

William L. Fox, Jr. Papers
MSS #223
3.75 ln. ft.

Biographical

William L. Fox, Jr is the 18th President of St. Lawrence University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from St. Lawrence University (1975), a Master of Divinity from Harvard University (1978), and a Ph.D from George Washington University (1989). He served as President of St. Lawrence University from 2009-2021, Culver-Stockton College in Canton, MO, 2003-2009, and held a number of roles at Goucher College, Baltimore, MD between 1999-2003. He also held ministerial positions at the Pilgrim Congregation Church in Pomona California, Universalist National Memorial Church in Washington D.C., the First and Second Church, and Theodore Parker Unitarian Church in Boston. He published numerous books and articles on topics related to American Higher Education, religious thought, and Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Dr. Fox also served as Historian and Archivist for the Southern Jurisdiction, Ancient Free, and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasons. President Fox is married to Lynn Smith Fox. The Foxes have one daughter, Hallie, a graduate of Middlebury College, Hunter College, and Stanford University.

Scope and Content

This collection primarily reflects Dr. Fox's ministerial work and professional life. The papers include articles by Dr. Fox, correspondence, sermons, and other church writings. Much of the emphasis is on Dr. Fox's thinking about Universalism and his approach to preaching. There is also an emphasis on his time as a Senior Minister at the Universalist National Memorial Church in Washington D.C. Also included are correspondence, notebooks, student assignments and ephemeral items related to Dr. Fox's undergraduate career at St. Lawrence, and Harvard Divinity School, where he received his Masters degree and ministerial training, as well as speeches and writings related to his activities as a historian Scottish Rite Freemasonry

Papers related to Dr. Fox's decisions and recommendations for specific issues he faced as President of St. Lawrence University are in the Fox files in Record Group 4, St. Lawrence University Archives.

Also in the archive is a significant interview Dr. Fox conducted in 1998, 1999, and 2001 with Richard Young. Mr. Young was a long-time trustee for St. Lawrence, and was a son of Owen D Young. This interview is in the Richard Young Papers, Record Group 3, St. Lawrence University Archives.

St. Lawrence University does not own the literary rights to this collection. Inquires about permission to publish these materials should be directed to Dr. Fox.

Provenance

The papers for the Fox Manuscript Collection were donated to the St. Lawrence University Libraries by Dr. Fox in June of 2021.

Box 1 Papers, writings, sermons (Note-although many dates on the tabs suggest specific time-frames, such as “summer” or “fall”, these are not consistent. Use the years as a general guide)

- George Washington, unfinished portrait
- Josiah Royce and the Quest for the Principles of Loyalty
- Thank my lucky stars—Religion and science
- Abraham Lincoln (sermons-various dates)
- CPE Sibley Hospital 1980-81
- SLU Homecoming 1981
- Correspondence; writings
- Church Materials; Church appointment and resignation letters
- Monthly Bulletins-Universalist National Memorial Church- 1980-1987
- Editorials, 1983-87
- Sermons, 1979-80
- Sermons ‘81
- Sermons March 1982
- Sermons 1982-83
- Sermons summer 1983
- Sermons 1983-84
- Sermons Fall 1984
- Sermons Fall 1985
- Sermons Fall 1986
- Sermons 1987
- Sermons 1988
- Sermons 1989

Box 2 Sermons, Continued

- Sermons 1990
- Sermons 1991
- Sermons 1992
- Sermons 1993-94
- Sermons 1995
- Sermons ‘96
- Sermons ‘97
- Sermons 1998
- Undated sermons

Box 3 Publications and Speeches

- *The Christian Right and the Scottish Rite*, Oct. 5, 1996
- *Woodrow Wilson and the Cosmos Club*, Feb. 4, 1999
- An Architectural Sketch of a Book: *Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle*, by William Fox Heredom, Vol. 6, 1997
- *The Shade of a Great Rock in a Weary Land*. Scottish Rite Journal, Dec. 1998
- 1998 Beta Convention
- *My Friend in Me "Friend, Go Up Higher"*. Reprint of speech given at 1998 Beta convention
- *First Principles and Second Chances*, Sept. 20, 1998
- Beta '97 Speech
- An Architectural Sketch of a Book: *Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle*, by William Fox Heredom, Vol. 6, 1997
- Speech-Inside the Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle
- Pires lecture—*Corn-Pone and Scottish Rite History*. June 18, 1998
- Jones lecture—*A Chameleon on Tartan: Early Freemasonry in the Context of the Radical Reformation*. June 20, 1998
- Northeast Conference on Masonic Education and Libraries—speech May 29, 1998
- *Preventative Medicine: The Historian's Remedy*. Scottish Rite Leadership Conference, 1996
- Review of *Temperance and Racism: John Bull, Johnny Reb and the Good Templars*. By David M. Fahey—(Church History, v. 67, no. 3; Sept. 1998)
- Spokane, WA Scottish Rite Conference, Sept. 11-14, 1997
- Review of *Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle*—Scottish Rite Journal; Acceptance of publishing contract for the book.
- '96 Leadership Conference "*Preventative Medicine*"
- *A Fish Story* (folder labeled "Editorials")
- *The Near Miss of Robert Burns*. Article from Scottish Rite Journal 1998
- *How the Sphinx Came to Washington* Scottish Rite Journal, May 1996 (Egyptian Motifs)
- Book in Progress: *A Civil War Chaplain: William James Potter's Selected Letters*
- Reviews and Notices—Church History Book Series
- Notices, Comments, etc. on *Willard L. Sperry: The Quandries of a Liberal Protestant Mind*
- Chapter on Divining: *Three Hundred-fifty Years of Religion at Harvard*
- Book Reviews by WLF
- Article in Scottish Rite Journal
- *But for All Who Seek Instruction* address at Montgomery College, May 6, 1996
- Article—*No Longer At Easer: Remodeling Our House of the Interpreter*. Unitarian Universalist Christian, Spring 1989
- New York Times Letter to the Editor—Pat Robertson on Freemasons. March 15, 1995
- Article—*Jesse Jackson's Kingdom Theology*. Christian Century, May 4, 1988
- Newsletter Editorials
- St. Lawrence Magazine, Summer 1985

Box 4. Correspondence (cont.)

- Letters, notes and correspondence from Rev. Dr. Seth R. Brooks (SLU '22), 1970-1974

Box 5. Correspondence (cont.)

- Letters, notes, and correspondence from Rev. Dr. Seth R. Brooks (SLU '22), 1975-1977
- Letters from Parents, 1971-1976
- Letters from Siblings, 1971-1974
- Letters from Grandparents 1971-1975

Box 6. Correspondence (cont.)

- Letters from Verne Gould, 1975-1977
- Letters from Janet Young & Dorothy C. Salisbury, 1974-1975
- Letters concerning Beta Theta Pi, 1973-1975
- SLU Correspondence and Scholarship Records, 1970-1976
- Correspondence, Notebooks regarding Harvard Divinity School
- Correspondence 1978-79
- Bill Fox undergraduate student papers (Freshman, Junior, Senior years; Unknown dates)
- Notebook from English 337, Shakespeare