



*Archival and Manuscript Collections Finding Aid*

**ACCESSION No.:** HRHS- 132

**COLLECTION TITLE:** Floyd Wilmer Coffman Collection

**DATES:** 1918, 1930s, 1940s

**SIZE:** 5 folders.

**DONOR:** Unknown

**PROCESSED:** Processed 09/10/2014

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

Floyd Wilmer Coffman was born in Rockingham County, September 14, 1889. He was called to duty in the U.S. Army to serve in WWI, August, 1917 as a field clerk with the Quartermaster Corps, and was discharged August 10, 1919. Mr. Coffman attended LaSalle University in Chicago IL from 1921-1924, but did not earn a degree.

Mr. Coffman had a special interest in photography, and apprenticed at William Dean's photographic studio in Harrisonburg from 1911-1916, during which time which he also studied photography at the Eastman School for Professional Photographers. From 1916-1925 Mr. Coffman was a junior partner at Wm. B. Dutrow Co., a small department store in Harrisonburg. Professionally, from 1925-1942, Mr. Coffman was treasurer and manager of Sisler Brothers, a manufacturer of fabricated sonte and cement blocks, including granites, marbles, soapstone, slate and limestone. Coffman was appointed to the Harrisonburg City Council in 1938 and was re-elected for a four year term in 1940. He wrote three books: Rockingham County in the World War (1931), 140 pages; The Conrad Clan, an historical biography (1939), 400 pages; Our Fledgling Air Corps (pub date?). He was married to Mona Lyon who worked at Madison College.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

A collection of correspondence, documents and photographs belonging to Floyd Wilmer Coffman.

**COLLECTION INVENTORY:**

**Folder 1:**

German Drawing, June 2, 1917, found in a German trench in northern France

**Folder 2:**

Photo, *Mona Lyon Coffman (wife), 1941.*

Photo, *Frances Coffman (mother d. Aug 26, 1941)*.  
Photo Love Field Air Force Band, *Band US Air Service 1918*  
5 negatives, *1918 France*.  
Photo, *Sgt. Floyd Wilmer Coffman (16<sup>th</sup> Aerial)*.  
Photo, *Burnside's Bridge*.  
Photo, *German Trench Hindenburg Line Dec 1918*

**Folder 3:**

Correspondence:

Carl Kattelman to Coffman, Dec 1, 1939.  
F.W. Coffman to Joseph S. Ames, Oct. 19, 1931.  
William R. Enyart to Coffman, Nov. 9, 1931.  
Coffman to Enyart, Nov. 11, 1931.  
Coffman to Prof. W.H.Smith, Oct. 29, 1931.  
Charles H. Warren to Coffman, Nov 19, 1931.  
Graham Brush to Coffman, Nov 17, 1931.  
Coffman to Maj. Gen. B.D. Foulois, Nov 21, 1939.  
B.D. Foulois to Coffman, June 1, 1932.  
J.E. Jennings to Coffman, Aug 15, 1936.  
"Are You Smart, Wilmer?"  
Thorne Deuel to Coffman, Feb 13, 1920.  
L.S. Smith to Coffman, Nov 14, 1939.  
C.H. Warren to Coffman, Oct 14, 1931.

**Folder 4:**

"The Propeller" publication, Sept 1941.  
"The Propeller" publication, Mar 1944.

**Folder 5:**

American Legion Rockingham Co. Post No.27, Dec 12, 1942 *Post Commanders Name List*.  
Notes for American Legion Rockingham Co. Post No.27 post commanders.  
List of names of those who died during the war, dated June 1935.  
Donations to War Memorial as of Sept 1, 1945.  
Officers list American Legion Rockingham Co. Post No.27.  
Application for federal employment, 1942.  
Application for advancement.  
Radio talk WSVA March 8, 1938 "Service Work on Behalf of War Veterans in Rockingham Co. and Harrisonburg, VA."  
World War Memorials in Rockingham Co. Aug 20, 1934 by W. Coffman sponsored by American Legion Rockingham Co. Post No.27.  
History of Rockingham Co. Post No. 27 The American Legion (2 pages).  
Memorial to Harry Gordon Bruce.  
Memorial to 49 men from Rockingham Co. and Harrisonburg.  
Speakers and some of the committee of 13 of Rockingham Co. Post No. 27.

