



Guide to the Robert Lee Durham Papers, 1888-1946

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Summary

Collection Title:

Robert Lee Durham papers, 1888-1946

Creator:

Durham, Robert Lee, 1870-1949

Abstract:

Robert Lee Durham was a star athlete who graduated from Trinity College in 1891. His collection contains correspondence, manuscripts of orations and songs, clippings and other printed materials.

Extent:

0.4 Linear Feet
400 Items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

UA.30.01.0045

Permalink:

<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/uadurhamrl/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Robert Lee Durham Papers, Duke University Archives, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Contains correspondence, manuscripts of orations and songs composed for Trinity events, photographs, clippings, materials relating to plans for Duke

University, a proposal submitted to the Duke family for a school of agriculture and for the choice of "Yale blue" as the school color. Some of Durham's correspondents include B. N. Duke, W. W. "Cap" Card, W. P. Few, R. L. Flowers, J. C. Kilgo as well as members of the Trinity football team. Also contains an inscribed copy of O Duke, Alma Mater from 1933.

Biographical/Historical

Born in Shelby, NC in 1870, Robert Lee Durham was a member of the Trinity College championship football team of 1891, the same year of his graduation. He received a law degree in 1892 and subsequently practiced law until 1909, taking time out to fight in the Spanish-American War. During 1909-1919, he served as dean and mathematics instructor at various institutions including Davenport College, Centenary College, and Martha Washington College. In 1919, he became president of Southern Seminary, a school for girls in Buena Vista, VA. He was the brother of Stonewall and Plato Durham, and the father of Dr. Margaret Robey, all Trinity graduates. He died in 1948 after a brief illness.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Copyright for Official University records is held by Duke University; all other copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.

Acquisition Information

The Robert Lee Durham Papers were received by the University Archives as a gift in 1982.

Processing Information

Processed by Jessica Wood, October 2006

Encoded by Sherrie Bowser, November 2006

Accessions 74-154, 83-56 were merged into one collection, described in this finding aid.

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Related Materials

Related Material

O Duke, alma mater, and other songs and verse of Trinity College and Duke University. University Archives. Duke University. Bassett Affair collection, 1903-2003. University Archives. Duke University. Flag and sunset bell. A class farewell at Trinity College, in North Carolina. University Archives. Duke University.

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Names and Subjects

- Durham, Robert Lee, 1870-1949
- Few, W. P. (William Preston), 1867-1940
- Flowers, Robert Lee
- Card, Wilbur Wade
- Duke University -- Songs and music
- Trinity College (Randolph County, N.C.) -- Football
- Kilgo, John Carlisle, 1861-1922
- Duke, Benjamin N. (Benjamin Newton)
- Trinity College (Randolph County, N.C.) -- Students

- Trinity College (Randolph County, N.C.) -- History -- 19th century

Collection Inventory

Correspondence, General, 1894-1946	Box 1
"9019" Correspondence	Box 1
Orations	Box 1
Football Clippings	Box 1
Football History, 1888-1946	Box 1
Songs	Box 1