

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Raymond Barnes Manuscripts**

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Title: Raymond Barnes Manuscripts

Physical Characteristics: 2 record storage boxes

Donated by: Raymond Barnes

Arrangement: Several personal items located at the beginning of the collection with notebooks arranged chronologically by time period covered in research thereafter.

Creator: Raymond Barnes

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Virginia Room copy fees apply.

Processor: Sarah Mundy, 18 September 2013; Dyron Knick, 6 July 2016

Biographical Note:

Raymond Pollard Barnes was born 10 December 1898. He was the son of druggist Henry Cooper Barnes and Virginia Oakes Barnes. After graduating with a law degree from the University of Virginia, he began practicing in Roanoke. Barnes served as a U.S. diplomat in the Near East from 1927 to 1928, and traveled as an officer in the U.S. Maritime Service from 1943 to 1949. Raymond Barnes was part of Roanoke's Democratic Executive Committee in the 1920s, and served as a substitute judge for Roanoke's Municipal Court from 1964 to 1965. Raymond Barnes was perhaps best known as a historian who authored *A History of Roanoke*, an 844 page, 3 pound book that was published in 1968. He also wrote a weekly article for the *Roanoke World News*, entitled "Echoes of Roanoke" from 1960-1970, which highlighted various aspects of Roanoke history. He was married to Margaret Hart Barnes who died in 1973. Raymond Barnes died on 29 August 1983.

Scope and Content:

The Raymond Barnes Manuscript Collection consists of Barnes' research notes and drafts used to compile *A History of Roanoke*. Also included are several personal items, including a journal kept by Barnes in 1966, a journal kept by Barnes' brother, Albert, in 1923 and Barnes' address book. Notebooks are arranged chronologically by the time period covered in each. Notebooks containing Section I of *A History of Roanoke* document the valley prior to its settlement as Big Lick and are not strictly in order by year. Notebooks in Section II begin with 1882 and continue through 1940, with missing years noted in the container list. When published, Barnes chose to leave some names of individuals involved in scandals out of *A History of Roanoke*; however he includes these names in his notes. One folder at the end of the collection includes several notebooks that seem to relate to other research Barnes compiled separate from his book.

Container List:

Box 1 of 2

Folder 1: Address book

Folder 2: Journal – Albert Barnes, 1923; Letterhead from H.C. Barnes, Inc.; photograph of Albert Barnes, c. 1923.

Folder 3: Journal – Raymond Barnes, 1966

Folder 4: Notebooks – Section I Research (1 of 4)

Folder 5: Notebooks – Section I Research (2 of 4)

Folder 6: Notebooks – Section I Research (3 of 4)

Folder 7: Notebooks – Section I Research (4 of 4)

Folder 8: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 1 and 2, 1882-1883

Folder 9: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 3 through 6, 1884-1887*

*Chapter 4, 1885 – missing

Folder 10: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 7 and 8, 1888-1889

Folder 11: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 9 and 10, 1890-1891

Folder 12: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 11 through 13, 1892-1894

Folder 13: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 14 through 16, 1895-1897

Folder 14: Notebooks – Section II: Chapter 17, 1898

Folder 15: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 18 and 19, 1899-1900

Folder 16: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 20 and 21, 1901-1902

Folder 17: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 22 through 24, 1903-1905

Box 2 of 2

Folder 1: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 25 and 26, 1906-1907

Folder 2: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 27 and 28, 1908-1909*

*Chapter 28, 1909 only includes the first page of notes

Folder 3: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 29 through 31, 1910-1912

Folder 4: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 32 through 35, 1913-1916*

*Chapter 33, 1944 – missing; Chapter 36, 1917 - missing

Folder 5: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 37 and 38, 1918-1919

Folder 6: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 39 through 41, 1920-1922*

*Chapter 42, 1923 – missing

Folder 7: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 43 through 45, 1924-1926

Folder 8: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 46 through 48, 1927-1929*

*Chapter 49, 1930 – missing

Folder 9: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 50 through 52, 1931-1933*

*Chapter 53, 1934 – missing

Folder 10: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 54 through 56, 1935-1937

Folder 11: Notebooks – Section II: Chapters 57 and 59, 1938-1940*

*Chapter 58, 1939 – missing

Folder 12: Notebooks – Research on other topics which appear to be unrelated to *A History of Roanoke*

