

Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections
University of South Carolina Libraries

**Edwin C. Epps Collection of Pat Conroy,
1983-1994**

(bulk 1990-1994)

Collection: Mss. 2016:1

Contact information:

Rare Books and Special Collections
University of South Carolina Libraries
1322 Greene Street Columbia SC 29208
(803) 777-3847

email: tclrare@mailbox.sc.edu

Descriptive Summary

Title: Edwin C. Epps Collection of Pat Conroy, 1983-1994

Collection Number: Mss. 2016:1

Creator: Dr. Edwin C. Epps

Extent: 1 box

Administrative Information

Provenance: Gift, 2016

Processed by: V. Emily Cranwell

Access Restrictions: Open to research

Preferred Citation: [Item], Edwin C. Epps Collection of Pat Conroy, Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of South Carolina Libraries

Publication Rights: All rights reside with the creator. For permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

Scope and Contents Note

This collection documents Dr. Edwin C. Epps' research process for his dissertation on Pat Conroy's year teaching on Daufuskie Island, South Carolina, as well as presentations of that research at various University of South Carolina locations. Epps attended the University of South Carolina for both his Masters in English and his Doctorate in Education. While pursuing his doctorate, Epps worked with Dr. Craig Kridel, E. S. Gambrell Professor of Educational Studies, for his dissertation, titled, *Pat Conroy and the Daufuskie Island School*, which was published in 1993, the same year he graduated with his Doctorate in Education.

Epps currently lives in Spartanburg, SC, where he taught at Spartanburg High School for over thirty years. In addition to his doctoral work and work as an educator, Epps

wrote *Literary South Carolina* (2004), has been published in other publications such as *Still Home: The Essential Poetry of Spartanburg*, and is part of the Hub City Writers Project.

The majority of the collection is Epps' interview materials as he conducted research – he interviewed a variety of people who knew, worked with, and/or were friends with Pat Conroy when he taught at the Mary Field's School on Daufuskie Island from 1969 to 1970. The interview materials are a combination of letters of introduction, letters with research questions, handwritten notes on face-to-face or phone interviews, and personal correspondence. The interview materials focus primarily on identifying Pat Conroy's teaching influences and impact.

The collection also includes manuscript materials, from both Epps and others. The manuscripts from others are related to Daufuskie Island and its history – one manuscript in particular is authored by Billie Burn, whom Epps interviewed for his dissertation research. Epps' manuscripts are drafts for presentations he gave at the University of South Carolina for an exhibit opening at the McKissick Museum in 1993 and for the First Year Reading Experience in 1994.

Additional notes and description occur at the beginning of each series in the finding aid.

Related Materials

Pat Conroy related materials also located in The Pat Conroy Archive, 1850– in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, at the Hollings Library at the University of South Carolina.

Millen Ellis related materials are also located in the Millen Ellis Papers, 1962-2005, at the Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina.

Eugene “Gene” Norris related materials are also located in the Pat Conroy Archive, 1850– and in the Millen Ellis Papers, 1962-2005.

Additional Daufuskie Island material, Edwin C. Epps material, and Pat Conroy material can be found at the College of Education's Museum of Education at the University of South Carolina.

Contents

Series I: Correspondence

Series II: Interviews Re: Pat Conroy

Series III: Exhibit, "Pat Conroy at the Daufuskie Island School" McKissick Museum

Series IV: Address, "Looking Back: Pat Conroy and the Daufuskie Island School Twenty Five Years Later," University of South Carolina

Series V: Manuscripts by Others

Series VI: Audio Visual Materials

Container List

Series I: Correspondence

Kridel, Craig, Re: Epps' Enrollment, January 5, 1990

Sudduth, Elizabeth, Re: Epps Collections, March 10, 2016

Series II: Interviews Re: Pat Conroy Research

Interview files contain a variety of materials, and can range from a letter of introduction from Dr. Epps to postcards – many of the files also contain interview notes by Dr. Epps, or written answers to questions Dr. Epps asked about Pat Conroy and his year teaching on Daufuskie Island, South Carolina.

Interview prep, Epps, Edwin C., no date

Alberto, John: 1991

Anders, Louise: 1991-1992

Barnwell, John, Jr.: 1992

Blake, J. Herman: [1994]

Burn, Billie: 1991-1992

Caldwell, Benjamin P., Jr.: 1990-1991

Campbell, Emory: 1991-1992

Campbell, Katherine: 1990

Coleman, Sally: 1992

Conroy, Barbara: 1992

Conroy, Pat: 1991-1992

Conroy, Terrye: 1991

Criddle, Emma Lee: 1993

Doyle, Col. John Robert, Jr.: 1991-1992

Dufford, William E.L 1992

Ellis, Millen, 1992

Heyward, George: 1992

Keister, Ted: 1991

Jones, Rev. Mike: 1991

Murray, Cynthia: 1992

Murray, Samuel E.: 1991

Norris, Gene: 1991

Powell, Mary E.: 1992

Randel, Morgan: 1992

Schein, Bernie: 1992

Simmons, Ervin: 1991-1991

Sklar, Zachary: 1992

Series III: Exhibit, “Pat Conroy at the Daufuskie Island School,”

McKissick Museum

Exhibit Opening Program, March 2, 1993

Manuscript, “Pat Conroy as Teacher [On the Occasion of the Opening of “Pat Conroy and Daufuskie Island School,” Museum of Education, University of South Carolina, 2 March 1993],

Epps, Edwin C., March 2, 1993

Exhibit plan, photocopy, 1992 (2 folders)

Photos from Daufuskie Island (4)

Series IV: Address, “Looking Back: Pat Conroy and the Daufuskie

Island School Twenty Five Years Later,” First Year Reading

Experience, University of South Carolina

Folder titles in this series are original to the creator.

Notes

Draft 1

Draft 2, August 9, 1994

Draft 3, [September 8, 1994]

Correspondence 1994

Series V: Manuscripts by Others

Burn, Billie, *Mary Dunn Cemetery, Daufuskie Island, South Carolina*, 1983

Cornelia, Janet, *Exploring Daufuskie Island, South Carolina*, 1989

Michie, James L., *An Archeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Haig Point, Webb, and Oak Ridge Tracts, Daufuskie Island, South Carolina*, 1983

Series VI: Audio Visual Materials

Transparencies, “Looking Back” First Year Reading Experience presentation

Miniature cassette tape