

A GUIDE TO THE
DODSON FAMILY PAPERS
MS/NC 727
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DODSON FAMILY

The person most prominently represented in this collection is Calvin James Dodson, son of George Julius Dodson and Mary (Mamie) Larson Dodson. Calvin was born in Albany, Oregon on June 15, 1911. Most of his elementary education was received in Klickitat County, Washington. In 1923, his family moved to Nevada and he graduated from the University of Nevada in Reno with a degree in electrical engineering in 1932.

On August 26, 1934, he was married to Ruth A. Murphy of Reno. Dodson was a civil engineer for Sparks, Reno and Washoe County, retiring in 1976. He came to Sparks in 1941, after working as a road engineer for the Indian Service, and as a regional Civilian Conservation Corps inspector for the U. S. Grazing Service. He also retired in 1971 as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. military, having served in World War II and Korea in addition to many years in the Army Reserve. Calvin Dodson died on November 17, 1996. His wife, Ruth lived until 2006.

Calvin Dodson had two younger brothers, Melvin, born in 1917 and Edwin, born in 1921. Melvin died in a rifle accident in 1940, and Edwin from a heart attack in 1984. Edwin served as a school teacher and principal and he was a professor at the University of Nevada for 17 years before his death

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE COLLECTION

The Dodson family papers consist of a limited amount of correspondence relating to Calvin Dodson and earlier family members dating back to the turn of the twentieth century. Other data include marriage certificates, legal documents, military papers, school records, diaries, and related materials.

Some records pertain to Calvin Dodson's experience with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930's, the City of Sparks Public Works, newspaper clippings, printed materials and a scrapbook. Most of the collection consists of photographs of family members, school pictures, and a large accumulation of snapshots from the Pacific during

World War II, when Calvin Dobson was stationed in the Philippines. There are numerous early Nevada photos from Empire City and other areas during the 1880's through the early 1900's.

Included in the collection is a nineteenth century photo album from the Murphy family on Calvin Dobson's mother's side (see family tree following this section). Many of the pictures in this album are unidentified. There are three Dodson albums documenting events through the 1930's. Also, there are several panoramic views of CCC members at Tuscarora, Nevada and military officers at Fort Douglas, Utah and Harvard at Cambridge, Massachusetts. Other larger photographs include schoolchildren, an unidentified family portrait and some early Nevada scenery.

There is a collection of high school and college yearbooks ranging from 1926 through 1942 which belonged to the three Dodson brothers. The balance of the collection are dozens of oversized maps and drawings created by Calvin Dodson during his career, including public and private sites in Sparks and Reno as well as maps and drawings for the U.S. Department of the Interior during the 1930's.

DODSON FAMILY TREE

Michael J. Dillon 1831-1905

Mary K. Dillon 1834-?

Elizabeth 1857-1937 — MARRIED James Larson 1855-1936

Anna 1860-?

Patrick 1862 -?

James 1864-?

Edward 1868 -?

Mary (Mollie?) 1871-?

Annie 1881-1922

Florence 1893-?

Irene 1897-?

Mary (Mamie) 1883-1963

MARRIED George J. Dodson 1872-1953

Geo. Murphy 1867-1931

Emma Murphy 1878-1945

Calvin 1911-1996

Melvin 1917-1940

Edwin 1921-1984 Ruth Murphy 1915-2006 MARRIED -

Carol Dodson Chapin 1940 -



CALVIN DODSON AGE 21



George AND MARY DODSON



I. CORRESPONDENCE & RECORDS

BOX DESCRIPTION

- 1 Family Correspondence 1900-1920's
 - 2 Family Correspondence 1930's-i 940's
 - 3 Family Correspondence 1950's
 - 4 Correspondence, Calvin Dodson 1930's
 - 5 Correspondence, Calvin Dodson 1940's
 - 6 Correspondence, Calvin Dodson 1950's-1990's
 - 7 Correspondence, Mamie Larson Dodson
 - 8 Legal Documents Folder 1
 - 9 Legal Documents Folder 2
 - 10 Marriage Certificates, George J. Dodson/MaryA. Larson
 - 11 Teacher's Certificates, Mamie (Larson) Dodson
 - 12 Larson Family Papers
 - 13 Dillon Family Papers
 - 14 Dodson Family Genealogy
 - 15 Diaries, Calvin Dodson 1942-1944
 - 16 Military Records Calvin Dodson
 - 17 Military Records George J. Dodson
 - 18 Education Records Calvin Dodson
 - 19 Diplomas, Geo. Melvin Dodson
 - 20 Grazing Service Camps—CCC (Calvin Dodson)
 - 21 CCC Accident Report
 - 22 CCC Camp Personnel & Offices
 - 23 Certificates & Appointments, Calvin Dodson
 - 24 - 1 Large Cert. of Appointment as Major, U. S. Army (C. Dodson)
 - 25 Inspection Reports, Grazing Service (C. Dodson)
 - 26 City of Sparks, Public Works (CV. Dobson)
 - 27 Plats & Maps, small
 - 28 Field Books numbered I through 5 (Calvin Dobson)
- Box 2
- 1 Empire, NV School Registers 1895-96; 1909-10
 - 2 Printed Materials
 - 3 Miscellaneous
 - 4 Newspaper Clippings
 - 5 Scrapbook

II. PHOTOGRAPHS

- 6 Picture Postcards
- 7 Family Photographs, Folder 1
- 8 Family Photographs, Folder 2
- 9 Family Photographs, Folder 3
- 10 Family Photographs, Folder 4
- 11 Family Photographs, Folder 5

- 12 Family Photographs, Folder 6
- 13 School Photographs
- 14 Photo Negatives
- 15 Glass Negatives (2)

Box 3

- 1 Snapshots from Pacific—WWII Folder 1
- 2 Snapshots from Pacific---WWII Folder 2
- 3 Early Nevada Photographs, 1880's-1910's Folder 1
- 4 Early Nevada Photographs, 1880's-1910's Folder 2
- 5 Miscellaneous Photographs
- 6 Photograph Album, Murphy Family
- 7 Photograph Album, Calvin Dodson 1918-1933
- 8 Photograph Album, Calvin Dodson 1930's mostly CCC
- 8a Negatives from Album #3
- 9 Photograph Album, Melvin Dodson

5 Large Photographs as follows:

- 2 --Panoramic view of CCC members at Tuscarora, NV
- 3 --Panoramic view of CCC camp at Tuscarora, NV (1939)
- 4 --Panoramic view of Army Officers at Ft. Douglas, UT (1934)
- 5 --Panoramic view of Army Officers at Harvard, MA (1940's)
- 6 --Large Photo of Carson City High School Basketball Team, by Gov. Richard Kirman (late 1930's)
- 7 --Family portrait, 7 persons, unidentified
- 8 --School photo with Mary Larson next to teacher
- 9 --Photograph of Oregon Agricultural College (OAC) Band
- 10 --Photo of band on stairs to building
- 11 --Photo of class at OAC
- 12 --Freight Teams near Winnemucca
- 13 --Photograph of unidentified cemetery
- 14 --Photo of group of adults & children at a party in McDermitt, NV

III. SCHOOL YEAR BOOKS

Box 4

- 1 Blue & White 1926, Carson City High School
- 2 Carneta 1928, Carson City High School
- 3 Carneta 1930, Carson City High School
- 4 Carneta 1932, Carson City High School
- 5 Carneta 1934, Carson City High School
- 6 Carneta 1936, Carson City High School
- 7 Carneta 1938, Carson City High School
- 8 Artemesia 1932, University of Nevada (Reno)
- 9 Artemesia 1938, University of Nevada (Reno)

- 10 Artemesia 1939, University of Nevada (Reno)
- 11 Artemesia 1942, University of Nevada (Reno)

Box 5

IV. MAPS & DRAWINGS

(Oversized)

- 1 Sparks maps & drawings
- 2 Sparks maps & drawings
- 3 Sparks maps & drawings
- 4 Sparks maps & drawings
- 5 Reno maps & drawings
- 6 U. S. Government maps & drawings
- 7 Miscellaneous maps & drawings

V. CERTIFICATES

Box 6 (Oversized box)

8 Diplomas

Mary/Mamie Larson Grammar School 1897

Business College 1907

Life Diploma 1910