



Western Kentucky University

UA3 President's Office

Series 3 Kelly Thompson

Subseries 4 Construction File

Contact information:

WKU Archives

1906 College Heights Blvd.#11092

Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Phone: 270-745-4793

Email: archives@wku.edu

Home page: <https://wku.edu/library/archive>

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Administrative History: 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 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

Extent: 5 ¼ cu. ft.

Subject Analytics:

Academic Complex (WKU)

Agricultural Pavilion (WKU)

Barnes-Campbell Hall (WKU)

Bates-Runner Hall (WKU)

Bemis Lawrence Hall (WKU)

Bonds (Negotiable instruments)

Cherry Hall (WKU)

Construction

Diddle Arena (WKU)

Dormitories

Downing, Dero Goodman, 1921-2011

East Hall (WKU)

Garrett Conference Center (WKU)

Gilbert Hall (WKU)

Gordon Wilson Hall (WKU)

Grise Hall (WKU)

Hardin Planetarium (WKU)

Heating Plant (WKU)

Helm-Cravens Library (WKU)
Home Management House (WKU)
Ivan Wilson Hall (WKU)
Keen Hall (WKU)
Kentucky Building (WKU)
L.T. Smith Stadium (WKU)
Laundrette (WKU)
Maintenance Service Building (WKU)
McCormack Hall (WKU)
McLean Hall (WKU)
Minton Hall (WKU)
Music Hall (WKU)
North Hall (WKU)
Pioneer Log Cabin (WKU)

Poland Hall (WKU)
President's Home (WKU)
Residential facilities
Rodes-Harlin Hall (WKU)
Snell Hall (WKU)
South Hall (WKU)
Taylor Agricultural Center (WKU)
Thompson Complex (WKU)
Thompson, Kelly, 1909-1993
Van Meter Hall (WKU)
West Hall (WKU)
Western Kentucky University
Wetherby Hall (WKU)

Digital Commons:

Architectural Engineering
Architecture
Construction Engineering

Urban Studies
Urban Studies and Planning
Urban, Community and Regional Planning

Accession Information: These records transferred to WKU Archives upon its creation.

Access Restrictions: This record group is unprocessed and must be reviewed for potential restricted materials before access is granted. Please contact the WKU Archivist prior to your visit.

Allied Materials:

[UA1F WKU Archives Multimedia Resources / Vertical File](#)

[UA2 Board of Regents](#)

[UA30/1/2 Building File](#)

Preferred Citation: UA3/3/4 President's Office-Thompson Construction File, WKU Archives, Bowling Green, Kentucky, USA.

Processing Information: Records processed and collection inventory created 2010, revised 2019.

Finding Aid Report

04/12/2019

UA3.3.4	Records	Date
Level	Subseries	Linked toUA3.3
Title	UA3 President's Office	
Collection	Series 3 Kelly Thompson	
Scope & Content	Subseries 4 Construction File	
	WKU Archives	
	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		WKU President's Office - Thompson	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) Bemis Lawrence Hall (WKU) Barnes Campbell Hall (WKU) Bates Runner Hall (WKU) Cherry Hall (WKU) Loan Agreement File Project CH-Ky-87D Students Union Building Van Meter (WKU)			Subjects Bonds (Negotiable instruments) Construction
Box 1	16	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1960-1962	Cherry Hall
Description	Agriculture (WKU) Art (WKU) Cain, Frank Cherry Hall Committee Cravens, Raymond Kentucky. Dept. of Finance Leo Miller Co., Inc. Smith, Billy Snell Hall (WKU) Temple, Ruth Thompson, Kelly			Subjects Construction Drawings Floor plans Fire escapes Contracts Budget. Kilns Lighting
Box 1	1	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1955-1969	Construction File
Description	Major Construction Projects, WKU, 1955-1969, D1436 - https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1734/			Subjects Construction

Box 2		WKU President's Office - Thompson	1955-1969	Construction File
Description	Central Hall (WKU) Education Complex Gilbert Hall (WKU) Grise Hall (WKU) Hardin Planetarium (WKU) Heating Plant (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 2	14	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1959-1965	Construction File - Helm Library
Description	American Library Association Arrasmith, W.S. Associated Engineers Cain, Frank Construction Consultants Council for Financial Aid to Education, Inc. Wake Up & Read: A Few Facts About College & University Libraries, ca. 1960 Cravens, Raymond Downing, Dero Helm, Margie Jesse, William Kentucky Library: Plans for Its Physical Facilities Lawson, Owen Library Committee (WKU) Library Expansion, 1961 Library Resume Metcalf, Keyes Outline Specifications for Reconstruction & Expansion of College Library, 7/3/1963 Planning for a New Library Building Preliminary Cost Estimate, 7/1/1963 Recommendations Concerning the College Library, 11/6/1959 Reconstruction of & Enlargement of Physical Education Building Into a New Library, 1/18/1964 Remodeling Present Gymnasium Bldg. for Library, Outline of Specifications, 7/3/1963 Sketches of a Cherry Hall Office Annex Sketches of a Possible Location for Library - Administration - Classroom Building Smith, L.T. Thompson, Kelly Thompson, Lawrence Tyler, Sara Utilization of Present Library as a Classroom Building Wilk, Joseph WSC to Rebuild Old Gym Into Library, np, nd			Subjects Construction Libraries Budget. Architects Floor plans Maps Correspondence

Box 2	15	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1964-1968	Construction File - Helm Library
Description	Agricultural Pavilion (WKU) Air conditioning Arrasmith & Judd			Subjects Construction Libraries Budget.

Arrasmith, W.S.
 B & J Company, Inc.
 Barrett Division Allied Chemicals
 Bids
 Blyth & Company, Inc.
 Carpet
 Change orders
 Childress, Buddy
 Clark, H.B.
 Downing, Dero
 Duncan, Tom. Western Tripling Library Space, LCJ, 1/12/1964
 Final Cost Estimate, 4/2/1964
 Garrett Conference Center (WKU)
 Grants
 Hawkins, Joseph
 Helm, Harold
 Helm, Margie
 Helm-Cravens Library (WKU)
 Housing & Home Finance Agency
 Irvin Kahn & Son
 Jump circle
 Karsell, Doris
 Kentucky Building (WKU)
 Kentucky Library Plans for Its Physical Facilities, nd
 Kentucky. Dept. of Finance
 Kentucky. Dept. of Insurance
 Lambert, Russell
 Lawson, Owen
 Leo C. Miller Company, Inc.
 Library Proposed Wrecking Items, nd
 Marcus Furniture, Inc.
 Nahm & Turner
 Nalbach, Walter
 New Library Budget, 1/18/1964, 8/10/1963
 Planning for a New Library Building, nd
 Preliminary Cost Estimates for Furnishing & Equipping the New Library Building
 Project Budgets, Series C Bonds, 7/1/1964
 Punch lists
 Reconstruction & Enlargement of College Library Revised Budget, 7/1/1964, 7/30/1964
 Scahafer, Jack. Complete Architecture? Nd
 Shingles
 Smith, L.T.
 Southern Engineering Company
 Tabor, Clarence
 The Buckstaff Company
 The Trane Company
 Thompson, Kelly
 Tyler, Sarah
 U.S. Dept. of Education. College Construction Grant Section
 Ward Engineering Company
 Weekly Progress Reports
 Wilk, Joseph
 Zettlemoyer, Charles

Architects
 Maps
 Correspondence
 Friezes (Ornamental bands)
 Furniture
 Furnishings
 Gymnasiums
 Heating & ventilation industry
 Insurance
 Interior decoration
 Interior design
 Landscape.
 Plants
 Meetings
 Murals
 Parking
 Shelving
 Wages

Box 3 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1955-1969 Construction File

Description	Administrative Space - 20 Story Building Gordon Wilson Hall (WKU) Ivan Wilson Center for Fine Arts (WKU) Rodes-Harlin Hall (WKU) Snell Hall (WKU) South Hall (WKU) Taylor Agriculture Pavilion (WKU)	Subjects	Construction Correspondence
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Top of the Hill Project
Utilities Expansion
Utilities Survey
Van Meter (WKU)
West Hall (WKU)
Wetherby Administration Building (WKU)

Box 3 10 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1965-1967 Construction File - Thompson Science Complex - Federal Grant & Federal Loan

Description	Academic Facilities Program, Project Summary Revision, 3/11/1966 Area Usage Analysis Science Complex Bellarmine College Brescia College Catherine Spalding College Centre College Complete List of Applications Received for the August 2, 1965 Closing Date, Section 104 Confirmation of Employment of Bond Counsel & Fiscal Agent Downing, Dero Eastern Kentucky University Grants Kentucky State University Loans Murray State University Natcher, William Paducah Junior College Proposed Cost for Furnishing Science Complex & Refurnishing Thompson Hall Kentucky Council on Public Higher Education Revised Preliminary Cost Estimate Science Complex, 9/1/1965 Russell, Marvin Science Complex Building Committee Activities, 9/4/1965 Skaggs & Hay Telegrams Thompson, Kelly U.S. Dept. of Education U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development University of Louisville Villa Madonna College Western May be Granted \$1.2 Million, PCDN, 9/3/1965 Zettlemoyer, Charles	Subjects	Construction Correspondence Bonds (Negotiable instruments)
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Box 3 5 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1958-1959 Construction File - Thompson Science Hall

Description	Agreement for Public Works Plan Preparation, Project KY-15-P-3017, 9/23/1958 Cooper, John Downing, Dero Housing & Home Finance Agency Kentucky. Dept. of Finance Meriwether, Marye & Associates Morton, Thurston Natcher, William Program for a Science Building, nd Revised Program for a Science Building at Western State College (Scheme IV), 7/8/1959 Roberts & Johnson Associated Architects Science Building Committee Smith, L.T. Stephens, H.L. Sumpter, Ward Thompson Science Complex (WKU) Thompson, Kelly Whittle, Charles	Subjects	Construction Correspondence Contracts Halls Meetings Microscopes Politicians Students Telegrams
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Description 99-Year Lease is Given Western, LCJ, 5/19/1960
 Academic Athletic Building
 Architect's Recommendations for Change Order No. 8, 10/18/1961
 Architectural renderings
 Bald Cypress Tree
 Blyth & Co., Inc.
 Cain, Frank
 Cherry Hall (WKU)
 Colonial-Hites Company, Inc.
 Comments on Science Building Program, nd
 Diddle Arena (WKU)
 Gordon Wilson Hall (WKU)
 Grafton & Fleischer
 Graham-Conway Company
 Home Economics Building (WKU)
 Housing & Home Finance Agency
 In the Works for Western, LCJ, nd
 Industrial Arts Building (WKU)
 Johnson & Cain. Preliminary Estimate Phase B
 Johnson & Cain. Preliminary Specifications Preliminary Estimate Phase B, 3/1/1960
 Kentucky. Dept. of Finance
 Landscaping
 Lawson, Owen
 Leo C. Miller Company, Inc.
 Music Building (WKU)
 New Science Building Okayed by Western, PCDN, 8/15/1961
 Notice of Sale of Bonds, np, 8/18/1960
 Ogden College
 Ogden Hall (WKU)
 Physical Education Building (WKU)
 Pro Memoria
 Recapitulation of Change Orders, 10/18/1961
 Restrooms
 School Service Company
 Science Building Committee Summary & Report, nd
 Science Building Financial Report, 3/20/1961
 Science Building Movable Furniture, 2/22/1961
 Science Hall Named for Thompson, PCDN, 8/27/1961
 Science Students Keep Cool Heads, LCJ, 8/29/1961
 Smith, Billy
 Smith, L.T.
 Snell Hall (WKU)
 Sumpter, Ward
 Taylor, Rhea. Opposes Agreement, PCDN, 5/22/1960
 Thompson Science Complex (WKU)
 Thompson, Kelly
 Trane Company
 Vault Talk at Western, LCJ, 8/17/1961
 Wade, Charles
 Weekly Report, 12/9/1960
 Weekly Reports, 10/14/1960 - 10/28/1960
 Weekly Reports, 11/11/1960 - 11/18/1960
 Western Leases Ogden College Property, np, nd
 Western State to Have New Science Building in 1961, np, nd
 Whittle, Charles Jr.
 Wood from Ogden Trees to Panel Library Walls, PCDN, nd

Subjects Construction
 Correspondence
 Bonds (Negotiable instruments)
 Bricks
 Budget.
 Committees
 Contracts
 Electricity
 Furniture
 Landscape.
 Meetings
 Plumbing systems
 Shrubs
 Signs (Notices)

Box 3 9 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1967-1969 Construction File - Thompson Science Complex & Hardin Planetarium

Description	Art Ceramic Tile, Inc. Change orders Clark Construction Company Correspondence Downing, Dero Francis, David Greeley, Lynn Hardin Planetarium (WKU) Inspections Johnson, Ben Kentucky. Dept. of Finance Lawson, Owen Lawsuits Lexington Salesbook Company Peerless Insurance Company Punch lists Russell, Marvin Science library The Ruberoid Company Thompson Science Complex (WKU) Thompson, Kelly U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare Wassom, Earl	Subjects	Construction Correspondence Bricks Meetings Roofs Signs (Notices) Libraries (Rooms) Strikes Sidewalks
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Box 3 8 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1966 Construction File - Thompson Science Complex & Hardin Planetarium

Description	Bid Tabulation, 2/4/1966 Clark Construction Company Downing, Dero Gaines, Walter Griffin Electric Company Hardin Planetarium (WKU) Helm, Margie James E. Smith & Sons, Inc. Johnson, Ben Kentucky. Dept. of Finance Lawson, Owen Lawson, Owen. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Report on Science Complex Excavation Delay, 5/11/1966 Memorial plaques Notice to Contractors of Proposed Construction Work Federal Project No. KY 4-1069 Owensboro Engineering Co., Inc. Project Descriptions, Science Complex Rodes, ? Russell, Marvin Science Complex Building Committee Thompson Science Complex (WKU)	Subjects	Construction Correspondence Budget. Telegrams
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Box 3 7 WKU President's Office - Thompson 1964-1965 Construction File - Thompson Science Complex & Hardin Planetarium

Description	Autry, Lee Carey, Ruth Carr, J.A. Memo to Marvin Russell re: Recommendations for Planetarium at Western Kentucky State College, 4/26/1965 Chamberlin, John Cravens, Raymond Downing, Dero Eastern Kentucky University Gas Globe Shipping Company	Subjects	Construction Correspondence Air conditioners Architects Bonds (Negotiable instruments) Budget. Meetings Plumbing systems Planetaria
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Hardin Planetarium (WKU)
 Johnson, Ben. Preliminary Cost Estimate Phase A, 3/15/1965
 Johnson, Ben. Programming Specifications & Preliminary Estimate Phase A, 3/31/1965
 Jones, Wilburn
 Kentucky. Dept. of Finance
 L.E. Gregg & Associates
 Lawson, Owen
 Notice to Contractors of Proposed Construction Work Federal Project No. KY 4-1069
 Ogden College
 Ogden Hall (WKU)
 Parker, Jerry
 Plans Revealed for Eastern's Science Building, LCJ, 11/18/1965
 Project Description
 Resolution re: Construction of Science Facilities, 3/22/1965
 Revised Preliminary Cost Estimate, 9/22/1965
 Russell, Marvin. Memo to Dero Downing re: Science Complex Committee Activities of the Recent Past, 12/1/1965
 Russell, Marvin. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Building Committee Activities During the Week of March 22, 1965, 3/26/1965
 Russell, Marvin. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Science Complex Building Committee Activities, 9/10/1965
 Russell, Marvin. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Thompson Hall Building Complex, 3/19/1965
 Russell, Marvin. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Thompson Hall Building Committee Activities, 2/9/1965
 Soil tests
 Stephens, H.L.
 Thompson Science Complex (WKU)
 Thompson, Kelly
 U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare
 U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare. Announcement of US Office of Education Graduate Academic Facilities Program Title II of the Higher Education Facilities Act, 1/1965
 University of Georgia
 University of South Florida
 Utilities
 Wilson, Gordon Jr.
 Zettlemoyer, Charles. Memo to Dero Downing re: Source of Funds for Science Building, 12/31/1964

Box 4	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1955-1969	Construction File
Description	Bid Form Helm Library (WKU) Housing & Dining Regents Trust Indenture		Subjects Dormitories Bonds (Negotiable instruments)
Box 5	WKU President's Office - Thompson	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)
MC4	Drawer 1	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1958-1961
Description	Map showing Home Management House, Swimming Pool & Physical Education Building, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 11 ½ D5086		Subjects Maps Construction

		Map showing McLean Hall, Music Building and Stadium, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 11, D5085 Map showing Potter Hall and Administration Building, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 9 ½ D5084 Progress Chart, 10/28/1960 Progress Chart, 12/29/1960 Progress Chart, 3/31/1961 Progress Chart, 5/29/1961 Progress Chart, 6/26/1961 Project Chart, nd		Drawings Roads
		McLean Hall (WKU) Music Building (WKU) Potter Hall (WKU) Stadium (WKU) Swimming Pool (WKU)		
OS Box 120	5	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1960-1965	Construction File - Thompson Science Complex & Hardin Planetarium
Description		Downing, Dero. Memo to Kentucky. Dept. of Finance re: Bonds, 2/17/1965 Kentucky. Dept. of Finance. Memo to Kelly Thompson re: Science Complex, 5/19/1965 Largen, Harry Official Bid Tabulation, 6/30/1960 Periodical Estimate S, 1/27-2/28/1961 Science Addition, 4/15/1965, 1 sheet, 12 x 10 D5082 Science Building Budget Comparison, 12/1/1965 Thompson, Kelly Work to Start this Summer on Western Science Building, PCDN, 4/28/1960		Subjects Correspondence Construction Drawings Maps Budget.
OS Box 120	9	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1962-1964	Construction File - Helm Library
Description		2 New Additions Slated for Belmont College Campus, Nashville Tennessee, 2/2/1962 Consultants Downing, Dero Jesse, William Kentucky. Dept. of Finance Smith, L.T. Taylor, Sara		Subjects Correspondence Construction Budget. Clippings
OS Box 134	8	WKU President's Office - Thompson	1958-1961	Construction File - Thompson Science Hall
Description		Map showing Home Management House, Swimming Pool & Physical Education Building, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 11 ½ D5086 Map showing McLean Hall, Music Building and Stadium, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 11, D5085 Map showing Potter Hall and Administration Building, nd, 1 sheet, 18 x 9 ½ D5084 Progress Chart, 10/28/1960 Progress Chart, 12/29/1960 Progress Chart, 3/31/1961 Progress Chart, 5/29/1961 Progress Chart, 6/26/1961 Project Chart, nd		Subjects Maps Construction Drawings Roads
		McLean Hall (WKU) Music Hall (WKU) Potter Hall (WKU) Stadium (WKU) Swimming Pool (WKU)		

OS Box 137

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WKU President's Office - Thompson

1958-1961

Construction File - Thompson Science Hall

Description Map showing Potter Hall and Administration Building, nd, 1 sheet, 17 x 20 D5087
WKU Thompson Hall - Building Identification, J. Daniels, 1/20/1967, 1 sheet, 24 x 18 D5088

Potter Hall (WKU)
Van Meter Hall (WKU)

Subjects Maps
Construction
Drawings
Roads
Parking lots
Sidewalks