Inventory of the

Robert Borden Rockford, Illinois

Collection

In the

Regional History Center

RC 186

INTRODUCTION

Robert Borden, of Rockford, Illinois, donated his personal collection of school materials and correspondence to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center in November 1987. Additional school records and his World War II Navy Correspondence were added at later dates.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to materials in the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 9.5 Number of containers: 20 Northern Illinois Regional History Center Collection 186

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These records partially document the history of Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, Rockford, Illinois, 1956-1969 which became Thomas Jefferson High School in 1970. The collection is comprised of material received and generated by Robert Borden during his twenty-eight year tenure at Thomas Jefferson School, 1958-1986.

The first record series covers the policies and administrative decisions, daily life of both teachers and students, special events at Jefferson, and Robert Borden's classroom activities. This material concentrates on the time period of 1970-1986. Of particular interest in this series is the correspondence of Mr. Chalmer Hart, principal of Jefferson, to the teachers, generated between 1969-1985. The series of <u>Daily Notices</u> 1966-1986 is an excellent source of information for documenting the day-to-day activities at the school. Researchers should note that historical information on Jefferson Junior High can be found in Jefferson's Ten Year History 1956-1966.

Material documenting Robert Borden's classroom teaching and academic activities includes his correspondence with administrators, parents, and students; teaching materials for his classes in economics, government and history; class enrollment lists; and students' academic papers. The bulk of this material documents Borden's work with high school students. Borden's activities as leader of the student History Club, Swedish Club, and as Jefferson High's Debate Club coach are also documented.

Record series two partially documents decisions and activities of the Rockford Public School Board and its' superintendent through correspondence received by the teachers, and periodical publications during the years 1964-1986. Included in series 2, subseries A, are records documenting the activities of two teachers' professional organizations in Rockford: the Rockford Federation of Teachers and the Rockford Education Association (REA) from the years 1952-1986. Of special note are the copies of the professional agreements between the REA and the Rockford Public Schools spanning the years 1968-1984. Periodical publications of the REA from 1964-1986 are also useful in tracking the relationship of the REA, their constituency, and the administration of the Rockford Public Schools.

Note: Researchers should be aware that the term "correspondence" needs to be interpreted rather loosely for the Robert Borden collection. Files described as correspondence will include letters, memos, and directives which were mass distributed by the office or person of origin, as well as exchanges of a personal nature. Researchers should also note that runs of periodical publications tend to have gaps within the indicated span of dates.

Added at a later date were Borden's correspondence written during his World War II service in the Navy.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Robert Hjalmar Borden is a native of Rockford, Illinois, born July 16, 1926. He graduated from East High School, Rockford, in 1944. After serving in the Navy for two years during World War II, he attended Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois and graduated with an A.B. degree in 1950. His majors at Augustana were education and social sciences. He minored in language arts, studying the Swedish language. From 1954 to 1963 Robert Borden studied part-time at Northern Illinois State Teachers College in DeKalb, Illinois. He graduated in 1963 with a Master of Science in Education, with an area major in social studies.

Robert Borden has been employed in the field of secondary school education steadily since earning his A.B. degree. He taught at three different Rockford area schools during the years 1950-1955: Morris Kennedy, Kishwaukee Consolidated School, and Harlem Junior High School (now Hamilton). From 1955 to 1958 he briefly left the field of education to work as a technical writer for the Aviation Division of Sundstrand Corporation of Rockford.

In the fall of 1958, he returned to teaching as the geography, history, and civics instructor at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, Rockford, Illinois where he would remain for the next twenty-eight years, until his retirement from teaching in 1986.

Robert Borden's tenure at Jefferson encompassed many changes, some local, and some of national scope which impacted upon the world of Jefferson school. In 1970, Jefferson became a senior high, which brought many organizational changes to the campus. As a civics and history instructor, Borden was in the unique position of presenting and discussing the many social and political changes of the world with his students which came about so rapidly from the early 1960's through the mid-1970's.

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Robert Borden was also an active member of the Rockford Education Association during those years. The REA was an active force in determining salaries, job security, and formal negotiations procedures for teachers with Rockford Public School Administration.

He has always been especially interested in the history of the Rockford area, and taught local history classes at Jefferson. He is a past president of the Rockford Historical Society, president of the Swedish Historical Society of Rockford, and a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. He is also an active member of the American Legion Post No. 864, called the Daniel Post, which was originally organized in 1937 as a non-drinking, religiously oriented veterans group in Rockford. The group became affiliated with the American Legion in 1945.

Borden passed away on October 6, 2007 in Swedish American Hospital, Rockford, Illinois.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Borden, Robert Hjalmar Debate, High School Students Education Education Associations Forensics High Schools Jefferson High School, Rockford Rockford Rockford Education Association Thomas Jefferson High School, Rockford World War II

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

Series I. Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, 1956-1969 Thomas Jefferson Senior High School, 1970-1986

1 volume	Jeff's Journal (Yearbook), 1963
1	Yearbook sales list, 1963
1 volume	Jeff's Journal, 1967
1 volume	Jeff's Journal, 1970
1 volume	Crossing Bridges (Supplement), 1976
1 volume	Crossing Bridges (Supplement), 1976

Subseries A. Photographs

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2 1 Envelope 1 Robert Borden, 1964, n.d. (5) Envelope 2 Thomas A. Shaheen, Rockford Superintendent of Schools, n.d. (1) Thomas A. Shaheen with Robert Borden, 1967 (1) Thomas A. Shaheen, Robert Borden, other dignitaries, and students, n.d. (1) Envelope 3 Robert Borden in classroom with students, 1962, 1964, 1970, 1975, n.d. (8) Envelope 4 Robert Borden with History Club, 1962, n.d. (3) Envelope 5 Debate Club at Augustana College Tournament, 1976 (1) Envelope 6 ROTC sponsored school dance, n.d. (19 negs.) Envelope 7 Boys Basketball Team, 1970 (1 neg.) Girls Gymnastics class, 1970 (1) Envelope 8 Students Brian Gustafson and Doris Benner acting in a school play, n.d. (2 negs.) Envelope 9 Individual student portraits, 1970 (13) Envelope 10 Governor Richard Ogilvie with Jefferson students (boys), n.d. (autographed) (1)

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION 5
2	1	Envelope 11 Thomas Jefferson School building, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1970 (4)

Subseries B. Publications and Correspondence

2	Jefferson's Ten Year History 1965-1966
3-4	Student Handbooks, 1963-1982
5	Staff Handbooks, n.d.
6	Memorabilia, n.d.
	1 J-Hawks sticker
	1 tag (red cardboard)
	2 buttons, Junior High
	2 buttons, Senior High
	1 commencement tassel
	1 J-Hawks ribbon
	1 fan association member card
7	Curriculum and course information, 1971-1987
8	Student Activities guides, 1981, 1983
	Principals' correspondence:
9	John R. Wise, 1965
10-12	Chalmer Hart, 1969-1985
13	Pitter Patter - Chalmer Hart newsletter to staff, 1970-1985
14	David Johnson, 1985-1986
	Assistant Principals' correspondence:
15	Caryl McDonald, 1980-1985
16	Dale Meyers, 1984-1985
17	North Central Association School Evaluation, 1979
18	Faculty Advisory Committee, 1970-1986
1	Building Advisory Committee, 1971, 1976, 1977
2	Teacher's Advocate Council, 1984-1986
3	Teacher Assistance Team, 1985

Subseries C. General School Information, Circulars, Memorandums

4	School directories, maps, teacher lists, (1954-1985)
5	School calendars, 1967-1980
6	Financial organizational reports, 1967-1978
7	School policy and goal statements, 1952-1986
8	Attendance, truancy directives, 1973-1986
9	Bus schedules, 1980-1986

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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	6
3	10	Curriculum and class announcements, (1972-1986)	
	11	Opening and closing of school procedures, 1966, 1970-1986	
	12	General correspondence to parents, 1969-1986	
	13	School surveys and results, academic and social, 1968-1985	
	14	All-school testing and scores, 1957-1986	
	15	Teachers' parties, teachers' peer recognition awards, 1972-1986	
	16	Teachers' classroom schedules, 1965-1984	
	17	Teachers' hall duty rosters, 1972-1986	
	18	Teachers' salary, payroll notices, 1962-1984	
	19	Teachers' Institute agendas, 1958-1984	
4	1	Teachers' Institute materials, 1958-1984	
	2	Student athletic eligibility, faculty tickets, 1981-1986	
	3	Sports schedules, 1971-1982	
	4	Sports schedules, 1983-1986	
	5	Student government, 1972-1987	
	6	Student academic awards, 1961-1986	
	7	Commencement lists, memorandums, 1972-1986	
	8	Commencement programs, 1972-1979	
	9	Student field trip announcements, 1972-1985	
	10	Student programs, concerts, dances, awards ceremonies, 1965-1987	
	11	Teacher assistance for student activities, 1972-1986	
	12	Student assistance program, 1984-1985 (anti-drug flyers)	
	13	Audio-visual department, closed circuit television, 1972-198	6
	14	Learning lab and school library, 1973-1974	
	15	In-school lunch programs, 1972-1985	
	16	Office manager's memorandums, 1981-1986	
	17	Daily Notices, Jun 1966 - Mar 1973	
5	1-6	Daily Notices, Apr 1973 - Sept 1982	
6	1-5	Daily Notices, Oct 1982 - Jun 1896	
0	6-7	Student suspensions, withdrawals, additions lists, Jan 1971 - Dec 1982	
7	1-4	Student suspensions, withdrawals, additions lists, January 1973-June 1986	

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

Subseries D. School Periodical Publications

7	5-6 7 8 9	<u>J-Hawk Newsletter</u> , March 1970-June 1986 <u>Sage Page</u> , 1961-1969 <u>Original Cosmos Truth Express</u> , March 1971 <u>Spectrum</u> , 1981 (Literary magazine)
8	1-3	<u>T. J. Times</u> , October 1971-May 1986

Subseries E. Social Studies Department

9

10

1	Correspondence, 1966-1987
2	Memo series, 1985
3	Memo series, 1986
4	Law Day program, April-May 1986
5	World History curriculum, January-February 1986
6	Teacher's schedules, 1979-1981, n.d.
7	Curriculum and skills requirements, 1975-1986

Subseries F. Robert Borden Classroom and Activities

8-11	Borden correspondence, 1955-1987, n.d.
12	Disciplinary referrals to administration, 1981-1986
13	Reports to parents, 1966-1986
14	Reports from parents, 1967-1986
15	Learning impaired and handicapped students, 1980-1986
16	Correspondence between students, 1964-1987
17	Correspondence from students, 1984-1987
18	Correspondence with NIU and Rock Valley College, 1954-1985
1	Substitutes' reports, 1965-1986
2	Classroom seating charts and grade lists, 1952 (Harlem School)
3-4	Classroom seating charts, 1965-1986
5	Locker lists, 1962-1977 n.d.
6	Text distribution lists, 1960-1986
7	Open House attendance lists, 1964, 1982
8	Class lists, 1972-1981
9	Administrative directives on computerized class lists, 1980-1985
10-16	Class lists, 1973-1983

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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	8
11	1-4	Class lists, Nov 1983-January 1986	
		Classroom enrollment forms:	
	5	Civics, 1960	
	6	U.S. History, sections 1,2, 1960	
	7	U.S. History, sections 3,5,7, 1960	
	8	Geography, 1961	
	9	History, 1962	
	10	Publications, 1962, 1963	
	11	Civics, 1963	
	12	History, 1963	
	13	Home Room, 1965	
	14	Economics, 1975	
	15	Introductions to Social Studies, 1985	
	16	World History, 1985	
12	1-2	Lesson Plans, 1973-May 1984	
	3-4	Lesson Plans, September 1984-May 1986	
		Teaching materials:	
	5	U.S. History, 1952, 1961-1982	
	6	U.S. History, 1967	
	7	World History, 1959-1984	
	8	State and Local History, 1976-1986	
	9	Government and Civics, 1972-1984	
	10	Economics, 1974, n.d.	
		Student academic papers:	
	11	National election ballots, 1960-1964	
	12	U.S. History, nd	
13	1-2	U.S. History, 1967, 1971, 198?	
15		• • • •	
	3-6	World History, 1985, n.d.	
	7-9	State and Local History, 1976, 1982	
	10	Geography, 1950	
	11-13	Economics, 1974-1975	
	14	Critiques of "Law Day" speeches, 1980, 1986	
	15	History Club:	
	15	History Club, 1961-198?	447 -
	16	Illinois State Historical Society, regional meetings, Histo Fairs, 1968-1983	гу
	17	Illinois State Historical Society Regional Meeting, Northwest, Jefferson Junior High (host), April 19, 196	9
	18	Swedish Club, 1980-1983	-

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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	9
		Debate Club:	
13	19	Coaches correspondence, 1970-1977	
	20	Budget materials, 1971-1974	
	21	Instructional materials, n.d.	
	22	National Forensic League, constitution, manuals, certificates, 1971-1977	
	23	National Forensic League, newsletters, 1971-1972	
	23	National Forensic League, The Rostrum, (1969-1977)	
	25	Big Nine Individual Events Speech Tournament, January 30, 1970, January 29, 1972, January 26, 1974	
	26	Rockford Classic, January 9, 1971, December 4, 1971	
	27	Big Eight Tournament, January 22, 1971, January 23, 197	/1
	28	Rockford East Novice Tournament, February 20, 1971, February 24, 1973	
	29	Rockford East New Topic Tournament, May 15, 1971	
	30	Big Nine Conference Tournament, October 30, 1971,	
		December 11, 1971, January 8, 1972, February 12, 197	72
	31	Carthage College Invitational, November 6, 1971	
	32	Evanston "Rock of Chicago" tournament, November 13, 1971, November 11, 1972	
	33	Augustana Invitational, January 13-14, 1972	
	34	Rock Valley Annual, January 22, 1972	
	35	Glenbrook North Tournament, February 19, 1972	
	36	IHSA Sectional, March 11, 17, 18, 1972	
	37	Carthage College Invitational, November 4, 1972, November 3, 1973	
	38	Big Nine Tournament, December 16, 1972, February 10, 1973	
	39	Rockford Classic, December 2, 1972, December 1, 1973	
	40	Rock Valley Annual, February 3, 1973	
	41	IHSA District tournament, March 3, 1973	
	42	IHSA Sectional, March 24, 1973	
	43	Big Nine Tournament, December 15, 1973	
	44	Augustana Invitational, January 4, 1974, January 5, 1974	
	45	Rock Valley Annual, February 2, 1974	
	46	Big Nine Tournament, February 9, 1974	
	47	Rockford East Novice Tournament, February 23, 1974, February 22, 1975	
	48	IHSA Sectional, March 22, 1974	
14	1	Augustana Invitational, January 3, 1975, January 4, 1975	
	2	Elk Grove International, January 11, 1975	

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	10
14	3	Jefferson Invitational, January 18, 1975	
	4	Big Nine Tournament, February 8, 1975	
	5	ISTA Sectional, February 14-15, 1975	
	6	ISTA State Finals, March 6-8, 1975	
	7	Carthage College Invitational, November 1, 1975	
	8	Illinois State University Tournament, November 14-15, 1975	
	9	Northern Illinois University Tournament, November 21-2 1975	22,
	10	Rockford Classic, December 7, 1974, December 6, 1975	
	11	Augustana Invitational, January 2, 1976, January 3, 1976	1
	12	Elk Grove Invitational, January 10, 1976	
	13	Jefferson Invitational, January 17, 1976	
	14	Big Nine Tournament, February 7, 1976	
15	1	ISTA Sectional, February 14, 1976	
	2	Rockford East Novice Tournament, February 21, 1976	
	3	ISTA State Tournament, Finals, March 4-6, 1976	
	4	Crystal Lake Tournament, March 10, 1973, January 24, 1976	
	5	Jefferson Novice Tournament, March 13, 1976	
	6	IHSA Finals, March 30-31, 1976	
	7	Rockford East Invitational, January 14, 1978	

Series II. Rockford Public Schools

	8-11	Superintendent of Schools correspondence to teachers, 1964- 1986
	12 13 14 15	Gifted students materials, 1966-1979 Secondary school catalogs, 1965-1967 Reports to the public, 197?-1983 <u>Bulletin</u> , 1960-1969
16	1-2 3-4	<u>Weekly Bulletin</u> , 1968-1971 <u>Direct Line</u> , 1965-1981 (summaries of Board of Education meetings)
	5 6 7 8 9	<u>Newsletter</u> , 1966-1977 <u>Staff News</u> , 1978-1980 <u>Lasting Impressions</u> , 1986 <u>Chalk Talk</u> , 1965, 1968 <u>Chalkboard</u> , 1981-1985 (early 1981 title - <u>The Slate</u>)

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION 11
16	10	<u>Communicator</u> , 1985-1986 (summaries of Board of Education meetings)
	11	Rockford Public Schools Teachers' Center - <u>The Center</u> , 1981-1986
	12	Boone-Winnebago By-Ways, 1979-1986
	13	Winnebago County Intersections, 1971-1975
	Subseries A. Teachers'	Professional Associations
	14	Rockford Federation of Teachers, 1965-1981
		Rockford Education Association:
	15	Membership directories, 1964-1966
17	1-4	Correspondence to teachers, 1952-1986
	5	Representative Council minutes, 1961-1968
	6	Professional agreements, 1968-1969
	7	Professional agreements, 1970-1984
	8	Have You Heard, 1964-1969
	9	<u>News,</u> 1964-1969
	10	Table Talk, 1967-1972
	11	The Straight Line, 1969-1971
	12	Developments, 1968
	13	<u>Reach</u> , 1970
	14	The Issue, 1971-1974
	15	Action Relay, 1972-1978
18	1	<u>Reporter</u> , 1981-1986
	2	National School Public Relations Association - <u>It Starts in</u> <u>the Classroom</u> , 1981-1986

ADDENDUM

Series I.	Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, 1956-1969
	Thomas Jefferson Senior High School, 1970-1986

Subseries C. General School Information, Circulars, Memorandums

3	School procedures, 1966-1982
4	School calendars, (1958-1981)
5	Class and teacher schedule, n.d.
6	Teacher salary schedule, 1957-1986
7	Student government, 1974, n.d.

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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	12
18	8 9 10 11-14	 Student excuse lists, (1970-1976) Status of Ability Grouping and 7 hour day, 1960-1961 Recommendations on Certified and Non-Certified Personne August 23, 1971 Absence lists, (1969-1985) 	el,
	Subseries E. Social Stud	lies Department	
	15	Memos, (1966-1978)	
	Subseries F. Robert Bor	den Classroom and Activities	
	16	SRA reading record, n.d.	
	17	Teaching contracts, request for leave, etc., 1950-1986	
19	1	Teacher evaluations, 1975, 1978, 1980	
	2	Winnebago County Bicentennial Commission, 1973-1976 Class room enrollment:	
	3-4	U.S. History, 1966, 1968	
	5	Adult and Occupational Services, 1973	
	6	Class improvement suggestions, n.d.	
	7	Student notes and memos, 1974-1983	
	8	Instructions notes, (1960-1980)	
	9	Class assignments, 1966-1968, n.d.	
	10	Class study guides, n.d.	
	11	Economic class, 1974	
	12-14	Student identification cards, n.d.	
	15	Speech grades, n.d.	
	16	Student papers, 1973-1975, n.d.	
		Exams:	
	17	History, n.d.	
	18	Social Studies, n.d.	
	19	Economics, 1976-1977, n.d.	
	20	Debate Club: Student Historian, Northwest Regional Meeting, April 2 1979	8,
	21 22	Big 9 Critique Debate, 1974 ISTA State Debate Tournament - Judging Philosophy	
	23	Form, n.d. Rockford Board of Education: Supplemental list of vacancies, (1974-1991)	

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

Series III. Borden Navy Correspondence

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20	1-3	Navy correspondence, July 1944-December 1945

ADDENDUM

Series I. Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, 1956-1969 Thomas Jefferson Senior High School, 1970-1986

Subseries C. General School Information, Circulars, Memorandums

24	Awards program, May 24, 1979
25	Memos, 1969, 1972, 1984, n.d.
26	School forms, 1969-1970, n.d.
27	Summer school announcements, 1970, 1972

Subseries F. Robert Borden Classroom and Activities

28	Book reports and other reports assignments sheets, 1966, n.d
29	Called-in absences list, October 31, 1973
30	Class list, tardy listing, n.d.
31	Classroom enrollment, June 1967, 1969-1970
32	Drop from class roll list, n.d.
33	Excused absence slips, July ?
34	History exam, n.d.
35	Lesson plans, 1971, 1973, n.d.
36	Room assignments, summer school, 1972
37	Student chapter outlines, n.d.
38	Text book check out sheets, 1972, n.d.