



**Daniel Lewis James, Jr. Papers
(K0018)**

Collection Number: K0018

Collection Title: Daniel Lewis James, Jr. Papers

Dates: 1933, 1939

Creator: James, Daniel Lewis, Jr., 1911-1988

Abstract: The Daniel Lewis James, Jr. Papers contain newspaper clippings, a playbill, and four manuscripts written by James.

Collection Size: 0.37 cubic foot
(8 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Daniel Lewis James, Jr. Papers* (K0018); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by University of Missouri-Kansas City Library on August 31, 1980 (Accession No. KA0029).

Processed by: Processed by Rachel Forester, August 2019

Historical Note:

Daniel Lewis James, Jr. was born on January 14, 1911, in Kansas City, Missouri, to Daniel Lewis, Sr. and Lily Hyatt Snider James. He attended school at Andover Academy and later

attended Yale where he graduated in 1933 with a degree in Classical Greek. After graduation, James began writing radio dramas, plays, and various other literary works in New York and Missouri. James married Rosalie Guignon on December 16, 1934, in Kansas City, Missouri. By 1940, James had divorced his wife and moved to Los Angeles, California.

During his time in California, James married his second wife, Lilith, and begin his career as a writer. He released his first work *Winter Soldiers* in 1942, and in 1944, co-authored the book *Bloomer Girl* with his wife Lilith. It was during this time that James began working as an assistant director on the film *The Great Dictator* with Charlie Chaplin. James' association with Hollywood and actor Charlie Chaplin brought unwanted attention from the House Committee on Un-American Activities during the 1950s. Both James and his wife were accused of being members of the Communist Party, however, they both refused to self-incriminate themselves under the Fifth Amendment. The accusation of being a Communist Party member hurt James budding career as a writer. For the next few decades, James remained out of the spotlight but continued working as an assistant director under the name Daniel Hyatt.

By the 1970s, James began writing under the pseudonym Danny Santiago. He gained acclaim for the book *Famous All over Town* in 1983, which appeared to depict the life of a Mexican-American in Los Angeles, California. Controversy erupted when it was revealed that James was behind the pseudonym with some critics claiming literary fraud for tricking the public into believing that an author of Mexican descent had published the work. Other critics appreciated James' contributions to literature despite his lineage.

James died on May 14, 1988, in Monterey, California.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into eight folders and has been separated by type.

Scope and Content Note:

The papers consist of newspaper clippings concerning Daniel James melodrama *Survival*, its reception at the Cape Playhouse located in Dennis, Massachusetts, and its potential success on Broadway. Also included, is a playbill from the Cape Playhouse featuring *Survival*. Additional materials include four manuscripts written by James. These are *Survival*, *Life and Times of Frank and Jesse James*, *In Which the Son of an Ancient People Sees a Strange Sign*, and *Ol Paul, The Mighty Logger*. All of the manuscripts include typed and handwritten portions, as well as edits.

Container List:

Box 001	f. 1	Newspaper Clippings, 1933, no date
	f. 2	Playbill, 1933
	f. 3	<i>Survival</i> , 1933
	f. 4-5	<i>Life and Times of Frank and Jesse James</i> , 1939
	f. 6-7	<i>In Which the Son of an Ancient People Sees a Strange Sign</i> , no date
	f. 8	<i>Ol Paul, the Mighty Logger</i> , no date

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