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# UA3/3/4 President Kelly Thompson - Construction File

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# Western Kentucky University
# UA3 President's Office
## Series 3 Kelly Thompson
### Subseries 4 Construction File

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**Biographical/Historical Note:** The president's office was created in 1906. Assistant to the President Edwin Kelly Thompson became acting president during Paul Garrett's last illness. Upon Garrett's death February 28, 1955 the Board of Regents approved Thompson to continue as acting president until a replacement could be found. He was elected president on October 17, 1955 a position he held until his retirement in 1969.

Kelly Thompson was born in Lebanon, Kentucky on January 28, 1909. He came to Western in the fall of 1928 on a football scholarship and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. Thompson spent his early career at WKU as college representative and publicity director. During World War II he served in the Navy, after which he returned to campus to work as an assistant to E.A. Diddle and President Paul Garrett. (Harrison, pp. 139-143)

During his tenure as president, Thompson oversaw a steady increase in student population which resulted in the construction of new buildings and WKU gained university status in 1966. He stepped down in 1969 and later went on to serve as president of the College Heights Foundation. Thompson died August 14, 1993.

**Description:** Construction file regarding construction of new buildings, renovation of existing buildings and bond issues during Kelly Thompson's tenure as WKU President.

**Dates:** 1955-1969

**Subject Analytics:**

Barnes-Campbell Hall (WKU)
Bates-Runner Hall (WKU)
Bemis Lawrence Hall (WKU)
Bonds (Negotiable instruments)
Cherry Hall (WKU)
Construction
Diddle Arena (WKU)

Gilbert Hall (WKU)
Gordon Wilson Hall (WKU)
Grise Hall (WKU)
Helm-Cravens Library (WKU)
Ivan Wilson Hall (WKU)
Keen Hall (WKU)
L.T. Smith Stadium (WKU)
Poland Hall (WKU)
President's Home (WKU)
Rodes-Harlin Hall (WKU)
Snell Hall (WKU)
South Hall (WKU)
Thompson, E. Kelly, 1909-1993
Van Meter Hall (WKU)
West Hall (WKU)
Western Kentucky University
Wetherby Hall (WKU)

**Accession Information:** These records were transferred to the University Archives upon its creation.

**Access Restrictions:** none

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# Finding Aid Report

*12/10/2010*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **UA3.3.4** | **Records** | **Date** | |
| **Level** | **Subseries** | **Linked toUA3.3** | |
| **Title** | **UA3 President's Office Series 3. Kelly Thompson Subseries 4. Construction File** | | |
| **Collection** | **University Archives** | | |
| **Scope & Content** | **Construction file regarding construction of new buildings, renovation of existing buildings and bond issues during Kelly Thompson's tenure as WKU President.** | | |

## Container List

| Container | Folder | Creator | Date | Title |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Box 1 | | President's Office | 1955-1969 | Construction File |

Description
Academic Complex (WKU)
Academic-Athletic Building - E.A. Diddle Arena
Academic-Athletic Building #2 - L.T. Smith Stadium
Academic-Athletic Building Inspection
Administration Building Addition
Diddle Arena (WKU)
Loan Agreement File Project CH-Ky-87D
Bemis Lawrence Hall (WKU)
Barnes Campbell Hall (WKU)
Bates Runner Hall (WKU)
Cherry Hall (WKU)
Students Union Building
Van Meter (WKU)

Subjects
Bonds (Negotiable instruments)
Construction

| Box 2 | President's Office | 1955-1969 | Construction File |
|---|---|---|---|

Description
Central Hall (WKU)
Education Complex
Gilbert Hall (WKU)
Grise Hall (WKU)
Hardin Planetarium (WKU)
Heating Plant (WKU)
Helm Library (WKU)
Home Economics Renovation
Home Management House (WKU)
Keen Hall (WKU)
Poland Hall (WKU)
Laundry (WKU)
Maintenance Building (WKU)
McCormack Hall (WKU)
Music Building (WKU)
Pioneer Log House (WKU)
Potter Hall (WKU)
President's Home (WKU)

Subjects
Construction
Dormitories

| Box 3 | President's Office | 1955-1969 | Construction File |
|---|---|---|---|

Description
Rodes-Harlin Hall (WKU)
Snell Hall (WKU)
South Hall (WKU)

Subjects
Construction

Taylor Agriculture Pavilion (WKU)
Thompson Science Hall (WKU)
Kelly Thompson Complex & Hardin Planetarium
Administrative Space - 20 Story Building
Top of the Hill Project
Utilities Expansion
Utilities Survey
Van Meter (WKU)
West Hall (WKU)
Wetherby Administration Building (WKU)
Gordon Wilson Hall (WKU)
Ivan Wilson Center for Fine Arts (WKU)

Box 4 | President's Office | 1955-1969 | Construction File

Description: Bid Form
Helm Library (WKU)
Housing & Dining
Regents
Trust Indenture

Subjects: Dormitories
Bonds (Negotiable instruments)

Box 5 | President's Office | 1955-1969 | Construction File

Description: East Hall (WKU)
McLean Hall (WKU)
North Hall (WKU)
South Hall (WKU)
West Hall (WKU)
Student Union Building

Subjects: Dormitories
Bonds (Negotiable instruments)