



Cullimore Family Papers (R1090)

Collection Number: R1090

Collection Title: Cullimore Family Papers

Dates: 1878-2020

Creator: Cullimore family

Abstract: The Cullimore Family Papers contain the personal and family papers for Donald B. and Lee M. Cullimore and their father Donald G. Cullimore. The papers include personal correspondence, diaries, articles, family research and genealogy, photographs, and local history research. a larger portion of the collection is dedicated to genealogical materials for the family of Lee Cullimore and his wife, Marcia Craddock Cullimore's family.

Collection Size: 10.5 cubic feet
(276 of folders, 8 CDs, 2 cassette tapes, 828 photographs, 217 negatives, 1 45 record)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

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

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Rights & Reproductions](#) on the Society's website for more information about reproductions and permission to publish.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Cullimore Family Papers* (R1090); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Don B. Cullimore on July 16, 1999 (Accession No. RA0725). An addition was made to the State Historical Society of Missouri on January 18, 2022 by Lee M. Cullimore (Accession No. RA1711).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Cullimore Family Papers can be found in the following collections:

Dan Sauls Papers (R0403)

Leonard Hall Papers (R0408)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, April 18, 2006. Revised by Kathleen Seale, May 31, 2023.

Biographical Note:

Donald Grant Sharp Cullimore was born in 1907 in Oklahoma, to Grant and Virginia *Sharp* Cullimore. Don and his mother moved to Kirksville in 1910 following the death of his father to live with her parents. Virginia was the daughter of Reverend George Washington Sharp Jr. and Virginia *Marmaduke* Sharp. Cullimore majored in journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia before beginning a twenty-year career as a newspaperman and editor for the *Jefferson City News Tribune* and the *Wichita Eagle*. He married Marie J. Fromme of Cole County, Missouri in 1931, and together they had four children. In 1942, he became the editor of war news from the European Theater for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. He also began writing feature stories and articles on outdoor themes and published a groundbreaking series of articles in the *Post-Dispatch* on the Irish Wilderness of southeastern Missouri. He joined the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) in 1951.

In 1953, Cullimore became the first public relations director for Johnson Outboard Motors in Illinois, and in 1958 became the public relations director for Gator Trailers of Florida. After the death of his wife in 1958, he became a freelance writer and editor, remaining active in the OWAA. In 1963, he became the first full-time executive director of OWAA, a post he held until his retirement in 1972. During his tenure, Cullimore successfully revived the OWAA and established it as a nationally recognized organization in the outdoor field. In 1976, OWAA asked Cullimore to write the history of the organization, resulting in the 1977 publication, *Fifty Years of O.W.A.A.—A Historical Summary of the Outdoor Writers Association of America*. Cullimore retired to Holiday Island, Arkansas, where he continued writing and editing until his death in 1989. Two of Cullimore's sons, Donald Barton "Rocky" Cullimore and Lee Marmaduke "Duke" Cullimore, followed his path into journalism and outdoor writing.

Lee Marmaduke "Duke" Cullimore was born on September 20, 1933, in Jefferson City, Missouri. He attended college at the University of Missouri from 1951 to 1953 when he enlisted in the United States Air Force serving until 1957. He married Marcia Bernice Craddock in 1953 and together they had five children. After his discharge he returned to school majoring in forestry but took a position with the Missouri Department of Conservation for seven years. He returned once again to school majoring journalism at Lincoln University and then the University of Missouri-Columbia. He was executive director of the American Water Ski Association from 1989 to 1994, vice-president of Outdoors Inc. (Columbia, Mo.), and editor of *Outdoors* and *Water Skier* magazines.

Marcia B. Craddock was born on December 4, 1931, in Marshfield, Missouri to Arley W. and Gertrude *Mooney* Craddock in Missouri. After marrying Lee Cullimore in 1953 the couple had five children, Daniel L., Deborah B., James G., Jessica M., and Jonathan W. Marcia graduated from nursing school in 1977 working in the health field until her retirement in 1996. The couple

lived in Jefferson City, Washington, Hannibal, and Columbia, Missouri before retiring to Florida with her husband.

Donald Barton “Rocky” Cullimore was born on March 30, 1940, in Wichita, Kansas. He majored in American History at George Mason University. He spent many years in newspaper journalism with the *Jacksonville (Fla.) Journal*, *Jefferson City (Mo.) News Tribune*, *Oregon Journal*, (Portland, Ore.) *Oregonian*, and Pacific Coast newspapers. He was editor of *Outdoor America*, *Environmental Action*, and *Water Skier* magazines. He later resided in Fayette, Missouri, where he worked as a freelance writer and director of public relations and publications at Central Methodist University.

Charles Daniel “Dan” Saults was born on May 20, 1911, in Knob Noster, Missouri. Saults was a leader in promoting conservation efforts in Missouri. He bought the *Knob Noster Weekly Gem* after graduating from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1932. Saults subsequently sold the paper to serve as an officer in the 339th Infantry Regiment in North Africa and Italy during World War II. After the war he spent a year in Texas. In 1947, Saults joined the Missouri Department of Conservation, heading the department’s information service and editing the *Missouri Conservationist*. In 1957, he became the deputy director of the department. In 1964, Saults joined the U. S. Department of the Interior and moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked with the Bureau of Land Management and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Saults retired in 1973 and along with his wife, Helen, a former National Park Service employee, moved to a home near Branson, Missouri. He remained active in conservation circles and in 1979 was elected president of the Outdoor Writers Association of America. He wrote a weekly column, “Saulty Observations,” for the *Branson Beacon*, 1973-1979, and a weekly column for the *Springfield Daily News*, 1982-1985. Through journalism and shared interests, Saults became friends with Donald G. Cullimore and together led efforts to adopt the Irish Wilderness as a federally protected wilderness area. Along with Leonard Hall and other conservationists, they were also active in the fight to prevent damming of the Current River by the Army Corps of Engineers. He died on September 23, 1985.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following ten series with eight subseries:

- Dan Saults
 - Family Papers
 - Mooney Family
 - Extended Family
- Cullimore Family
 - Family History
 - Publications and Writings
- George W. Sharp
 - Photograph Album
- Outdoor Writers Association of America
- Recreational Booklets
- Civil War
 - Ohio Volunteer Cavalry
 - Boys of Company K
- Research
 - Missouri River Boy

Irish Wilderness
Kissimmee River

Scope and Content Note:

Dan Saults

This series consists of correspondence between Donald G. Cullimore and Dan Saults and a compilation of Saults's articles. Folders 1 and 2 contain the correspondence between Rocky Cullimore and Dan Saults. Like his father, Rocky Cullimore became a close personal friend of Dan Saults, crediting him as a mentor. Cullimore and Saults were in Washington, D.C. at the same time (Saults at the Department of the Interior and Cullimore with Environmental Action). The two began a regular correspondence when Saults left Washington for Branson, Missouri, that continued until Saults died in 1985. The major themes of their correspondence are the Outdoor Writers Association of America, the Missouri Department of Conservation, national politics during the Carter and Reagan administrations, people and events in Washington, D.C., local events and life in Missouri (especially Taney County) and Oregon, the Ozark Institute of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, journalism and the newspaper business. Saults and Cullimore also discussed friends and mutual acquaintances among journalists and writers including Clay Anderson, Robert Anderson, Chuck Cadieux, L. B. Cook, Donald G. Cullimore, Elmo Ingenthron, Lee Marmaduke "Duke" Cullimore, Harry Fey, Jim Keefe, Lynn Morrow, George Reiger, Joel Vance, Ron Way, Patsy Yarnell, and others.

Folders 3 and 4 contain copies of Saults's weekly columns in the *Branson Beacon* and *Springfield Daily News*. The wide-ranging columns covered many of the same themes discussed by Saults and Cullimore in their correspondence. Saults frequently sent Cullimore drafts or published versions of his articles, and there are many references to the columns in their correspondence. The articles reveal Saults' wide interests, writing style, and wit. While some of the articles are autobiographical, such as those about his experiences in World War II, the bulk of the columns cover a broader range of political, social, and historical topics including, natural history, local and national politics, Taney County, development of the Branson area, the Outdoor Writers Association of America, the Irish Wilderness, conservation, leading conservationists and students of the Ozarks such as Don Cullimore, Pete Czura, George B. Herndon, Elmo Ingenthron, Dru Pippin, and Eugene Poirot, and journalists including Harry J. Fey, James Keefe, and Joel Vance.

Family Papers

This series consists of materials pertaining to the Mooney, Ethridge, Hinshaw, Bartee, Milstead, Marmaduke, Fromme, and connected families. The materials consist of genealogical research, including family charts, family histories, correspondence with family members, and originals and photocopies of photographs. The research was done by Duke and Marcia Cullimore.

The Mooney Family subseries contains genealogy, photographs, research correspondence, copies of family records, and compiled writings of the Mooney family descended from Neal and Ann Mooney down through the family of William Frank and Elizabeth Ann Davis Mooney. Of note is folder 7 which contains copies of numerous family photographs. Folder 35 contains a 'family book' which maps out the interconnected families of Donald Grant Cullimore and Marie Jessamine Fromme Cullimore.

The Extended Family subseries contains materials and research pertaining to the connected families; Weant, Boyce, Barton, Ethridge, Hinshaw, Craddock, Milstead, Bartee, Marmaduke, and Fromme. The research materials trace these families who resided in Bates, Pettis, Dallas, and Camden counties in Missouri. Materials include family charts, census data, families histories, and research correspondence.

The Marmaduke family research includes Lee Marmaduke Cullimore's research on the Marmaduke family connection and the materials he used to write his book, *To Make A Fortune in Missouri: Meredith Miles Marmaduke, 1791-1864* about his ancestor. The research includes correspondence with extended family members, photocopies and notes from secondary sources research, and photocopies of primary sources.

Cullimore Family

This series contains materials related to the history of the Cullimore family. These materials include land records, census data, academic papers, genealogical research, correspondence, and writings. Most of the materials are associated with Don G. Cullimore and his son Lee. The series was arranged in its original order.

The Family History and Papers subseries contains genealogical research, correspondence, family charts, articles, family histories, and photographs for the Cullimore and connected families. Materials were collected by Don G. Cullimore and his son Lee.

The Publications and Writing subseries contain the writings of Don G. Cullimore, Lee Cullimore, and Johnathan Cullimore. The writings include both unpublished and published articles. The materials include memoirs, family history, poetry, work articles, edited magazines, brochures, and advertisements created mostly by Don G. and Lee Cullimore. The series is arranged in its original order.

George W. Sharp

This series consists of materials related to Reverend George Washington Sharp, including diaries, books, and genealogical research. The Diaries subseries contains the diaries kept by Reverend George Washington Sharp from 1878 to 1908 in folders 93-96. During this time, he served as an itinerant preacher, and as a missionary for the American Sunday School Union in northeast Missouri. The journals contain hundreds of names and other information regarding people active in churches of that area, as well as describing the life of Reverend Sharp and his family. The journals have also been transcribed and are available on a CD in folder 99.

The series also contains books and genealogical research with materials related to George W. Sharp and his family. This series is arranged in its original order.

Photograph Album

This series contains a photograph album for the Mooney, Milstead, Craddock, and Cundiff families. The photographs include images of Parson's Lodge and Route 66; and feature the Missouri towns of Crocker, Jefferson City, and Stoutland. Of note in folder 110 is an image of President Truman and Winston Churchill in Jefferson City on their way to Fulton, Missouri for the famous "Iron Curtain" speech.

Outdoor Writers Association of America

This series consists of articles, subject research, and correspondence related to the Don G. Cullimore's work with the Outdoor Writers Association of America. Cullimore served as the organization's first full-time executive director. Cullimore joined OWAA in 1951 and became director in 1963 serving for nine years. The series includes his work *50 Years of Outdoor Writers Association of America* which documented the history of the organization up to 1977. This series is arranged in its original order.

Recreational Booklets

This series contains recreation and travel booklets produced by the Missouri State Division of Resources and Development published during the early and mid-1950s. The booklets include photographs, maps, descriptions of notable tourist and recreational destinations, and images of agricultural industry in various regions around the state of Missouri. These photographs include images of cotton growing in southeast Missouri, speed boat races on Roach Lake near Chillicothe, Thespian Hall in Booneville, Pony Express Stable in St. Joseph, and Greer Spring, among many other sights. The series is arranged in its original order.

Civil War

The series contains copies, transcriptions, notes, and indexes for the Official Records related to the service of the Nebraska Cavalry, Ohio Volunteer Company, and the Powder River Expedition. Materials and research were used for the writing of Lee Cullimore's book, *The Boys of Company K: Ohio Cavalry Soldiers in the West During the Civil War*.

The Ohio Volunteer Cavalry subseries contains research and notes for the unit particularly its participation in the Powder River Expedition and their service in the western United States. The Boys of Company K subseries contains research, correspondence, and drafts of Lee Cullimore's work on his book *The Boys of Company K*. The series is arranged in its original order.

Missouri and Arkansas Rivers Research

This series consists of newspaper articles, promotional brochures, maps, surveys, and correspondence concerning rivers in Missouri and Arkansas. Most of the materials are from Don G. Cullimore, with later additions by his son Lee Cullimore to the Missouri River Boy subseries. Also included are photographs of Don Cullimore that feature outdoors recreation, rivers, boating, canoeing, and conservation. Much of materials focus on the conservation of Missouri forests and rivers and their accessibility as recreation areas. This series has been organized in its original order.

The Missouri River Boy subseries contains research, correspondence, writings, and notes related to the writing of the book, *Missouri River Boy*. The book was never completed but of interest are the unpublished manuscripts for William "Steamboat Bill" Heckman written by Don G. Cullimore. Cullimore interviewed Heckman at his home in Hermann, Missouri several times, but never completed the book project most likely due to his changed of employment and move to Waukegan, Illinois. The series is arranged in its original order.

The Irish Wilderness subseries contains research, correspondence, writings, publications, photographs, and newspaper article relating to the history and preservation of the Irish Wilderness area in Oregon and Ripley counties. Much of the materials were created by Don Cullimore and contain correspondence, writings, and photographs of Dan Saults and Don Woolridge. The materials cover efforts to protect the Irish Wilderness and have it established as a federally protected wilderness area. The series is arranged in its original order.

Kissimmee River

This series contains reference materials, notes, correspondence, writings, and research compiled and created by Lee "Duke" Cullimore. The materials pertain to the efforts of restoring and preserving the river and surrounding Everglades of the Kissimmee River in Florida. In folders 265-267, 273 there are articles where Lee Cullimore addresses the areas conservation history regarding the channeling of the river and the subsequent damage to the river, lakes, and marshlands. The series covers Lee and conservationists' efforts to restore the river and their years long fight with the Corps of Engineers.

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