

Preston, Samuel Davis, Papers

Samuel Davis Preston Papers

1917-1972



Title Statement

Preston, Samuel Davis, Papers Samuel Davis Preston Papers, 1917-1972 Ms.1972.003

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1972.003

Unit Date

1917-1972

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains personal memorabilia, consisting largely of honors and awards, of Samuel Davis Preston, a graduate of Virginia Tech (class of 1923) and member of the university's board of visitors (1952-1960).

Creator

Preston, Samuel Davis, 1892-1975

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Samuel Davis Preston Papers were donated to Special Collections in 1972.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Samuel Davis Preston Papers commenced and was completed in June, 2011.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Samuel Davis Preston Papers, Ms1972-003, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Samuel Davis Preston was born on May 8, 1892, in Bedford County, Virginia. He attended the University of South Carolina for two years before before serving as a lieutenant in World War I. Following the war, Davis attended Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech), graduating with a degree in animal science in 1923. Among his other activities while at Virginia Tech, Preston served as president of the Hoof and Horn Club and vice-president of the Maury Literary Society. Following graduation, Preston was employed by the university's Extension Division and moved to the Winchester, Virginia area. Later, he worked for American Cyanamide, as the company's international sales manager. From 1952 to 1960, he served on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors and remained active in community organizations throughout his life. Samuel Preston died in Winchester on March 13, 1975.

Scope and Content

This collection contains personal papers and memorabilia of Samuel D. Preston, a 1923 graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and member of the university's Board of Visitors from 1952 to 1960. The collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, awards, and photographs.

The correspondence in the collection is largely congratulatory in nature and includes a 1956 letter from Virginia Governor Thomas B. Stanley reappointing Preston to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. The folder also includes a copy of a 1917 telegram appointing Preston a second lieutenant in the Infantry Section Officers Reserve Corps. A small set of newspaper clippings in the collection relates largely to various awards and honors bestowed on Preston in his later years. Many of these awards and honors are also in the collection, in the form of certificates, resolutions, and plaques. The collection is completed by a small group of photographs of Preston, many of which were apparently taken while he was on a business trip to Buenos Aires in 1955.

Keywords

Students and alumni

University History

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

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1970-)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

Description of Subordinate Components

Correspondence

Unit Date 1917-1957

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Newspaper clippings

Unit Date 1970, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Certificates and resolutions

Unit Date 1955-1971

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Plaques

TACS & Parks and Recreation Department

Unit Date [1963]

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Lions Club meritorious service award

Unit Date 1971

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Lions Club achievement award

Unit Date [1972]

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Virginia Tech Alumni Association Century Club award of appreciation

Unit Date [1972]

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Physical Characteristics [accompanied by two date plates for 1972]

Photographs

Unit Date 1955, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)