

L. Quincy Mumford Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm85061916>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013109>

Prepared by Emily Zehmer

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2013

Collection Summary

Title: L. Quincy Mumford Papers

Span Dates: 1939-1982

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1954-1974)

ID No.: MSS61916

Creator: Mumford, L. Quincy (Lawrence Quincy), 1903-1982

Extent: 750 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm85061916>

Summary: Librarian of Congress. Correspondence, writings, bibliographical material, committee reports, congressional bills, reports, newspaper clippings, and photographs relating to Mumford's career as a librarian.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Mumford, L. Quincy (Lawrence Quincy), 1903-1982.

Organizations

Library of Congress--Officials and employees.

Library of Congress.

Places

Libraries--Washington (D.C.)

Titles

Lawrence Quincy Mumford papers

Occupations

Librarians of Congress.

Provenance

The papers of L. Quincy Mumford, Librarian of Congress, were given to the Library of Congress by his widow, Betsy P. Mumford, in 1985. A previous acquisition, consisting of nine certificates of greeting transferred from the Central Services Division of the Library, was withdrawn from the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection and combined with Mrs. Mumford's gift.

Processing History

The papers of Lawrence Quincy Mumford were arranged and described in 1987. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Lawrence Quincy Mumford is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of L. Quincy Mumford are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, L. Quincy Mumford Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1903, Dec. 11	Born, Ayden, N. C.
1925	Graduated, Duke University, Durham, N. C.
1926-1928	Head of circulation and acting chief of reference, Duke University Library, Durham, N.C.
1928	M.A. in English, Duke University, Durham, N.C.
1929	B.S. in library service, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.
1929-1945	Held various administrative positions, New York Public Library, New York, N.Y. (on leave of absence, 1940-1942)
1930	Married Permelia Catherine Stevens (died 1961)
1940-1942	Special appointment as director, Processing Department, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
1945	Named assistant director, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio
1947-1948	President, Ohio Library Association
1950-1954	Director, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio
1954-1955	President, American Library Association
1954	Appointed Librarian of Congress
1969	Married Betsy Perrin Fox
1974	Retired from the Library of Congress
1982, Aug. 15	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Lawrence Quincy Mumford (1903-1982) cover the years 1939-1982, with the bulk of the collection dating from 1954 to 1974, including correspondence, writings, bibliographical material, invitations, schedules, programs, committee reports, congressional bills, reports, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Mumford's correspondence chiefly reflects the personal aspects of his career, beginning with his special appointment as director of the Processing Department at the Library of Congress while on leave of absence from New York Public Library, 1940-1942. His nomination as Librarian of Congress by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1954 is documented by letters of support and congratulations from Library colleagues. His correspondence as librarian consists primarily of letters of thanks and recommendation and reflects the social and cultural duties of his office.

The writings consist of articles by Mumford and publications by others on topics of interest to him.

A miscellany file includes appointment schedules, invitations, and programs; biographical file; committee reports; conference file; congressional bills, reports, and hearings; newspaper clippings; and photographs.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1940-1945, 1953-1980, undated (9 folders)
BOX 2	Writings
BOX 2	By Mumford, 1954-1970
BOX 2	By others, 1939-1982 (4 folders)
BOX 3	Miscellany
BOX 3	Appointment schedules, invitations, programs, 1954-1964, 1973-1979 (12 folders)
BOX 3	Biographical material, 1954-1981
BOX 3	Committee reports, 1962, 1972, 1977
BOX 3	Conference file, 1979
BOX 3	Congressional bills, hearings, and reports, 1949-1967
BOX 3	Newspaper clippings, circa 1945-1974 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Photographs