This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri, Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org.

**Dates:** 1859-2007  
**Creator:** American Dialect Society  
**Collection Size:** 37.6 cubic feet, 13 audio discs

**Introduction**  
Papers and organizational records of the American Dialect Society. Charged with investigating spoken English of the United States and Canada, the Society was established in 1889 at Harvard University. Includes correspondence, treasurer reports and material, general organizational records, and research on words.

**Donor Information**  
The records were donated to the University of Missouri by Allan Metcalf on behalf of the American Dialect Society on 19 January 2007. Additional material was donated by Allan Metcalf on 12 June 2007 and 22 June 2007; Danielle Kovacs for the University of Massachusetts on 5 December 2007; Megan E. Melancon on 31 July 2013; the Department of English at Georgia College and State University on 10 February 2016; and Joan Houston Hall on 3 December 2019.

**Note:** Descriptions for boxes 1-9 include original University of Massachusetts (Amherst) folder numbers and series designations. Material in boxes 9-16 was received directly from the ADS. The materials are retained in their original box order, and the contents are listed in alphabetical order.

**Box List**

**Box 1**  
Correspondence, 1956-1957, m-s f. 154-164  
Correspondence, 1956-1967, s-z f. 165-176  
Correspondence, 1971-1972 f. 181a-e to 182b

**Box 2**  
Un-numbered files  
Correspondence, 1967-1968 f. 177a-180a  
Correspondence, 1973-1980 f. 183a-191  
General papers f. 51a-c

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Un-numbered files  
Treasurer's Papers, 1912-1949 f. 1-9  
Treasurer's Papers, 1949-1958 f. 10-18
Box 4
Treasurer's Papers, 1959-1963 f. 20-23
Index cards
Correspondence, 1941-1956 f. 48-61
Correspondence, 1941-1956 f. 63-78
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Box 5
Correspondence, 1929-1946 f. 33-47
Correspondence, 1955-1967 f. 117-127
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Box 6
Correspondence, 1941-1956 f. 79-92
Correspondence, 1941-1956 f. 93-107
Correspondence, 1955-1967 f. 132-140
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Box 7
Correspondence, 1889-1941 f. 1-20
Correspondence, 1929-1946 f. 21-32
General Papers, 1975-1982 f. 55-60

Box 8
General Papers, 1889-1950 f. 7-26
General Papers, 1951-1963 f. 27-42
General Papers, 1964-1971 f. 43-50

Box 9
General papers, no date f. 1-6
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Addresses
Ads
Articles—copies
Candidates for publication
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Council Business
San Diego, 1992
1995, 1996
Chicago, 1997
New York City, 1998
Los Angeles, 1999
Chicago, 2000
Washington, DC, 2001
San Francisco, 2002
Atlanta, 2003
Boston, 2004
Distinguished scholars
Inaugurations
Maps
Membership—invitations
Membership—lists
NCTE meeting, 1998
New Books by ADS membership
New Words Committee
Off prints
PADS 80
Permission to publish—publishers
Photographs
Requests for information, 1986
Resources for the study of American dialects
Safire/McQuain
Subscription information, 1988
Unlabeled folder [6]

Box 10
Office files
Annual meetings
   Los Angeles, 1999
   Chicago, 2000
   Washington, DC, 2001
   San Francisco, 2002
Annual meeting—Programs
   Atlanta, 2003
   Boston, 2004
Correspondence, 1980-1995 (4 folders)
DARE—Publicity
DARE—Special sales
Unlabeled (5 folders)
Words of the Year, 1993-1997
Words of the Year, new
Words of the Year, past

Box 11
ADS historical files
ACLS—Documents and correspondence
Annual meetings
   Washington, DC, 1978, 1982
   San Francisco, 1979
   Houston, 1980
   Denver, 1983
Correspondence files
Bailey, C.J.
Barnhart, David K.
Baugh, John
Bloomer, Robert
Butters, Ron
Callan, Ed
Clark, Tom
Cunningham, Irma
Davis, Larry
Dill, Lesa
Dumas, Bethany
Finegan, Edward
Frazer, June
Frazer, Tim
Kretzschmar, William
Larmouth, Don
Linn, Michael
MacDonald, Malcolm
Martin, Charles
McMillan, Jim
Metcalf, Alan
Schlerman, B. J.
Smith
Williams, Patrice

DNSA, 1981
Midwest Region—meeting notes and abstracts
MLA joint meeting—Midwest, Wisconsin, Oconomowoc, 1981
NCTE—Committee on the English Language
Pacific Coast Regional meetings, 1972-1973

PADS
Algeo, John (2 folders)
Birns, William
Carver, Craig
Chaski, Carole
Christian, Donna
Christian, Wolfram
Delfanian
Editorial
Hartman, Jim
Heap, Norman (2)
Heatherington, M.S.
May, Elizabeth
Meyer
Miller, Mike
Miscellaneous correspondence
Miscellaneous rosters
Preston
Reese, Jay Robert
Schrock
Scott, Ann Martin
Sen, Ann
Slotkin, Alan R.
Woods, Gordon
Zwilling, Leonard

Summer meeting—Albuquerque, 1980
Ward, Bill—Visit, June 1982
Words of the Year, 1998-2004

Box 12
ADS historical files
ACLS
Annual meeting—Washington, DC
Communications with
Annual meetings
Chicago, 1985
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New York City, 1986, 1992
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Computer purchase, 1986-1987
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General, 1986-1987
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SIDG (International Society for Dialectology and Geolinguistics)
Annual meeting—Bamberg, 1990

Box 13
ADS historical files
ACLS
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Conference of Administrative Officers—Philadelphia, 1990
Council of Secretaries
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AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY RECORDS

Philadelphia, 1980
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Chicago, 1985
New Orleans, 1986
Seattle, 1987

American Speech, 1991
Annual meetings (ADS)
Los Angeles, 1982
Chicago, 1985—party planning
New Orleans, 1988
Toronto, 1993
San Diego, 1994
Chicago, 1995, 1997

Centennial publications
Conference of Secretaries
DARE—Conference at NHC (Never happened)
DSNA
Annual meetings
Philadephia, 1987
Cleveland, 1989
Joint meeting with ADS—Summer, 1985

E-mail
Kurath Fund, 1983-1987
LSA Annual meeting—Los Angeles, 1993
Methods V—Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, 1984
Methods VI—Wales, 1987
New members, 1990-1992
PADS—Editorship
Society for Caribbean Linguistics—Trinidad, 1986

Box 14
ADS historical files
ACLS annual meeting—New York, 1982
ADS/DSNA, summer meeting, 1983
ADS/MLA—Cincinnati, 1982
ADS/MMLA—Minneapolis, 1980
ADS/NCTE, 1981-1984
American Speech, quarterly publication, 1981-1988
Annual meetings
Washington, D.C., 1989
Chicago, 1990
Glossarch
Missouri Modern Language Association (MMLA)—Minneapolis, 1983
ACCESSION CA6105
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY RECORDS

NCTE—Committee on English Language, 1981-1985
PADS
  Correspondence, 1978-1993
  Project—glossary of truck driver terms, 1968
  Read, Allen Walker—correspondence, 1979-1984
  Requests for information, 1982-1985
  Speech Archives survey
Regional meetings (except Midwest), 1976-1984
Regional meetings—Midwest, 1978-1984
Telephone directory—spiral notebook, 1994

Box 15
ADS historical files
  Correspondence, 1972-1975, 1981-1985
  Correspondence—CAL, through 1980
  Correspondence—McDavid to Reed, 1977-1984
  Correspondence—Wilson, Rex, 1976-1980
  Correspondence—Wilson, Rex with editors, 1978-1980
  Council memoranda and votes, 1981-1983
  Executive Secretary, 1980
  LAMSAS—Advisory board, 1981-1985
  National Humanities Alliance/NEH, 1981
  National Humanities Alliance/NEH—budget, 1981

Box 16
ADS historical files
  American Speech, 1987-1997 (11 rolls of microfilm)
  “Celebrating the Centennial: The American Dialect Society, 1889-1989”
    Membership list, 1908

Box 17
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous correspondence
  Clippings
  Admeister—Zooed-out
  Action-wear—Zon power

Box 18
Among the New Words series, F—J

Box 19
Among the New Words series, A—Z
Miscellaneous files
Box 20
Among the New Words series
  3 ring binders (3)
  Computer disks (24)
  Zip disk
  CD

Box 21
Among the New Words series
  Envelopes—Dr. Nuessel [University of Louisville] to Dr. Wayne Glowka [College of Georgia]
  Envelopes—miscellaneous, slang
  Newspaper clippings
  3 Ring binder with computer disks (10)

Box 22
Among the New Words series
  Envelopes—Dr. Nuessel [University of Louisville] to Dr. Wayne Glowka [College of Georgia]
  Miscellaneous papers—word project, term papers
  Miscellaneous papers—slang project

Box 23
Among the New Words series, C—E

Box 24
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous word envelopes, B—W
  Miscellaneous loose papers

Box 25
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous word envelopes, A—W
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Box 26
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous word envelopes, A—Z
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Among the New Words series, Miscellaneous word envelopes, A—Z

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Miscellaneous loose papers

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Among the New Words series, Miscellaneous word envelopes, P—T

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Among the New Words series, Miscellaneous word envelopes, T—Z

Box 31
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous loose papers
  Miscellaneous word envelopes

Box 32
Among the New Words series
  Miscellaneous loose papers
  Miscellaneous word envelopes
  Words of the Year, 2004

Box 33
Among the New Words series, Word envelopes, Glowka

Box 34
Among the New Words series, Word envelopes, Glowka

Box 35
Among the New Words series, Word envelopes, Glowka

Box 36
ADS Historical Sketch by Louise Pound, 1951
Correspondence files, 1940s-1980s
  Meredith, Mamie (1 folder)
  Russell, Willis (4 folders)
  Sledge, Mailande Cheney (1 folder)
Dissertation—The Representation of the Gullah Dialect in Francis Griswold’s A Sea Island Lady by Mailande Cheney Sledge, 1985

Box 37
Among the New Words series, Miscellaneous word envelopes (5 folders)
Correspondence, Wayne Glowka, 1984-1988
Miles Hanley material
  “Examples of Rime from Early American Verse”
  “Spellings from Diaries and Town Records,” 20 June 1935
  Transcript, Green Farms Parish Records
  WPA bibliography
  ADS correspondence and miscellaneous material
“Criminals’ Cant from Vacaville, 1961-62,” Peter Tamony
Simplified Spelling
Minutes and miscellaneous material, The Simpler Spelling Society, 1921
Correspondence, Funk & Wagnalls vs. G&C Merriam re: pronunciation key, 1911
Vocabulum, or, The Rogues’s Lexicon by George W. Matsell, 1859

Box 38 (partially full)
Words, Oct. 1934-April 1942
E.O. Vaile material
Books, pamphlets, and government documents on spelling, punctuation, etc.
The Nursery and Our Little Ones, 1877-1885 (incomplete)

Audiovisual Material
  a.d. 1 65-A: Oklahoma; 65-B: Macon, GA [2 copies]
  a.d. 2 66-A: Northern New York State; 66-B: Columbia, SC [2 copies]
  a.d. 3 67-A: Southern Ontario; 67-B: Neighborhood of Boston, MA [2 copies]
  a.d. 4 68-A: Newburyport, MA; 68-B: Ellsworth, ME
  a.d. 5 69-A: Lancaster, NH; 69-B: Meriden, CT [2 copies]
  a.d. 6 73-A: Lancaster County, PA; 73-B: North Philadelphia, PA [2 copies]
  a.d. 7 76-A: New York City (1); 76-B: New York City (2) [2 copies]