

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Of the Wilfrid Hardy Callcott Papers, 1878-1970

<http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/mnscripts/callwh.html>

The papers in this collection, approximately twelve linear feet, represent all phases of Wilfrid Hardy Callcott's life and academic career. He carefully preserved his papers and letters from the time he was in grammar school and, after his death, his son George Hardy Callcott (b.1929), Professor of History at the University of Maryland, collected, organized, and annotated the family archive. As a result of that effort, the voluminous records of Callcott's academic life have been preserved. In addition, ancillary letters, diaries, and documents from his parents and siblings, especially his older brother Frank (1891-1979), long-time professor of Spanish at Columbia University, are included in the papers.

Series I, Correspondence

In the 1960s, Wilfrid Hardy Callcott gathered material for a biography of his father, George Hardy Callcott (1857-1931), completed a manuscript, but died before he could have it published. The letters written by his father, 1878-1884, before he immigrated to the United States and settled in Texas, provided much of the information incorporated in *Mr. George: An English Immigrant to Texas* (privately printed, 1969), and are included in the collection. The strength of the collection, however, is the continuity of correspondence that documents Wilfred

Hardy Callcott's entire life. During his college and army years 1914-1923, Callcott and his mother, Mary Ireland Callcott (1860-1934) exchanged letters every week; less frequent letters are found from his brother Frank, other relatives, and friends. After 1923, when Callcott moved to Columbia to take a job at the University of South Carolina, letters from his parents, and letters to them from Wilfrid, continued until 1929 when his parents moved to Columbia to live. The brothers, Frank and Wilfrid, wrote each other on alternating Sundays for decades, and many of those letters survive, right up until Wilfrid's death in September 1969.

Series II, Family Papers

The letters are supplemented by diaries, ledgers, journals, legal papers, diplomas, transcripts, photographs, and newspaper clippings. Even though this collection focuses primarily on the academic career of Wilfrid Hardy Callcott, there are other significant topics that are illuminated by the material. Life in rural Texas in the years after 1900 is illustrated through the diaries of Frank Callcott, 1902-1908, while the family still lived on the farm. After Wilfred entered college in 1914, his diaries and ledgers provide information about student life and events at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. For the period 1919-1923, there is much information about Columbia University, where Wilfrid studied for his M. A. and Ph. D. degrees, and Hoboken Academy where he taught while a graduate student.

Travel by automobile in the 1920s is documented by the travel logs that

George Hardy Callcott (1857-1931) prepared for trips from Texas to South Carolina in 1924 and 1926 and by travel diaries written by Mary Ireland Callcott on the same trips.

Series III, Topical

The topical files contain miscellaneous information about Wilfrid Callcott's tenure as president of Coker College (1968-1969), newspaper clippings that chronicle Dr. Callcott's academic career, and reviews of the books that Dr. Callcott authored.

Series IV, Photographs

The dozen or so photographs in this series include a few photographs from the World War I period as well as images from Dr. Callcott's years as teacher and administrator.