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Duff Collection (MSS 692)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 692 DUFF Collection

7 boxes. 86 folders. 2,024 items, 1908-2006.
 Originals, photos, videotapes, cassette tapes, and photocopies

1991.11.2; 2003.134.2

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

This collection documents the families of Laura Josephine “Jo” and/or “Tiny” (Duff) Jelley Jurgens (1915-1999) and her first husband Michael Edward Jelley (1911-1969). This couple married on 1 September 1934. Laura was the daughter of James S. “Jim” Duff (1874-1948) and Linnie Leota (Nichols) Duff (1887-1974). The Duffs were both natives of Breathitt County, Kentucky, both Baptists attending First Baptist Church in Jackson, Kentucky for decades. James was active with the Masons Lodge and Linnie was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for well over fifty years. The Duffs were buried in the Marcus Heights Cemetery in Jackson. Additional information about the Duff genealogy can be found in Box 1, Folder 2. After Michael Edward’s death, Laura married Arthur William Jurgens on 10 April 1971.

Michael Edward Jelley was born on 23 September 1911 the son of John Francis Jelley, Sr. (1875-1953) and Margaret (Patterson) Jelley (1875-1963) in Blairsville, Pennsylvania. He was a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and served as a forester for federal and state agencies and worked for several private lumber companies. He died on 1 April 1969. Both Michael and Laura were interred in the Hamilton Memorial Gardens in Hixson, Tennessee. The Jelley family attended the Catholic Church. Laura and Michael had five children: Richard Lawrence “Larry” Jelley (b. 1935), John Michael “Mike” Jelley (b. 1942), Elizabeth Ann “Betty” (Jelley) Tomaselli Yambrek (1943-2019), James Daniel “Danny” Jelley (b. 1954), and Joan Leslie “Joanie” (Jelley) Surles (b. 1957).

COLLECTION NOTE

Box 1 includes information about the Duff family. Folder 2 includes genealogical information and Bible records recorded by James S. Duff. Folder 3 includes some receipts and a letter written to James S. Duff by his brother A.P. Duff on 17 January 1939 explaining why he cannot send money at the time. Folder 3 also includes a birth registration certificate for Fred Duff born on 22 September 1926 in Winchester, Kentucky. Folder 4 includes correspondence between James S. Duff and various lumber companies; it also includes several written agreements with the same. Mr. Duff was involved in the lumber business. This folder includes

several pay envelopes for Duff from the Mowbray Robinson Lumber Company of Combs, Kentucky. Folder 5 includes information related to a court case “James Duff v. Staves Manufacturing Corporation” (1936) in which Duff is suing Staves for back wages and expenses for men who worked for him under a contract with the company. Folder 6-8 include monthly workmen’s time book in which Duff kept account of hours worked by laborers for 1936 (Folder 6), 1937 (Folder 7) and 1945 (Folder 8). Folder 9 houses James Duff’s receipts for the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons. Folder 10 includes James Duff’s tax receipts from 1912 to 1925 in Breathitt County and Clark County, Kentucky. Insurance papers for an accident insurance with the Iowa State Traveling Men’s Association for James Duff can be found in Folder 11. Letters written to Ollie May Duff by various individuals can be found in Folder 12, including a lengthy and newsy family letter from Laura Jelly dated 1942. Folder 13 includes various items related to the Duff family, including correspondence, news clippings, social invitations, poems, a lengthy reminiscence titled “Typhoon, December 1944” by F. R. Duff, and information about a Duff family reunion in 2004. Folders 16 and 17 contain videocassette tapes documenting a Duff family reunion held in September 1993 at Buckhorn State Park in eastern Kentucky. A legend of family members is included in the folders.

Box 2, Folder 1 includes a script titled “The Wonder Team” written by Dr. Don Miller and James Duff about the basketball team from Carr Creek, Kentucky, that won the state basketball tournament in 1928; it also includes several news clippings about the team. Folder 2 houses a videocassette tape of a short film titled “The Elf Who Made Christmas Special” which was written, produced and directed by James Duff in 1979. Folder 3 through 7 include diaries kept by Laura Duff from 1928 to 1935. They include Laura’s teenage years through her early marriage. She discusses boyfriends, social and family activities, community happenings and religiously records movies that she has attended and about things she was hearing on the radio. Folder 8 includes an oral history interview on cassette tape about Laura’s reminiscences of growing up in Jackson, Kentucky. Folder 9 contains a transcription of the tape in Folder 8. Folder 10 includes an oral history interview, also on cassette tape, in which Laura and interviewee, Ginger Ramsey, discuss the Lebanon Cedar Forest, as Laura’s husband worked with the U.S. Forest Service at that Tennessee preserve in the mid-1930s.

Box 3, Folders 1 through 9 include the correspondence of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens, and it has been organized chronologically. This correspondence is about equally divided between family and friends and is filled with news about both. Folder 10 includes epigrams, quotes, poems, and prose excerpts that Jurgens clipped for use in her letter writing and for her own personal use.

Box 4 includes the recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens, arranged alphabetically by food type, i.e.: appetizers, bakery goods, condiments, etc. Folder 16 includes some recipes of Duncan Hines or that included Duncan Hines products.

Box 5 houses files related to Michael Edward Jelley and the children of he and Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens. These files include correspondence, invitations to weddings and graduations, funeral announcements, e-mails, printed material, and other memorabilia related to the individual members of the family. At least half of this material was created by Elizabeth Ann “Betty” (Jelley) Tomaselli Yambrek.

Box 6 contains numerous photographs of the Duff and Jelley families. Most are identified. Folder 9 includes a number of nice 1964 wedding portraits of Elizabeth Ann Jelley when she married William Joseph Tomaselli in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Box 7 includes a large scrapbook that has been partially disassembled. Folder 1 contains the scrapbook, which was assembled by Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgen in the mid-1930s in Middletown, Ohio, although some of the information is from a later time period in Lafollette, Tennessee. Folder 2 includes a photocopy of the scrapbook contents before they were removed. The remaining folders include different genres of items removed from the scrapbook, i.e. news clippings about the family, poetry, news clippings about entertainment stars, etc. The scrapbook includes many examples of sentimental poetry and popular quotes.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Inventory and Duff family	1908-2005	85 items
Folder 1	Inventory		1 item
Folder 2	Duff genealogy material	1983	3 items
Folder 3	Personal correspondence of James Duff, bills, birth certificate of son, Fred Duff	1917-1948	21 items
Folder 4	Correspondence between James Duff and lumber companies, lumber owners; agreements, pay envelopes	1909-1948	22 items
Folder 5	Letter to Staves Manufacturing Corporation from James Duff; accounts	1936	3 items
Folder 6	Monthly workmen's time book	1936	1 item
Folder 7	Weekly time book – James Duff	1937	1 item
Folder 8	Weekly time book – James Duff	1945	3 items
Folder 9	Fraternal organization receipts of James Duff	1908-1926	13 items
Folder 10	State, county, and school tax receipts of James and Linnie Duff	1912-1925	22 items
Folder 11	Iowa State Traveling Men's Association – James Duff	1912-1925	2 items
Folder 12	Letters to Ollie May Duff (Dixon?)	1920-1942	8 items
Folder 13	Duff family - Miscellaneous	1943-2005	34 items
Folder 14	Miscellaneous articles chiefly about the Duff family	1942-1996	32 items

Folder 15	Miscellaneous family letters, etc.	1925-1996	15 items
Folder 16	Duff family reunion – Video tape 1	1993	2 items
Folder 17	Duff family reunion – Video tape 2	1993	2 items
BOX 2	Diaries, autograph books and interviews	1932-1996	16 items
Folder 1	Script by Dr. Don Miller and James Duff about Carr Creek	1995-1996	5 items
Folder 2	Video produced by Jim Duff – “The Elf Who Made Christmas Special”	1979	2 items
Folder 3	Diary of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens	1932	1 item
Folder 4	Diary of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens	1933-1934	1 item
Folder 5	Diary of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens	1934-1935	1 item
Folder 6	Autograph book of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens	1928-1929	1 item
Folder 7	Autograph book of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens	1931-1932	1 item
Folder 8	Remembrances of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens about growing up in Jackson, Kentucky – cassette	1992	1 item
Folder 9	Transcription of tape of remembrances of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens about growing up in Jackson, Kentucky	1992	1 item
Folder 10	Interview with Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens by Ginger Ramsey about the Lebanon Cedar Forest, Tennessee – cassette	1997	2 items
BOX 3	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1929-1999	409 items
Folder 1	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1929-1969	55 items
Folder 2	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1968-1969	33 items
Folder 3	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1970-1989	67 items

Folder 4	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence from Danny Jelley while in Europe	1971-1977	25 items
Folder 5	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1990-1993	37 items
Folder 6	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1994-1995	41 items
Folder 7	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1996-1997	44 items
Folder 8	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	1998-1999	34 items
Folder 9	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Correspondence	n.d.	34 items
Folder 10	Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Collected poems and quotes	1947-1996	39 items
BOX 4	Recipes	1951-1997	470 items
Folder 1	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Appetizers	n.d.	10 items
Folder 2	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Bakery goods, desserts, icings and toppings	n.d.	124 items
Folder 3	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Bakery goods (not desserts)	n.d.	41 items
Folder 4	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Condiments, jams and jellies, salad dressings	n.d.	17 items
Folder 5	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Desserts (not bakery goods)	1951-1980	33 items
Folder 6	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Drinks	n.d.	8 items
Folder 7	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Meat and casseroles	n.d.	9 items
Folder 8	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Meat dishes	1970-1972	50 items
Folder 9	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Miscellaneous dietary information, household hints, menus	1979	12 items

Folder 10	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Poultry dishes	n.d	27 items
Folder 11	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Salads, fruit salads, congealed salads	1967-1977	40 items
Folder 12	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Seafood dishes	1951-1972	19 items
Folder 13	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Soups and stews	n.d.	8 items
Folder 14	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Vegetable casseroles	n.d.	20 items
Folder 15	Recipes of Laura (Duff) Jelley Jurgens – Vegetable dishes	1951	44 items
Folder 16	Duncan Hines Recipes	1954-1997	8 items
BOX 5	Correspondence	1935-2006	312 items
Folder 1	Michael E. Jelley – Miscellaneous	1935-1969	15 items
Folder 2	Richard Lawrence Jelley – Miscellaneous	1935-2004	5 items
Folder 3	Elizabeth (Jelley) Yambrek	1945-1981	25 items
Folder 4	Elizabeth (Jelley) Yambrek	1990-1994	43 items
Folder 5	Elizabeth (Jelley) Yambrek – Correspondence	1995-1999	32 items
Folder 6	Elizabeth (Jelley) Yambrek – Correspondence	2000-2006	39 items
Folder 7	Elizabeth (Jelley) Yambrek – Correspondence	n.d.	5 items
Folder 8	Yambrek family – Cards, miscellaneous	1980-2006	14 items
Folder 9	J. Daniel Jelley – Correspondence	1969-2006	25 items
Folder 10	J. Daniel Jelley – News clippings, programs,	1971-2007	23 items
Folder 11	Joan (Jelley) Surles – Correspondence, etc.	1958-2006	28 items

Folder 12	Joan (Jelley) Surlles – News clippings related to her employer McClinton & Co. Inc.	1994-2006	25 items
Folder 13	Jelley family – Miscellaneous	1936-2006	23 items
Folder 14	Jelley family – Extended family and friends	1972-1996	10 items
BOX 6	Photographs	1915-2005	614 items
Folder 1	Duff and Jelley family photographs (4"x5")	1927-1993	133 items
Folder 2	Duff and Jelley family photographs (5"x7")	1915-1994	114 items
Folder 3	Duff and Jelley family photographs	1931-1983	61 items
Folder 4	Michael Edward Jelley photographs	1933-1969	11 items
Folder 5	Laura Duff Jelley photographs	1930-1998	47 items
Folder 6	Jelley children photographs	1942-1997	29 items
Folder 7	Richard Lawrence Jelley photographs	1941	12 items
Folder 8	Richard Lawrence Jelley photo album	1934-1936	1 item
Folder 9	Elizabeth Jelly Yambrek photographs	1944-2004	44 items
Folder 10	Jelley family photographs	1945-2005	74 items
Folder 11	Dixon family photographs	1929-1996	19 items
Folder 12	Miscellaneous photographs	1943-1998	69 items
BOX 7	Scrapbook	1931-1993	118 items
Folder 1	Jumbo Scrap Book	1933-1934	1 item
Folder 2	Copy of scrapbook	1933-1934	2 items
Folder 3	Newspaper articles and clippings from Laura's scrapbook	1931-1991	32 items
Folder 4	Poems from scrapbook	1933-1998	19 items

Folder 5	Duff family articles and clippings from scrapbook	1933-1968	11 items
Folder 6	Newspaper articles and clippings of movie stars, lyrics, etc. from scrapbook	1933-1993	13 items
Folder 7	Miscellaneous scrapbook items	1933-1957	40 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS DUFF Collection 1908-2006
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Correspondence, photos, diaries, and other family related memorabilia from the families of Michael Edward Jelley and his wife Laura Josephine (Duff) Jelley. Most of the material relates to Laura's family, the Duffs of Jackson, Kentucky, and to Michael and Laura's immediate family. The bulk of the collection consists of Laura's diaries, correspondence, recipes, and scrapbook.

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Duff, Grace B3,F2-3,9
Duff, James S., 1874-1948 – Relating to B1,F4-5
Duff, James Taylor, 1946-2005 – Relating to B1,F13; B2,F1; B3,F5
Duff, Linnie Leota (Nichols), 1887-1974 B3,F1-3,9
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SEE or SEE ALSO

Duff, Laura Josephine "Tiny" (Duff), 1915-1999

See:

Jurgens, Laura Josephine (Duff) Jelley, 1915-1999

Jelley, Elizabeth Ann "Betty," 1943-2019

See:

Yambrek, Elizabeth Ann "Betty" (Jelley) Tomiselli, 1943-2019

Jelley, Joan Leslie, b. 1957

See:

Surles, Joan Leslie "Joanie" (Jelley), b. 1957

Jelley, Laura Josephine "Tiny" (Duff), 1915-1999

See:

Jurgens, Laura Josephine (Duff) Jelley, 1915-1999

Tomaselli, Elizabeth Ann "Betty," 1943-2019

See:

Yambrek, Elizabeth Ann "Betty" (Jelley) Tomiselli, 1943-2019

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