen Honor Tunnicliff Catterall (1870-1933), attorney and historian, was born in Macomb, Illinois, one of three daughters of Damon George Tunnicliff (1829-1901) and Sarah A. Bacon (1846-1933). Ralph Charles Henry Catterall (1866-1914), historian, was born in Bolton, England, the son of Ralph C.H. Catterall, Sr. (b. 1840) and Sarah Reed Catterall (b. 1838). The collection consists primarily of papers and photographs of the Catterall family. There are smaller amounts of material from the Tunnicliff family; the Bacon family; and members of the Meade family, who were related to Louise Cadot Catterall.

Information on Use

Access The collection is open for research.

Citation When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Catterall, Helen Tunnicliff and Ralph C. H. Catterall Family. Papers, [Box #, Folder #] Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Ralph Charles Henry Catterall (1866-1914), historian, was born in Bolton, England, the son of Ralph C.H. Catterall, Sr. (b. 1840) and Sarah Reed Catterall (b. 1838). The family emigrated to the United States during his childhood. Catterall received bachelor’s degrees from Bucknell University (1891) and Harvard University (1892) before completing his studies at University of Chicago, where he received a Ph.D. in history in 1902. He also taught history courses at the university from 1894-1902. In 1902, he became Assistant Professor of History at Cornell University. He became a full professor in 1905, and also served as head of the history department. He was best-known as the author of The Second Bank of the United States
Catterall died in 1914 at the home of William Lyon Phelps, with whom the family had a long and close friendship.

Helen Honor Tunnicliff Catterall (1870-1933), attorney and historian, was born in Macomb, Illinois, one of three daughters of Damon George Tunnicliff (1829-1901) and Sarah A. Bacon (1846-1933). She received a bachelor’s degree from Vassar College and a law degree from Boston University. Her career included work as a graduate fellow in the Department of Political Science at University of Chicago (1893-1894), law practice in Massachusetts and Illinois, teaching history at Cornell University, and research on the history of slavery for the Carnegie Foundation. Her 5-volume Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro was published by the Carnegie Institution 1926.

Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall (1897-1978) was the only child of Helen and Ralph Catterall. He attended Harvard University and served in World War I. He married Louise Fontaine Cadot (1899-1986) in 1923. The couple lived in Richmond, Virginia, where Catterall practiced and taught law. He was appointed to the Virginia State Corporation Commission in 1949, and served until 1973. Catterall published several critical articles on the judicial system.

**Scope Note**

The collection consists primarily of papers and photographs of the Catterall family. There are smaller amounts of material from the Tunnicliff family; the Bacon family; and members of the Meade family, who were related to Louise Cadot Catterall. The collection is organized into three series:

**Series I: Papers, spans circa 1840s-1956.** Best represented in this series are Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, Ralph C.H. Catterall, and Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall. Also represented are the family of Sarah A. Bacon; Lila Meade Valentine and the Meade family; Damon G. Tunnicliff; Ruth Tunnicliff; and other members of the Tunnicliff family. Materials include correspondence, diaries, manuscripts, publications, pamphlets, event programs, wedding books, genealogical records, clippings, engravings, place cards and calling cards. Files are arranged by family member, with correspondence among family members collected together.

**Series II: Photographs, spans circa 1870s-1920s.** There are photograph albums as well as loose prints and negatives. Many of the albums document Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall’s childhood and young adulthood. Others contain travel photographs and family snapshots. Represented are the Catteralls, the Tunnicliffs, and their friends and extended family.

**Series III: Memorabilia, contains a Catterall family scrapbook from 1899-1900, documenting the family’s travels through Europe. In the scrapbook are correspondence and ephemeral
items such as menus, tickets, programs, and stationery. This series also contains a lock of an unidentified person’s hair.

**Related Resources**

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

**Subject Headings**

- Catterall, Helen Tunnicliff, 1870-1933
- Catterall, Ralph C. H. (Ralph Charles Henry), 1866-1914
- Catterall, Ralph Tunnicliff
- Bacon
- Catterall
- Tunnicliff

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: Papers**

- **Box 1**
  - **Folder 1**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, autograph books, 1879
- **Box 1**
  - **Folder 2**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, correspondence, 1914
- **Box 1**
  - **Folder 3-11**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, diaries, 1878-1888
- **Box 2**
  - **Folder 1-8**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, diaries, 1889-1895
- **Box 3**
  - **Folder 1-6**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, diaries, 1896-1900
- **Box 4**
  - **Folder 1-7**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, diaries, 1901-1907
- **Box 5**
  - **Folder 1**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, diary, undated
- **Box 5**
  - **Folder 2**
    - Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, piano instruction book, 1879
- **Box 5**
  - **Folder 3**
Folder 1-4
  Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall, travel journals, 1910
Box 7
Folder 5
Box 7
Folder 6
  Louise Cadot Catterall, Bryn Mawr College course materials, 1917-1918
Box 7
Folder 7
  Louise Cadot Catterall, Humble Voyagers: Verses Issued by the Reeling and Writhing Club of Bryn Mawr College, 1919
Box 7
Folder 8-14
  Catterall family, correspondence, 1894-1912
Box 8
Folder 1-4
  Catterall family, correspondence, 1914-1918
Box 8
Folder 5
  Catterall family, correspondence with William Lyon Phelps, 1912-1945
Box 8
Folder 6
  Catterall family, correspondence with Tunnicliff family, 1918
Box 8
Folder 7
  Catterall family, guest book, 1908-1912
Box 8
Folder 8
  Catterall family, journal, 1897-1901
Box 9
Folder 1-3
  Catterall family, journals, 1902-1907
Box 9
Folder 3
  Catterall family, "London in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth," engravings, undated
Box 9
Folder 4
  Catterall family, place cards, undated
Box 9
Folder 5
  Catterall family, theater program, Sarah Bernhardt farewell performance, 1892
Box 9
Folder 6-7
  Catterall family, wedding books, circa 1896
Box 9
Folder 8
   Bacon family, birth, death and marriage register, circa 1840s-1850s
Box 9
Folder 9
   Ingersoll, I.G. to Chancey S. Higbee, correspondence, 1873
Box 9
Folder 10
   Meade, Lila Valentine, memorial program, 1936
Box 9
Folder 11
   Meade family, "Record of 'M.C'." club book, circa 1887
Box 9
Folder 12
   Tunnicliff, Damon G., memorial program, obituary and calling cards, circa late 19th century-1901
Box 9
Folder 13
   Tunnicliff, Ruth, Alphonse Loisette, Physiological Memory or, The Instantaneous Art of Never Forgetting, 1888
Box 9
Folder 14
   Tunnicliff family, correspondence, undated
Box 10
   Tunnicliff family tree, undated
Box 10
   Tunnicliff family, photostat of land lease, circa 1792
Box 11
Folder 1
   Unidentified correspondence and bibliography, undated
Box 11
Folder 2
   Unidentified Christmas greetings, undated

Series II: Photographs

Box 11
Folder 3-8
   Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, circa 1870s-1910s
Box 11
Folder 9
   Helen Tunnicliff Catterall with Helen Starrett Dinwiddie and Katharine Starrett Whitton, circa 1890
Box 11
Folder 10-12
   Ralph C.H. Catterall, circa 1870s-1890s
Box 11
Folder 13
Ralph C.H. Catterall and Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, circa 1896
Box 11
Folder 14-15
Ralph C.H. Catterall, Thayer Hall dormitory, Harvard University, circa 1892-1893
Box 11
Folder 16-17
Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall, circa 1897-1920s
Box 12
Folder 1-4
Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall, circa 1900s-1920s
Box 12
Folder 5
Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall and Helen Tunnicliff Catterall, circa 1900s-1920s
Box 12
Folder 6
Ralph C.H. Catterall, Sr., circa 1905
Box 12
Folder 7
Catterall family album, circa 1896-1910
Box 12
Folder 8-9
Catterall family albums, Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall’s infancy and childhood, 1897-1900s
Box 13
Folder 1
Catterall family album, Ralph Tunnicliff Catterall’s infancy and childhood, 1903-1910
Box 13
Folder 2
Catterall family album, travel, circa 1890s
Box 13
Folder 3-4
Catterall family albums, Catterall and Tunnicliff families, circa 1890s-1910s
Box 14
Folder 1
Catterall family album, travel in England, circa 1900s
Box 14
Folder 2
Catterall family album, travel in Russia, 1907
Box 14
Folder 3-4
Catterall family album, circa 1900s-1910s
Box 14
Folder 5
Catterall family album, St. Paul’s School and New England travel, circa 1911-1914
Box 15
Folder 1
Catterall family album, travel, circa 1910s
Box 15
Folder 2-3
  Catterall family albums, Harvard University, 1914-1918
Box 15
Folder 4
  Catterall family albums, summer vacations, 1914-1922
Box 16
Folder 1
  Catterall family album, circa 1920s
Box 16
Folder 2
  Bacon, William, undated
Box 16
Folder 3
  Bacon home, Hillsgrove, Illinois, 1894
Box 16
Folder 4
  Bacon family, unidentified man, undated
Box 16
Folder 5
  Richey, Alice Gertrude, 1897
Box 16
Folder 6-7
  Tunnicliff, Damon G., undated
Box 16
Folder 8
  Tunnicliff, George, undated
Box 16
Folder 9
  Tunnicliff, Ruth M., circa 1880s-1900s
Box 16
Folder 10
  Tunnicliff, Sarah Bacon, circa 1870s-1920
Box 16
Folder 11-12
  Tunnicliff family, circa 1870s-1900s
Box 16
Folder 13
  Tunnicliff family, Boston, circa 1890-1891
Box 16
Folder 14
  Tunnicliff family home, Macomb, Illinois, 1902
Box 16
Folder 15
  Unidentified home, undated
Box 17
Bacon and Tunnicliff families, album, circa 1890s

Series III: Memorabilia

Box 18
Catterall family, European travel scrapbook, 1899-1900

Box 18
Unidentified lock of hair