

∞ The Ward M. Canaday Center ∞  
for Special Collections  
The University of Toledo

Finding Aid

➤Ward M. Canaday Collection, 1902-1991◀

MSS-072

**Size:** 2 lin. Ft.

**Provenance:** The majority of the materials in the Ward Canaday Collection were donated by Mr. Canaday's daughter, Doreen Damaris Canaday Spitzer. Other items such as publications and memorabilia relating to Mr. Canaday or Overland were given by Ralph D. Meeks as a member of the Willys-Overland Knight Registry, Inc. The Christmas broadside was donated by Mary Gillham, and Willys-Overland Company advertisements were given to the Center by Paul Rieger. Wine bottles owned by Ward Canaday were donated by Patricia Alexander.

**Access:** Open

**Collection Summary:** Chairman of the Board, Willys-Overland Motors, Inc. (1885-1976) Collection centers on Canaday and the development of the Willys-Overland Jeep, as well as Canaday's connections with the University of Toledo and the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece. Some biographical material relates to Ward's wife, Miriam Coffin Canaday; their daughter, Doreen Damaris Canaday Spitzer; and her husband, Lyman Spitzer, Jr.

**Subjects:** [Business and Commerce](#), [Civic Interests](#)

**Related Collections:**

**Copyright:** The literary rights to this collection are assumed to rest with the person(s) responsible for the production of the particular items within the collection, or with their heirs or assigns. Researchers bear full legal responsibility for the acquisition to publish from any part of said collection per *Title 17, United States Code*. The **Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections** may reserve the right to intervene as intermediary at its own discretion.

**Completed by:** Barbara A. Shirk, May 1991

**Reformatted by:** Arjun Sabharwal, January 2010; last updated: November 2016.

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**Introduction**

This collection centers primarily on Ward M. Canaday, a Toledo community leader and chairman of the Board of Willys-Overland Motors, Inc. It contains personal information on Mr. Canaday as well as information on Willys-Overland with much emphasis on the development of the Jeep. It also shows his connection with the University of Toledo and the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

In addition, there are biographies and papers relating to other members of the Canaday family; namely, his wife, Mariam Coffin Canaday; their daughter, Doreen Damaris Canaday Spitzer; and her husband, Lyman Spitzer, Jr. Also included is information relating to Mr. Canaday's brother, Frank; and Frank's wife, Molly Morpeth Canaday.

Anyone doing research in the areas of business administration, automobiles, University of Toledo and City of Toledo history, astronomy, and nuclear engineering would find this collection of interest.

No restrictions have been placed on the use of this collection.

**Scope and Content Note**

The Ward M. Canaday Collection focuses on Mr. Canaday and the activities associated with his role as businessman and leader in civic enterprises in the United States and abroad. The material in this collection is divided into nine sections which deal mainly with Mr. Canaday personally and Willys-Overland Motors, Inc. Included is information on some of the Canaday family members; however the portion relating to Mr. Canaday is the most extensive.

The first section of the collection deals with Mr. Canaday's speeches; photographs, which date from childhood to his 90th birthday; clippings on his obituary, as well as personal clippings (1949-1976), and clippings relating to Mr. Canaday and Willys-Overland (1934-1976). A great portion of this section shows his strong connection with the University of Toledo; particularly with his dedication of the William S. Carlson Library in 1973 and his affiliation with the Friends of the University Libraries. (The Ward M. Canaday Center of the Library was dedicated to him on September 25, 1979.) He also paved the way for the construction of the Engineering Science Building in 1960 and the establishment of a nuclear engineering department there. In addition to the University of Toledo, Mr. Canaday was committed to the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Greece where he served as Trustee and President for several years. As the papers indicate, he was instrumental in acquiring funds for completion of the Agora excavations and the reconstruction of the Stoa of Attalos (digging, landscaping, building of a museum, etc.); and on April 1, 1983, Gennadeion West House, the residence of the director of the American School, was renamed Canaday House in memory of Mr. Canaday. Also among the items in this section are honors, citations and gifts to Ward Canaday that can be found under "Artifacts." One of these came from Chinese President, Chiang Kai-Shek, in 1947 as a thank you for wartime training in

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technical methods of production; another is a chrome-plated forty millimeter anti-aircraft projectile inscribed to him by Wilson Foundry and Machine Co.

The second section of the collection is devoted to Ward Canaday's wife, Mariam and contains primarily clippings (1971-1975) and news items relating to the many organizations to which she belonged; a few of which were the American Association of University Women, The Women's League of Toledo Symphony Orchestra and Toledo Opera Association, Women's Auxiliary of Riverside Hospital, etc. She attended Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania and was a member of The Friends of the Library and Friends of Music there. Some of the items in the collection refer to the College library which was named the Mariam Coffin Canaday Library. Included also is a program for the dedication of the Mariam C. Canaday Medical Arts Building at Riverside Hospital in Toledo; her obituary, and correspondence, etc.

The third section is composed of personal material that relates to Ward and Mariam Canaday as a couple. For example, there are photographs taken on trips and social occasions; Christmas cards sent and received by the Canadays, including a framed church scene from Ward and Mariam; and clippings, some of which refer to their Inlands (Toledo) home and some which refer to Annaly, their Virgin Islands Estate.

The fourth and fifth sections of the collection refer to Ward and Mariam's daughter, Doreen, and her husband, Lyman Spitzer, Jr. There is correspondence referring to Doreen's honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Toledo and the Doreen Canaday Spitzer Fellowship, etc. There are also clippings (1939-1983) and book reviews of Doreen's biography of the Canadays, *By One and One*.

There are also clippings which chronicle the work of Doreen's husband, Lyman Spitzer, Jr., world-famous Princeton University astronomer and researcher.

The sixth and seventh sections relate to Ward Canaday's brother, Frank, and Frank's wife, Molly. Researchers will find a great deal of information on Frank, Molly, Ward, other family members, as well as Willys-Overland Motors in the Frank Canaday Papers (Collection No. 031). There is a list of items found in scrapbook No. 1 of Collection No. 031 in this sixth section of the Ward M. Canaday Collection. The scrapbook contains personal correspondence and photographs.

The eighth portion of the Ward Canaday Collection deals with Willys-Overland Motors with emphasis on the Jeep which Ward Canaday was credited with developing and building during World War II. The collection contains clippings and photographs of the Jeep as well as photographs, ad proofs, slides, negatives, and two original watercolor paintings in the "Jeep at War" series of paintings done by illustrator, James M. Sessions. There are also auto ads in the Willys-Overland" section which include a framed, pencil-drawn Willys ad by John Taylor Arms and publications that refer to the operation, care, and parts for the Aero, Overland, Knight, and Whippet autos. Included are clippings, photos, floor plans, etc. relating to the Jeep Administration Building which was demolished in 1979 and a World War II History of the plant (1941-1954) and a plot plan layout.

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The final section (Miscellaneous) contains primarily clippings on Greece's royal family (1961-1966) and a book given to Ward Canaday by the author entitled, *An Analysis of Plutonium Recycle in a Gas-Cooled Graphite-Moderated Reactor*.

A bibliography listing publications which are located in The Canaday Center is attached to this finding aid.

**Folder List**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		Ward Murphey Canaday
	1	Biography
	2	Correspondence, 1909-1917
	3*	Advertisements (Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet Co.), n.d.
	4	Programs, 1917
	5	Speeches, 1949-1963
	6	Reunion Anniversary Reports, Secretary's Report, and Alumni Bulletin (Harvard Class of 1907), 1913-1942
	7	Toledo Social Register, 1928
	8	Chronological Lists of Events and Articles in <i>Toledo Blade</i> and <i>New York Times</i> , 1934-1979
		Clippings
	9	<i>New York Times</i> - "Canaday-Willys" 1909-1956
	10	<i>Toledo Blade</i> - "Canaday/Willys" 1936-1976
	11	Personal, 1949-1976 The University of Toledo
	12*	The Friends of the University Libraries (Miss Emch), 1942-1979
	13	Engineering-Science Building, 1955-1960
	14	Affiliations, 1963
	15	William S. Carlson Library Dedication, 1970-1973 The Ward M. Canaday Center
	16	Dedication, 1977-1984
	17	Book Collector's Corner, 1978-1982

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- 18 Bookplate, 1979
- 19 Collections , 1980-1983
- 20 American School of Classical Studies,  
Athens, Greece, 1964-1984
- 21 Photographs
- 22 Drawing of Ward M. Canaday, n.d.
- 23 Ninety-fifth Birthday Celebration, December 8, 1980,  
1975-1980
- 24^ Artifacts
- 25 Obituary, 1976
- 2 Wine bottles (Chateau La Tour Blanche, 1941) imported from France and  
labeled with Canaday's name

**Mariam Louise Coffin Canaday**

- 1 26 Biography
- 27 Association of Collegiate Alumnae  
and American Association  
of University Women, 1917-1924
- 28 Correspondence, 1970
- 29 Clippings, 1971-1975
- 30 Mariam Coffin Canaday Library  
Bryn Mawr, 1970-1975
- 31 Obituary, 1974-1975
- 32 Memorial Book, 1975
- 33 Medical Arts Building, Riverside Hospital,  
Toledo, 1976

**Ward and Mariam Canaday**

- 34 Correspondence (Personal), 1960-1967  
Clippings
- 35 1970-1971
- 36 Residence: Inlands (Toledo) 1972-1977
- 37 Residence: Annaly (Virgin Islands Estate),  
##
- 38 Photographs  
Christmas Cards
- 39^ Sent by the Canadays
- 40 Received by the Canadays

**Doreen Damaris Canaday Spitzer**

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- 41 Biography  
42 Correspondence, 1979-1987  
43 Clippings, 1939-1983  
44 Book Reviews of *By One and One*  
(Biography of the Canadays by Doreen Canaday Spitzer),  
1985-1986
- Lyman Spitzer, Jr.  
45 Biography  
46\* Work In Astronomy and Related Newspaper Articles,  
1947-1990
- Frank Harrison Canaday  
47 Biography  
48 Description of Scrapbook No. 1,  
1913-1919  
49 Address at the Jubilee Celebration of Levin District  
High School, 1940 (by Robert Pope)
- Molly Morpeth Canaday  
50 Biography
- The Willys-Overland Company/Willys-Overland Motors, Inc.  
“The Jeep”  
51\* Clippings and Photographs, 1945-1991  
52^ Videos (2) -History of Jeep and 50th Anniversary Jeep  
53 “Jeep at War” Series  
Photographs and Negatives (23)  
54\*^ Ad Proofs (23) and Paintings (2)^ (oversize cabinet 11, drawers A and B)  
55 Slides (23)  
56 Sessions, James M., Illustrator, (Biography, etc.)  
57 Jeep - Family of Four-Wheel Vehicles in Public Service  
Ad Brochure, 1956  
58 “Salute to a Steel Soldier: The Jeep”  
(WTOL - TV’s Documentary on the Jeep) ,  
May 23, 1964  
59 Jeep Administration Building  
Floor Plan  
60 Clippings  
(Destruction of the Building), 1979  
61 Photographs

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- Destruction of the Building, 1979
- 62\* Overland Auto and Truck Ads, 1913-1916
- 63\* Willys Auto Ads, 1936-1937
- 64\* Aero Willys Ads, 1953
- Publications
- 65 Econorama (Booklet), 1948
- 66 "Directions for the Operation, Care and  
Adjustment of Overland  
Automobiles" (Booklet), 1915
- (The Willys-Overland Company/Willys-Overland Motors, Inc.)  
(Publications)
- 67 Publications for Vehicles and Parts, 1902-1970
- 68 "The Superior Whippet Six Model 98-A  
Preliminary Parts List "(Booklet ), 1928
- 69 "Willys-Knight Parts List - Model 70-70a"  
(Booklet), 1927
- 79 *The Willys War News*, Vol. 3, No. 3, May 19, 1945
- 70 *The Knight-Overland Starter Magazine*, March 1979, No. 67
- 71 World War II History, 1941-1954
- Clippings
- 72\* *Willys-Overland Knight-Registry (WOKR)*, 1970-1974
- 73 Plot Plan Layout, 1947
- Miscellaneous
- 74^ Their Majesties The King and Queen of the  
Helene's Visit - Toledo, Ohio,  
November 5, 1953 (Photo Scrapbook)
- 75 Juan Carlos and Sophia de Bourbon, 1961-1962
- 76 Queen Frederika of Greece, 1966
- 77 An Analysis of Plutonium Recycle in a  
Gas-Cooled Graphite-Moderated Reactor
- 78 General

**Legend**

\*=oversize cabinet, drawer 2

^=oversize area, with exception of Sessions paintings

\*\*=locked cabinet