Inventory of the

Lorado Taft Field Campus

Records

In the

Northern Illinois University Archives

UA 32

INTRODUCTION

The University Archives acquired the Lorado Taft Field Campus records beginning in March 2000, from the Instructional Materials Center at Lorado Taft, and from Clifford Knapp. Literary Rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

22 boxes 12.0 linear feet 1883+

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Lorado Taft Field Campus records are divided into four series: Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Lorado Taft Field Campus, Outdoor Education Programs and National Camp, and Oral History Tapes.

The first series consists of records documenting life at the Eagle's Nest Art Colony which occupied the campus site near Oregon, Illinois from 1898 to 1942. Articles by and about Lorado Taft and the other members of the Eagle's Nest Association, as well as photographs of the members and scenes of life in the colony make up this series. Also included here is information on Taft's "Blackhawk" statue and other artworks produced by members of the colony. A collection of original glass lantern slides of the Eagle's Nest Colony, donated by Lorado Taft's grandson Bertram Taft Smith in 1984, completes this series.

The Lorado Taft Field Campus materials comprise the major portion of this collection. The earliest records date to 1950 with the acquisition of the property, and continues through the 1990's. Histories of the campus, publications including newsletters and journals, meeting minutes, course descriptions and handbooks, information on the Masters Program in Outdoor Teacher Education, program reviews, correspondence, biographical information, as well as photographs of the campus, faculty, students and activities are included in this series.

The materials in series three date from 1931 to 1993 and focus on the broader theme of outdoor education and the National Camp for Professional Leadership in Camping. Also found in this series is material donated by Dr. E. DeAlton Partridge, a leader in outdoor education, which includes documents and photographs relating to the 1942 national camp, and others involved in outdoor education.

Oral history tapes made during the 1960's through 1980's make up the bulk of the final series. Also included are tapes on various subjects relating to outdoor education and recordings of sounds in nature. An inventory listing the titles or subjects of the tapes is found in Folder 1, of Box 19.

Additional information on the Outdoor Education Program at the Lorado Taft Field Campus, and the original deed to Eagle's Nest can be found in the Education College Records (UA 22). Other University Archives collections which contain related information include the Presidents' Papers (UA 4), Provost Office (UA 16), the papers of Paul E. Harrison, first director of the Lorado Taft Field Campus (UA 18), and a thesis by Nancy C. Swanson, "The Acquisition and Development of the Lorado Taft Field Campus," 1968.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Lorado Taft Field Campus has served as Northern Illinois University's Outdoor Education Center since 1954. This facility enabled teachers, youth leaders and students to learn in the outdoors. Located next to Lowden Memorial State Park, near Oregon, Illinois, this campus has been an excellent resource for the study of natural ecosystems and the impact people have on them. It was named for Lorado Taft, one of the founders of the Eagle's Nest Association, and a well-known sculptor.

The history of the campus can be traced back to the 1893 Columbian Exposition held in Chicago. It brought together a group of artists who enjoyed each others company, and thereafter wished to spend summers together. Their first summer home was at Bass Lake, Indiana, but several years later an outbreak of malaria caused the group to search for a new location. In 1898 Chicago Attorney Wallace Heckman agreed to lease fifteen acres of his summer estate near Oregon, Ganymede Farm, to the group for one dollar a year as long as one of the original members of the group lived. Calling themselves the Eagle's Nest Association after a prominent cedar tree that once held an eagle's nest, their summer camp became known as the Eagle's Nest Art Colony.

The Eagle's Nest Association included Lorado Taft; Charles Francis Browne, landscape painter; Ralph Elmer Clarkson, portrait painter; James Spencer Dickerson, newspaper editor; Clarence Dickinson, organist and composer; Horace Spencer Fiske, poet, editor and lecturer; Henry Brown Fuller, novelist; Hamlin Garland, essayist and novelist; Oliver Dennett Grover, landscape painter; Irving K. and Allen B. Pond, architects; and Nellie Walker, sculptor. Browne and Garland were married to sisters of Taft. The first permanent structure was Poley House, built by the Pond brothers, which served at the dining and recreation center. It was followed by Taft's home, and nine other buildings. Families and friends often visited the camp. The annual Labor Day processions to the Heckman House to pay the one dollar rent brought out the humor in the group, as they dressed in costume and made the event a real celebration. Lorado Taft's massive concrete statue of an Indian was dedicated on July 1, 1911. It came to be known as the "Blackhawk" statue and still stands overlooking the Rock River. Lorado Taft, the guiding spirit of the camp, died in 1936. Following the death of the last surviving member, Ralph Clarkson, in 1942 the land reverted back to the Heckman estate.

The property was purchased by the state of Illinois for a park. In DeKalb on May 13, 1949. Dr. Leslie A. Holmes in his inaugural address as President of Northern Illinois State Teachers

College advocated the establishment of a field study camp. Two years later, on August 7, 1951 Governor Adlai Stevenson signed a bill which transferred sixty-six acres of Lowden Memorial State Park to Northern, which named the campus after the founder of the Eagle's Nest Association, Lorado Taft. Paul Harrison, Assistant Professor of Industrial Arts at N.I.S.T.C. was asked to supervise the restoration of the buildings, which occupied the property. In the spring of 1954 three buildings were ready for use, Browne, Poley and Taft. On June 1, Harrison was appointed Director of the field campus, and in July the first class of senior elementary education majors came to Taft for three weeks of training. The first class of students, sixth graders from Northern's McMurry Lab School, spent a week at Taft later that Fall.

In the Spring of 1963 a Masters degree in Outdoor Education was approved by the Teachers College Board. Mr. Harrison retired as director at the end of August 1965, and the newly completed dining hall was named in his honor. Dr. Donald R. Hammerman, program director since 1954, became the new Taft Field Campus director on September 1. Just a few weeks later, on October 8, 1965, seventy-five additional acres of land were purchased, expanding the campus to 141 acres. Heckman Dormitory was completed in April 1971, and upgrading of facilities has continued over the years. During a high wind in 1972 the aged Eagle's Nest Tree fell, and was placed in the garden setting near the heart of the campus. The Instructional Materials Center, replaced the original library, and held the collection of materials related to outdoor and environmental education until it was closed in the summer of 2000.

Hammerman stepped down as director of the Taft Field Campus in 1979, but continued his work there until the summer of 1991 when he retired after 37 years. Malcolm Swan followed as acting director, and on January 1, 1980 Dr. Clifford Knapp was appointed director. He was followed by John Saunders in 1982, Michael Pitzen in 1983, and Robert Helmkamp in 1988. Dale Hoppe has been director since 1990. On June 30, 2000, the College of Education ended its relationship with the Lorado Taft Field Campus. As a result of this change the Taft Campus now operates under the authority of the Provost's Office. Outdoor Teacher Education faculty were reassigned to DeKalb, and Northern's elementary education students no longer come to Taft Campus for a residential practicum. However, Lorado Taft Field Campus continues to offer environmental education programs to over 6,000 area schoolchildren and their teachers each year, as well as conference opportunities to nearly 4,000 people of all ages from NIU's service area and beyond. Hoppe continues to serve as Director of the Lorado Taft Field Campus.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX FOLDER DESCRIPTION

Series I: Eagle's Nest Art Colony

1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Survey Notes of (Taft Campus) Area, 1883-1889 Eagle's Nest Association, 1898-1942 An Account of Eagle's Nest Camp, by Elizabeth Dickerson Palmer, n.d. The Eagle's Nest Art Colony, by Leone Ellerby, 1986 Eagle's Nest Articles, (1904-1984) Articles and Papers about Lorado Taft, (1912-1989) Publications about Lorado Taft and Trygve Rovelstad, n.d. Taft Home, University of Illinois, Champaign, n.d. Articles written by Lorado Taft, 1915, 1923, 1935, n.d. Speech Given at Dedication of Blackhawk Statue, July 1, 1911
	11	Lorado Taft's Indian Statue "Black Hawk": An Account of the Unveiling
	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Ceremonies, 1911; and a paper on the Unveiling, 1993 Blackhawk Statue, Articles, Papers, & Clippings, (1913-1986) "Restoration of 'The Blind' by Lorado Taft," by Michelle Post, 1988 Ralph Clarkson, articles, n.d. Leonard Crunelle, article, n.d. Horace Spencer Fiske, listing in Who's Who, n.d. Margaret Fuller, articles and poetry, 1960, 1971, 1978, n.d. Hamlin Garland, article, n.d. Oliver Dennett Grover, article, 1921 Wallace Heckman, article, n.d. Mrs. Palmer's Memoirs, n.d. Pond, Autobiography, n.d. Bessie Potter, article, 1898 Nellie Walker, article, 1921 Eagle's Nest Art Colony Collection, Oregon, Illinois, booklets, 1982 (2) Lorado Taft, exhibit booklets, Krannert Art Museum, 1983, 1988
2	1 2 3 4 5a 5b	Photographs: Oregon Area (12) Oregon and Eagle's Nest Areas by Ogle County Assessor, ca. 1890's (31), and negatives Eagle's Nest Tree (3) Eagle's Nest Art Colony People (15), and negatives (5) Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Buildings and Scenery (42) Taft Photo Album of Art Colony, n.d.

BOX	FOLDER DESCRIPTION		5
		Photographs, cont.:	
2	6	Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Portraits and Related Views (57), and identifications	
	7	Eagle's Nest Art Colony, negatives (34)	
	8	Photos from Eagle's Nest Lantern Slides (157), and identifications, 1987	
	9	Negatives from Eagle's Nest Lantern Slides (156), 1987	
	10	Blackhawk Statue Construction, ca. 1911 (34), negatives (25)	
	11	Blackhawk Statue, ca. 1950-1980 (15), negative (1)	
	12	Blackhawk and Shabbona, from books, n.d.	
	13	Taft Sculpture, Oregon (2)	
	14	Taft's Art (2), and a letter, n.d.	
	15	Written Description for Pictorial Account of Eagle's Nest Camp, 1987	
	16	Slides (35 mm) on Eagle's Nest Art Colony (364), 1987	
	17	Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Slide Documentation, 1987	
	18	Smithsonian Loan Agreement, 1987-1988	
3A & E	3	Original Eagle's Nest Art Colony 3"x4" Glass Lantern Slides (157)	

Series II: Lorado Taft Field Campus

4	1	Lowden Memorial State Park Transfer of Jurisdiction, Jan. 2, 1951, and Lowden Memorial State Park Brochures, ca. 1963, 1973
	2	Lowden State Park Transfer, Letters of Support, 1950
	3	Taft Campus Acquisition, article, August 1951
	4	Correspondence, 1953-1954, 1963, 1970
	5	History of the Oregon Area, n.d.
	6	Poems of the Oregon Area, Taft Campus, (1900-1960)
	7	Taft Campus as it Was: A Tour of Eagle's Nest Camp, by Donald Terry, n.d.
	8	Overview of the Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Slide Show Program Script, 1987
	9	Overview of the Eagle's Nest Art Colony, Video Script, 1987
	10	N.I.S.T.C. and N.I.U. Brochures, ca. 1953, n.d.
	11	Brief History of Taft Field Campus, ca. 1980
	12	"A University President's Vision: A Brief History of Lorado Taft Field Campus and Outdoor Teacher Education Program," by Clifford E. Knapp, [1990]
	13	Lorado Taft Field Campus, Visitor's Guide and Brief History,(2), 1954
	14	Lorado Taft Field Campus, Description and Articles, (1964-1987)
	15	Maps of Lorado Taft Field Campus, (1945-1973), and 1 slide, n.d.
	16	Log Cabin, article 1968, and negatives (4)

<u>BOX</u>	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	7
7	14	"Research Utilization in Outdoor Education," by George Donaldson, 1970	
	15	"Notes Concerning Educational History and Thought with Relevance to Outdoor Education," by Malcolm Swan, 1970	Э
	16	"Outdoor Education: A Synthesis," by Donaldson and Goering, [1970]	
	17	Rock River Ecological Education Report, by Malcolm Swan, 1972	
	18	"School Camping," by George W. Donaldson, 1974	
	19	"A School by the River," Narration and Memo, 1975-1976	
	20	"Readings in Adventure Education," ed. by Robert L. and Sonia Vogl, [1977]	
	21	"Salt and Pepper," and "Peanut Butter and Jelly: A Campfire Primer," l Ramona Curtis, [1979]	by
	22	"An Examination of the Outdoor Education Component of the Elementary Education Program," by Elizabeth Hammerman, 1980	
	23	"Student Perceptions of the Lorado Taft Field Campus' Outdoor Teacher Education Graduate Program," by Sonia and Robert Vogl, and Peter Abrams, May 1981; and "Evaluation of the Graduate Teaching Assistantship at Lorado Taft Field Campus, 1976-1984," by Ashley J. Sweda, July 1984	
	24	"Educational Uses of the Outdoors: Survey of Graduates and Students in the Master's Degree Program in Outdoor Teacher Education," by Sonia and Robert Vogl, 1982	3
25		"A Participant Observer's View of the Taft Program," by Keith McRae, Nov. 1984	
	26	"Some Natural History of the Chana-Oregon, Illinois Area," by Ronald Flemal and Douglas Wade, July 1971	
	27	"Plants of the Pine Rock Nature Preserve and Some Fauna Lists," by Dorothy R. and Douglas E. Wade, March 1971	
8	1-2 3	Handbooks for Outdoor Teacher Education, 1956, 1965, 1969, n.d. "Outdoor Education Guidebook for Lorado Taft Field Campus," 1980- 1981	
	4	Taft - Outdoor Education, Student Questions, n.d.	
	5	First National Outdoor Teacher Education Conference, Lorado Taft Field Campus, Sept. 23-24, 1960	
	6	Outdoor Education, Articles and Materials by Taft Staff Members, 198 1981, 1990-1996, n.d.	0-
	7	Publications of Faculty, (1964-1969)	
	8	Bibliography of Theses and Dissertations, by Morris Wiener, 1962	
	9	Research in Outdoor Education, Summaries of Doctoral Studies, by Hammerman, Stark and Swan, 1969	
	10	The Contributions of George W. Donaldson, 1945-1976	

BOX	<u>FOLDER</u>	DESCRIPTION
8	11 12 13 14	Clifford E. Knapp, Biographical Information and Resume, ca. 1993 Doug Wade's Bibliography, and His Career Contributions, 1976 Graduates and Faculty in Outdoor Teacher Education, 1963-1999 Taft Campus Outdoor Education Award Recipients, 1970-1998, and Photographs of Award Recipients (13)
	15	Awards: Alumni Award, 1896-1998; Leslie Holmes Memorial Scholarship, 1982-1986; Outstanding Graduate Student, 1993
	16	Directory of Northern Illinois Camp Facilities for Outdoor Education, [1970], 1980
	17 18	Lorado Taft Library/Materials Center, 1988, 1996, n.d. Guest Book, Lorado Taft Library, July 1988-Sept. 1990
9	1	Departmental Objectives, Outdoor Teacher Education, and Related Articles, (1953-1984)
	2 3	Taft Campus - Administrative Organization, 1967-1979
		Proposal: Masters Degree in Outdoor Teacher Education, 1961-1962
	4	Proposal: Master Plan for Environmental Education, 1971
	5-10	Taft Staff Meeting Minutes, Nov. 1960-1982
10	1-9 10	Taft Staff Meeting Minutes, 1982-1998 Taft Campus Director's Advisory Committee, 1982-1985, 1988
11	1-2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Graduate Student Advisory Committee, OTE, (1969-1982) Outdoor Education Information Packet, 1982-1986, n.d. Junior Block, Information Sheets, (1973-1982) Laboratory Experience, Juniors, Handbook, 1983 Student Teaching, Seniors, Handbook, 1983 M.S. Ed. Program in Outdoor Teacher Education, 1981 Outdoor Teacher Education, Course Syllabi, 1981-1986
12	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Outdoor Teacher Education (CIOE) Course Outlines, 1982-1986 Curriculum Changes, 1984 Curriculum Committee, 1987-1988 Secondary Education Committee, n.d. Name Change Proposal, Outdoor-Environmental Education, 1984 Environmental Education Internship/Cooperative Education Program, 1986-1995 Taft-USDESEA/Germany Contract, 1976-1977 Taft-Ontario, Canada Relationship, 1984-1997 Elder Hostel Proposals, Lorado Taft Field Campus, 1983, 1992 Camp Taft, [1988]

8

<u>BOX</u>	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	9
12	11	Taft Campus: Attendance, Aug-Dec. 1987	
	12	Outdoor Teaching Education Inquiries, 1988-1998	
	13	Outdoor Teacher Education, Accomplishments/Reports, 1960-1988	
	14	Master's Degree in Outdoor Education, Reports and Correspondence, 1965, 1967, 1988, 1989, n.d.	
	15	Taft Programs, Growth Statistics, 1954/55 to 1975/76; Outdoor Teacher Education Masters Degrees, 1966-1976	
	16	Program Assessment, Outdoor Teacher Education, 1972	
	17	NCATE Report, Outdoor Teacher Education, 1972-1973	
	18	Outdoor Teacher Education, Graduate Program Review, 1973	
	19	B.O.A. Report, Outdoor Teacher Education, 1976	
	20	A.P.C. Review, Outdoor Teacher Education, 1981	
	21	B.O.R. Program Review, MSED Program in Outdoor Teacher Education, and Related Correspondence, 1981-1982	
	22	NCATE Report, M.S. Ed. In Outdoor Education, 1982	
13	1	Follow Up Reports to 1981-1982 B.O.R. Reviews	
	2	Outdoor Teacher Education, Program Area Statement and Related Material, 1985	
	3	Follow Up Report on M.S. Ed. in Outdoor Teacher Education, Dec. 1985, 1986	
	4	B.O.R. Program Review, Outdoor Teacher Education, 1986-1987	
	5	B.O.R. Review Data, 1986-1987	
	6	B.O.R. Report 1986-1987, Revisions and Responses, 1985-1987	
	7	B.O.R. Follow Up Reports and Related Correspondence, 1986-1990	
	8	Program Review, Outdoor Teacher Education, Memo Nov. 26, 1986	
	9	Non-Academic Program Review, Lorado Taft Campus, 1987	
	10	Response to I.B.H.E. Questions, Oct. 15, 1987	
	11	Responses to I.B.H.E. Program Review, June-July 1988	
	12	Outside Reviewers - M.S. Ed. Program, 1988	
	13	NCATE/ISBE Reports, 1989-1990	
	14	I.B.H.EP.Q.P. Report Materials, 1992-1993	
	15	Outdoor Teacher Education, Support Letters, NovDec. 1992	
	16	B.O.R. Report - M.S. Ed. Outdoor Teacher Education, 1995	
14	1	Justification for Retaining Temporary CIOE Position, 1988	
	2	Taft Campus, Graduate Teaching Assistant Housing Plans, 1990	
	3	Taft - Graduate Teaching Assistants, 1997-1998	
	4	Memos, 1970-1971	
	5-9	Taft Faculty Bulletins, Memo's, Notes to Faculty, and Related Correspondence, 1977-1993	

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION	10
15	1	Taft Faculty, Memos and Related Correspondence, 1993-1998	
	2 3	General Correspondence, 1987-1993 Robert A. Bullington Correspondence (Development of Taft Campus).
	-	1951, 1955	,,
	4 5	Knapp Correspondence (Selected), A to Z, 1980-1998	
	5	Support Function Review, Lorado Taft Administration, FY 1988	
		Photographs of Taft Campus	
16	1a	35 th Anniversary, 1986 (7)	
	1b	40 th Anniversary, & other Photographs from 1991 (18)	
	2 3	Faculty, 1950's-1991 (18), and slides (4)	
		Alice Baker's Retirement, n.d., (4) Lois Goodrich, 1980, (11)	
	4 5	Paul Harrison, 1955, n.d. (3)	
	6	Mike Rillo, n.d. (11)	
	7	Graduate Assistants, 1981-1983 (6), and slide (1)	
	8	Board Meeting, 1953 (7)	
	9	Activities and People, 1950's (28)	
	10	Activities and People, 1960's (82)	
	11	Open House at Poley House, 1962 (7)	
	12	Activities and People, 1970's (38)	
	13	Midwest Conference, 1974 (6)	
	14	Activities and People, 1980's (23), and slides (39)	
	15	Activities and People, 1990's (8)	
	16	Outdoor Education Teacher Trainees, n.d. (29)	
	17	Outdoor Education - Children and Young Adults, (1958-1964), n.d., (79)	
	18	Outdoor Education - Adults, 1954, 1960, n.d. (23), and 1 negative	
	19	Dorm Living, 1958, 1961, n.d. (14)	
	20	Band Camps at Taft, 1960, n.d. (5)	
	21	Weather Monitoring, 1960-1962, 1978, n.d. (12)	
	22	Groups, Unidentified, ca. 1950's-1970's (30)	
17	1	Aerial Views of Taft Campus, n.d. (11), and slide (1)	
	2	General Views of Campus, n.d. (15)	
	3	Taft Campus Buildings Before Renovation, early 1950's, (30)	
	4	Campus Renovation, 1950's (21)	
	5	Browne House, n.d. (10), and slide, 1954 (1)	
	6	Clarkson Dormitory, Construction and Exterior Views, 1962,	
	7	n.d.(13)	
	7	Dickerson Cottage, n.d. (6)	
	8	Eagle's Nest Camp Plaque, 1960, n.d., (3)	

11

18	1	Study of Characteristics of Administrators of Outdoor Education Programs, by George Donaldson, 1969
	2	"An Assessment of the Alleged Rural Bias of Conservation, Outdoor, and Environmental Educators," by Robert and Sonia Vogl, [1975]
	3	"The History of Organized Camping in the United States," by Gibson, 1979
	4	"An Examination of Six Graduate Programs in Outdoor/Environmental Education," by Hammerman, Spring 1983
	5	"Report of the New York State Teachers College Faculty Curriculum Conference on Outdoor Education," 1949
	6	"A Sense of Place: What Was, What Is, What May Be" May 1993
	7	"Teaching Botany From Seed To Fruition," by April Dickey, n.d.
	8	Partridge Correspondence, (1936-1946), 1980

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	DESCRIPTION	12
18	9	Partridge Material, Donation Letter, 1979	
	10	First Camping Education Institute, New Jersey, June 1942 (manuscript includes photographs)	
	11	Partridge, Drafts of Narration for National Camp Film, 1943	
	12	Adventures in Camping Education at National Camp, ca. 1942-1943	
	13	National Camp, Reports, 1942, n.d.	
	14	National Camp, Photographs, 1945-1947, n.d. (41)	
	15	Camping and Outdoor Education, Typescripts, 1942, 1944, n.d.	
	16	Summer Camps, and Camping Programs, articles, (1931-1970)	
		National Camp Photographs	
	17	Vic Crowell, n.d. (4)	
	18	"Dee" Partridge, 1942 (3)	
	19	L.B. Sharp, ca. 1940-1946, (12)	
	20	Cap'n Bill Vinal, n.d. (22), and slides (2)	
	21	Accommodations (Covered Wagon), n.d. (5)	
	22	Activities and People, n.d. (17)	
	23	Bog Instruction, n.d. (5)	
	24	Eating, n.d. (17)	
	25	Camp Cooking, articles, n.d.	
	26	Crafts, (Instructions), ca. 1938, n.d.	

Series IV: Oral History Tapes

19	1 2	Oral History Cassette Inventory List, 1965-1988 Oral History Tape Abstracts, 1982
	Cassette T	ape Boxes 1, 2, 3, 4
20	Cassette T	ape Boxes, 5, 6, 7

ADDENDUM:

Oversize Photographs of Eagles Nest Art Colony Men, and Lorado Taft Field Campus, n.d. (14)

Movie of Physical Education Majors at Lorado Taft, n.d.

Inventory by Joan M. Metzger Assistant University Archivist July 2000