
© 2008 University of Chicago Library
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive Summary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information on Use</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical Note</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope Note</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Resources</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Headings</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVENTORY</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series I: Personal</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series II: Academic</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series III: Professional</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Descriptive Summary

Identifier          ICU.SPCL.DHSTEVENS
Title               Stevens, David H. Papers
Date                1903-1976
Size                2.5 linear feet (5 boxes)
Repository          Special Collections Research Center
                    University of Chicago Library
                    1100 East 57th Street
                    Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract            David Harrison Stevens, professor, Humanities scholar, historian. The
                    David H. Stevens Papers contain biographical and genealogical material,
                    photographs, newspaper and journal articles, correspondence, reports,
                    pamphlets, event programs, a scrapbook, speeches, and published and
                    unpublished writings. The papers document Door County, Wisconsin
                    history, Stevens’ family life, military experience, academic career at the
                    University of Chicago, tenure as Director of the Humanities Division of
                    the Rockefeller Foundation, membership of American Council for Learned
                    Societies, and longtime affiliation with Lawrence University.

Acknowledgments     The David H. Stevens Papers were processed and preserved as part of the "Uncovering New
                    Chicago Archives Project," funded with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Information on Use

Access              The collection is open for research.

Citation            When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Stevens, David H. Papers,
                    [Box#, Folder#], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note   David Harrison Stevens was born in 1884 in Wisconsin. He married Ruth Frances Davis in
                    Hartford, Wisconsin in 1915 and they had three children.

                    He graduated from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin in 1906 and later became a
                    trustee and lifelong supporter of the school. He received a Master’s Degree in English from
Harvard University in 1912 and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Chicago in 1914. He received an honorary doctor of letters degree from Lawrence University in 1931.

Stevens served in the United States Army where he entered with the rank of Captain and was affiliated with the military intelligence branch. Stevens served under John Manly, head of the Bureau of Ciphers and Code-reading in the Intelligence Division. From 1918-1919, Stevens was manager of 180 language specialists covering "suspected mail and secret lines."

Stevens taught English Literature at the University of Chicago from 1912-1930. His scholarly interests included Milton, drama, and British politics and history.

He served as secretary of the University of Chicago English Department, also under John Manly, and assistant to the President and Dean of the College of Arts, Literature, and Science.

Stevens left the University of Chicago to serve as vice-president of the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation from 1930-1938. In addition, Stevens was the Director of the Humanities Division of the Rockefeller Foundation from 1932-1949, though he continued his involvement after his retirement. In 1946, he went on a mission to Japan as part of an American post World War II goodwill effort to evaluate the efficiency of the Japanese educational system. His book, The Changing Humanities; an Appraisal of Old Values and New Uses (1953), documented his view of the Humanities in American colleges and universities. It was published in Korean as well as English. Stevens was also a member of the American Council of Learned Societies.


After his retirement, Stevens made his home in Ephraim, Wisconsin and devoted time to community involvement and preserving the history of Ephraim and Door County, Wisconsin.

David Harrison Stevens died in 1980.

Scope Note
The David H. Stevens Papers are divided into three series: Series I, Personal; Series II, Academic; Series III, Professional. The papers contain biographical and genealogical materials, photographs, newspaper and journal articles, correspondence, reports, pamphlets, event programs, a scrapbook, speeches, published and unpublished writing. The papers document Door County, Wisconsin history, Stevens’ family life, military experience, academic career at the University of Chicago, tenure as Director of the Humanities Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, membership of the American Council for Learned Societies, and longtime affiliation with Lawrence University.

Series I, Personal, contains correspondence, articles, photographs, and ephemera. The correspondence is with members of the Ephraim, Door County, Wisconsin community, colleagues, and relatives, as well as a photocopy of a civil war letter dated July 6, 1862. Stevens often wrote to people in response to current events, such as Norman Cousins, Nelson Rockefeller, Walter Cronkite, Dave Garroway, Senator Edmund Muskie, Senator William Proxmire, and President Gerald Ford. Genealogical material includes photographs and a family scrapbook. There are also articles, photographs, and notices of community events for Door County.

Series II, Academic, contains material from Stevens' time at the University of Chicago, including his dissertation, correspondence with colleagues, research on John Milton, and a letter to Carl Sandburg. There is material about John Manly including memorial programs, reminiscences, and a photograph. The Lawrence University material includes correspondence with alumni and administration and ephemera.

Series III, Professional, contains correspondence to and from colleagues at the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Some correspondents include John D. Rockefeller III and President Gerald Ford. The Rockefeller Foundation and American Council of Learned Societies materials include event programs, meeting minutes, pamphlets, and reports, including documentation from his education mission to Japan. There are speeches and other writings pertaining to Stevens' work in humanities and education, as well as drafts and correspondence for his book Ten Talents in the American Theatre. The United States Army material includes code breaking practice sheets, correspondence, and reminiscences of his experience in the Intelligence Division under Herbert O. Yardley.

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

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html
http://www.rockfound.org/
Manly, John Mathews. Papers.

Redfield, Robert. Papers.

**Subject Headings**

- Stevens, David Harrison 1884-
- Gard, Robert Edward
- Milton, John 1608-1674
- American Council of Learned Societies
- Lawrence University
- Rockefeller Foundation
- University of Chicago
- English Literature – History, Criticism
- Great Britain-Politics and Government – 18th century
- Humanities
- Press and Politics- Great Britain
- Theater-United States- Biography
- Theater-United States- History
- World War, 1914-1918 Cryptography
- Door County (Wis.)

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: Personal**

- **Box 1**
  - **Folder 1**
    - Civil War Letter, 1862
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 2**
    - Correspondence, A-L, 1959-1975
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 3**
    - Correspondence, M-W, 1959-1975
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 4**
    - Door County, Wisconsin, 1938-1974
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 5**
    - Door County, Wisconsin, Correspondence, 1959-1973
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 6**
    - Door County, Wisconsin, Correspondence, 1972
  - **Box 1**
  - **Folder 7**
    - Family Information, 1909-1976
  - **Box 1**
Folder 8
   General, 1906-1920
Box 1
Folder 9
   Photographs, 1936-1973
Box 2
Folder 1
   Stevens Family Scrapbook, 1916-1966

**Series II: Academic**

Box 2
Folder 2
   Lawrence University, 1903-1973
Box 2
Folder 3
   Lawrence University, Correspondence, A-K, 1940-1973
Box 2
Folder 4
   Lawrence University, Correspondence, L-W, 1921-1975
Box 2
Folder 5
   Party Politics and English Journalism 1702-1742, 1916
Box 3
Folder 1
   University of Chicago, Correspondence, A-L, 1919-1972
Box 3
Folder 2
   University of Chicago, Correspondence, M-V, 1918-1972
Box 3
Folder 3
   University of Chicago, John Manly, 1917-1970
Box 3
Folder 4
   University of Chicago, Milton 17th Century, 1959-1970

**Series III: Professional**

Box 3
Folder 5
   American Council on Learned Societies, Correspondence, 1958-1973
Box 3
Folder 6
   American Council on Learned Societies, Newsletters, 1930-1949
Box 3
Folder 7
   American Council on Learned Societies, 1963-1971
Folder 8
Articles, 1929-1972
Box 3
Folder 9
Japanese Education Mission, 1946
Box 3
Folder 10
National Endowment for the Humanities, 1971-1975
Box 3
Folder 11
Rockefeller Foundation, Biographies, 1928-1950
Box 4
Folder 1
Correspondence, A-Fo, 1930-1976
Box 4
Folder 2
Correspondence, Fr-H, 1952-1973
Box 4
Folder 3
Correspondence, I-L, 1959-1975
Box 4
Folder 4
Correspondence, M-P, 1959-1975
Box 4
Folder 5
Correspondence, R-Y, 1948-1975
Box 4
Folder 6
Rockefeller Foundation, General, 1937-1971
Box 4
Folder 7
Rockefeller Foundation, Minutes, 1949
Box 4
Folder 8
Rockefeller Foundation, Reports, 1929-1959
Box 5
Folder 1
Rockefeller Foundation, Reports, 1955-1959
Box 5
Folder 2
Box 5
Folder 3
Something About Education, 1971
Box 5
Folder 4
Something About Education, 1971

Box 5
Folder 5
Something about Education, 1971

Box 5
Folder 6
Speeches, 1933-1971

Box 5
Folder 7
Ten Talents in the American Theatre, 1955-1956

Box 5
Folder 8
United States Army, 1917-1971

Box 5
Folder 9
Writing, Articles and Essays, 1914-1975

Box 5
Folder 10
Writing, Unpublished Manuscripts, 1916-1971