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Robert K. Wickware Papers
1947 – 1979

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Arranged and Described
By
Deborah Simpson with M. Kurnyk

Tara L. Hurt, Archivist, Head of Archives & Special Collections

March, 2013
Willimantic, Connecticut

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Name | Robert K. Wickware |
| Title | Robert K. Wickware Papers, 1947-1979. |
| Extent | 2.5 linear feet. 2 boxes. |
| Arrangement | Materials were sorted into 4 series by subject matter. Series I – Personal Files, Series II – Doctoral Thesis and Series IV – Articles and News clippings are arranged in chronological order. Files in Series III – Manuscripts & Curricula are undated and arranged in the order in which they were received. Duplicate copies of manuscripts or chapters were included where annotations and/or alternate information was included. |
| Provenance | The papers of Dr. Wickware were donated to the University Archives in September 2001 by his daughter, Sally Wickware Thompson in two boxes which included copies of his doctoral thesis, elementary science curricula and multiple drafts of unpublished manuscripts. |
| Finding Aid | Printed finding aid available in repository. Electronic version: http://ecsu.archives.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/ |
| Preferred Citation | [Series, Date, Folder description], Robert K. Wickware Papers, 1947-1979. University Archives, J. Eugene Smith Library, Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, Connecticut 06226. |
| Access points | Educators New England. College administrators. Willimantic State Teachers College. Willimantic State College. Eastern Connecticut State College |
| Occupation | Educator. Administrator. |
| Restrictions | None. |
| Document types | Correspondence. Publications. Manuscripts. Interviews. Awards. Memberships. Certifications. Educational Materials. |

BIOGRAPHY:

Dr. Robert Kenneth Wickware attended the University of Montana, taught Jr. High School for 5 years and received his masters and doctoral degrees in teaching natural science from Columbia University in New York.¹ In 1941, he came to Connecticut and the Willimantic State Teacher's College as a science and math teacher. He taught at what is now Eastern Connecticut State University for 33 years from 1941 to 1975.²

Dr. Wickware was an active member of the college community. During World War II, Dr. Wickware taught natural sciences at Eastern plus physics and the ASTP (Army Serial Training Program) at the University of Connecticut. Following WW II, he helped to establish a men's club and promoted sports programs for the increased number of male students enrolling at the school.² He was advisor to a student group which established the first student bookstore. He was an enthusiastic advocate for teaching children the wonder of science. He wrote curricula, published articles and wrote book chapters on science education and over time became known to friends and colleagues as "Mr. Science".³ He was instrumental in the development of Eastern's Graduate School Program in the 1950's and was involved administratively in the college's transition from teacher training college to liberal arts college during the 1960's. In 1969 he was appointed as the college's first Academic Dean and continued to serve in this capacity until his retirement in 1975.²

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

This collection offers information about Dr. Wickware's career as an educator and as an administrator at Eastern. It includes drafts of his doctoral thesis, copies of manuscripts and curricula, as well as information concerning academic programs and procedures, general correspondence and reports.

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Series I – Personal files

This series offers notes and bibliographic material related to the teaching of science. It includes administrative files related to the college's first application to become a member of the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NEASC), cooperative education and the development of the Experimental College launched in the 1970s.

Series II – Doctoral Thesis

This series offers a complete draft of his doctoral dissertation presented at Columbia University in 1947.

Series III – Manuscripts & Curricula

This series offers several incomplete manuscripts of book chapters and teaching materials all related to the teaching of elementary science in the classroom.

Series IV – Articles and News clippings

This series includes news clippings about public speaking, civic activities, time teaching in Tokyo, Japan, faculty activities and career highlights. It includes two articles written on his favorite topic of science education.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

¹ Pruitt, Clarence M. “Robert K. Wickware”. *Science Education*, vol. 42, #4, pp. 289-290, October 1958.

² Leto, John J. “Interview: Dr. Wickware to Retire”, *Campus Lantern*, May 16 1974, pp. 1 & 6.

³ “Mr. Science” Remembered”, *Eastern Magazine*, Fall 2006.

RELATED COLLECTIONS:

Related material may be found in the following collections: Administrative Affairs, Office of the President/Smith, Charles & Webb, Undergraduate Catalogs, Faculty Newsletters, Alumni Bulletins and the *Campus Lantern*.

The University Archives has a substantial collection of university archives material and also houses the Connecticut Studies Collection. For more detailed information on these collections please speak with a staff member, call 860-465-5563 or visit the Smith Library Archives & Special Collections online at <http://ecsu.archives.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/>

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| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Series I – Personal Files | | |
| 1 | Bibliography on Identifying Living Things | 1954 |
| | Application - New England Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools (NEACSS) | 25 Sept 1958 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. - Membership Approval | 1958-1959 |
| | Science Resources – Pictured Key Nature Series (listing) | [1960] |
| | Science Resources - Annotated cards | n.d. |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Accreditation Information | 1965-1966 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Reaccreditation | Spring 1967 |
| | Part-time Faculty Information, 1965-1967 | 1967 |
| | Graduate Program, 1958-1967 | August 1967 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. - Reports | Spring 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. prep. (Correspondence) | 13 March 1968 |
| | Committee on the Future of the College | 14 May 1968 |
| | Re-accreditation prep. (Correspondence) | 19 June 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. - Responses | Fall 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. - General Procedures | Fall 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Responses | Fall 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Education, evaluation & reports | Nov.-Dec. 1968 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Visiting Team (correspondence) | 1968-1969 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Self-Study, part 1 | 1968-1969 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Self-Study, part 2 | 1968-1969 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Reports | Spring 1969 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – ECSC Mission | Fall 1969 |
| | Community College Co-op Programs | Spring 1970 |
| | Community College Co-op Programs (Tunxis) | July-Aug 1970 |
| | Community Service Program Newsletter | September 1970 |
| | Community Services & Community Colleges | Spring 1971 |
| | Community College Teaching | October 1971 |
| | N.E.A.C.S.S. – Membership Information | January 1972 |
| | Experimental College – Correspondence & notes (Welch) | Spring 1972 |
| | Experimental College – Director’s Report (copy 1) | May 1972 |
| | Experimental College – Director’s Report (copy 2) | May 1972 |
| | Experimental College – Correspondence | Fall 1972 |
| | Experimental College – Advisory Committee | Fall 1972 |
| | Experimental College - Courses & information | Winter-Spring 1973 |
| | Experimental College – Correspondence (Welch) | April 1973 |
| | Experimental College - Correspondence | Spring 1973 |
| | Experimental College - Brochure | Fall 1973 |
| | Experimental College – Statement of Purpose | September 1973 |
| | Experimental College - Correspondence | Fall 1973 |
| | Experimental College – Survey | n.d. |
| | Experimental College – Publications | n.d. |

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| Series I – Personal Files | | |
| 1 | Resolution - naming the Science Annex “Robert K. Wickware Planetarium” | June 1974 |
| | Naming of the Science Annex – Letter of response | July 1974 |
| | Gift of paintings to Eastern - correspondence | July 1977 |
| Series II – Doctoral Thesis | | |
| 2 | “Developing Science Education in the Regional Community of Eastern Connecticut” | |
| 1 | Cover (handwritten on cardboard) | 1947 |
| 2 | Cover sheet & Table of Contents | 1947 |
| 3 | Chapters 1- “Introduction & 2- “Beginning...” pp. 1-24 | 1947 |
| 4 | Ch. 3- “Becoming aware of the problems...” pp. 25-46 | 1947 |
| 5 | Ch. 4- “The problems of Eastern Connecticut” pp. 47-72 | 1947 |
| 6 | Ch. 5- “The extent of acceptability...” pp. 73-99 | 1947 |
| 7 | Ch. 6- “Applications of the study...” pp. 100-117 | 1947 |
| 8 | Ch. 7- “Applications of the study...” pp.118-155 | 1947 |
| 9 | Ch. 8- “Applications of the study...” pp.156-179 | 1947 |
| 10 | Bibliography- pp. 180-184 | 1947 |
| 11 | Appendix A- “Instruments & Tabulations” pp. 185-205 | 1947 |
| 12 | Appendix B- “Illustrative Materials” pp. 206-232 | 1947 |
| 13 | Appendix C- “Bibliography of Available Studies, Directory of Cooperating State Departments and Other Agencies” pp.233-245 | 1947 |
| | “Developing Science Education...” copy 2 | |
| 1 | Cover sheet, Table of Contents; Introduction pp. 1-6 | 1947 |
| 2 | Chapters 2 & 3 pp. 7-46 | 1947 |
| 3 | Chapter 4 & 5 pp. 47-99 | 1947 |
| 4 | Chapter 6 & 7 pp. 100-155 | 1947 |
| 5 | Chapter 8 pp. 156-180 (extra page) | 1947 |
| 6 | Bibliography & Appendix A, pp. 180-205 | 1947 |
| 7 | Appendices B & C, pp. 206-245 | 1947 |
| Series III – Manuscripts & Curricula | | |
| 2 | Untitled manuscript | |
| 1 | Table of Contents | n.d. |
| | Table of Contents - copy 2 | n.d. |
| 2 | Chapter 1 - Thinking Through the Foundations of the Elementary Science Program | n.d. |
| | Chapter 1 - Thinking Through the Foundations of the Elementary Science Program – copy 2 | n.d. |
| 3 | Chapter 2 - The Teacher and Science for Children | n.d. |
| | Chapter 2 - The Teacher and Science for Children – c. 2 | n.d. |

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| Series III – Manuscripts & Curricula | | |
| 2 | Untitled manuscript | |
| 4 | Chapter 3 - Planning the Science Program in the Classroom and in the School | n.d. |
| | Chapter 3 - Planning the Science Program in the Classroom and in the School – copy 2 | n.d. |
| 5 | Chapter 4 - The Physical Setting for Learning in the Classroom, Home and Community | n.d. |
| 6 | Chapter 5 - Developing Specific Learning Experiences | n.d. |
| Elementary Science Teaching Materials | | |
| 1 | Chapter 7 - Rocks and Minerals, Changes in the Earth's Surface and Soil and Soil Conservation (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 7 - Rocks and Minerals, Changes... (part 2) | n.d. |
| 2 | Chapter 8 - Air, Heat and Changes (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 8 - Air, Heat and Changes (part 2) | n.d. |
| 3 | Chapter 9 - Energy and Machines (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 9 - Energy and Machines (part 2) | n.d. |
| 4 | Chapter 10 - Teaching Material on Transportation (p. 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 10 - Teaching Material on Transportation (p. 2) | n.d. |
| 5 | Chapter 11 - Teaching Material on Weather (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 11 - Teaching Material on Weather (part 2) | n.d. |
| 6 | Chapter 11 - Supplement: Water in the Air | n.d. |
| 7 | Chapter 12 - Teaching Materials on Electricity and Magnetism (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 12 - Teaching Materials on Electricity and Magnetism (part 2) | n.d. |
| 8 | Chapter 13 - Teaching Material on Sound | n.d. |
| 9 | Chapter 14 - Teaching Material on Light (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 14 - Teaching Material on Light (part 2) | n.d. |
| 10 | Chapter 12 - Teaching Material on Astronomy and Space Travel (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 12 - Teaching Material on Astronomy and Space Travel (part 2) | n.d. |
| 11 | Chapter 16 - Teaching Material on Astronomy and Space Travel | n.d. |
| Elementary Science Teaching Materials – copy 2 | | |
| 1 | Chapter 8 - Air, Heat and Changes (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 8 - Air, Heat and Changes (part 2) | n.d. |
| 2 | Chapter 10 - Teaching Material on Transportation (p. 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 10 - Teaching Material on Transportation (p. 2) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 10 - Teaching Material on Transportation - copy 3 | n.d. |
| 3 | Chapter 11 - Teaching Materials on Weather | n.d. |

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| Series III – Manuscripts & Curricula | | |
| 2 | Elementary Science Teaching Materials – copy 2 | |
| 4 | Chapter 11 – Supplement | n.d. |
| 5 | Chapter 12 - Teaching Materials on Electricity and Magnetism | n.d. |
| 6 | Chapter 13 - Teaching Material on Sound | n.d. |
| 7 | Chapter 14 - Teaching Material on Light | n.d. |
| 8 | Chapter 12- Teaching Material on Astronomy and Space Travel (part 1) | n.d. |
| | Chapter 12- Teaching Material on Astronomy and Space Travel (part 2) | n.d. |
| Science in Childhood Education (Jacobson/Wickware) | | |
| 1 | Science in Childhood Education - Outline | n.d. |
| | Part Three – The Earth On Which We Live | |
| 2 | Chapter 11 - Water and the Oceans | n.d. |
| 3 | Chapter 13 - Resources of the Earth | n.d. |
| | Part Four – The Biological World | |
| 4 | Chapter 15 - Environmental Changes and Adaptations of Living Things | n.d. |
| 5 | Chapter 17/14 – The Web of Life | n.d. |
| Unidentified manuscript | | |
| 1 | Chapter 2 - “Society’s Stake in Helping...” pp. 30-59 | n.d. |
| 2 | Chapter 3 - “Modern Science Understandings...” pp. 60-81 | n.d. |
| 3 | Chapter 4 - “Importance of Present Understanding...” pp. 82-124 | n.d. |
| 4 | Chapter 5 - “The Role of Teaching...” pp. 125-156 | n.d. |
| 5 | Chapter 6 - “Planning the Specifics of...” pp. 157-210 | n.d. |
| 6 | Chapter 7 - Developing the Physical Settings...” pp. 211-270 | n.d. |
| Series IV – Articles and News clippings | | |
| 2 | Thesis Abstract – “Developing Science Education...” | 1947 |
| | <i>Study Tour of Freshmen Starts Today</i> | 28 April 1947 |
| | Consultant at Tokyo University | February 1952 |
| | Science Teaching and Creativity | December 1952 |
| | “Science Curriculum at Willimantic State Teachers College” | 1955 |
| | Junior Women’s Club - speaker | 24 February 1957 |
| | Co-op Bookstore (advisor) | 1958 |
| | “Framework for the Science Program” | April 1958 |
| | “Robert K. Wickware” by Clarence Pruitt | October 1958 |

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| | Series IV – Articles and News clippings | |
| 2 | Dr. Wickware to Speak... | 21 November 1959 |
| | State Consultant... - speaker | 17 September 1961 |
| | “Science and the Elementary School Child” | Spring 1963 |
| | ...New Television Show... - Channel 24 | 23 August 1964 |
| | Professor Chosen for Atom Parley | 3 November 1964 |
| | Science Fair... - speaker | 12 March 1967 |
| | <i>Quarter Century</i> | 14 June 1968 |
| | United Nations Association | June-Oct 1968 |
| | 4 to Select ECSC Chief | 11 October 1969 |
| | New Dean of the College | October 1969 |
| | Professor Chosen | November 1969 |
| | Alumni Discuss Student Unrest | 10 May 1970 |
| | Talk Scheduled by ECSC Dean on U.N. | 5 October 1970 |
| | New President named for Community Chest | 1 March 1971 |
| | Six Receive Annual (President’s) Award | 22 January 1974 |
| | Interview: Dr. Wickware to Retire | 16 May 1974 |
| | Retiring After 33 Years | July 1974 |
| | Wickware Planetarium | 28 July 1974 |
| | Funds Donated for Annual Scholarship | 20 October 1979 |
| | “Mr. Science” Remembered | Fall 2006 |