

**Anderson, Leslie Papers, 1905-1981 (.4 cu. ft.)**  
Processed by Jackie Couture, February 2006

**Restrictions**

None.

**Biographical Sketch**

Leslie Anderson was born in Lincoln County, KY in 1886. According to his autobiography he worked for a local farmer for a year to save money to send himself to the Stanford Graded and High School in 1906. After six months of study he graduated and took the examination for a Teacher's County Certificate. With that certification granted Anderson was able to get his first teaching job at the Round Knob School District in Lincoln County.

In 1907 he was offered an appointment to attend school at Eastern Kentucky State Normal School in Richmond and was the 61<sup>st</sup> student to enroll at the new school. Until his graduation in 1909 Anderson attended classes here from January through June and returned to Lincoln County to teach school from July to December. By 1922, Anderson had moved to Texarkana, TX where he started his own insurance company.

Even though he lived in Texas, he was very active in Eastern's alumni organization and attended many reunions. He died in Texarkana in 1986.

**Scope and Content Note**

Leslie Anderson kept many documents relating to his time as a student at Eastern Kentucky State Normal School and his early teaching career. He has photographs from these times that cannot be found anywhere else. These, along with his compositions and the scrapbooks he compiled, paint a vivid picture of what it was like to be a student at Eastern and a teacher in Kentucky in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Later documents shed light on the earliest alumni reunions organized by graduates of Eastern Kentucky State Normal School and also offer insight into the later lives of these early graduates.

**Donor Information**

Leslie Anderson (1977-042).

## **Box List**

### Box 01

- f.01 Autobiography of Leslie Anderson (part 1) including his bank book from Crab Orchard Banking Co., a high school graduation announcement for Stanford Graded School, 1906, a composition by Anderson titled "Why I Want an Education," a teachers county certificate, a composition by Anderson titled "The First Day of My First School," a photograph of the School Teachers Conference at Kings Mountain, KY, 1906 (1977-042.01), a photograph of the family of Fountain Warren, 1906 (1977-042.30) a resolution from Round Creek School, *The Interior Journal* dated February 18, 1907, a debate delivered at Eastern, 1907, a poster of Ruric Nevel Roark, a letter to J.W. Thurman, and Anderson's grade sheets from Kentucky State Normal School in the Eastern District – Richmond.
- f.02 Autobiography of Leslie Anderson (part 2) including a photograph of Sugar Grove School, 1907 (1977-042.02), a list of incorrect words taken from the pupils of Sugar Grove, 1907, Anderson's grades in the state certificate exam, membership cards, poems by EKSNS faculty and students, a photograph of Kings Mountain Graded School, 1908 (1977-042.03), Lincoln County ballot for 1909 election, a debate given at Eastern, 1909, letters of reference from various people including Eastern faculty and Mary Roark, graduation banquet invitations and a program for Eastern graduation, 1909.
- f.03 1908 Class Notebook - a botany notebook created by Leslie Anderson containing examples of leaves from various plants.
- f.04 1908-1909 Class Notebooks - a literature notebook created by Leslie Anderson in 1909 and two analysis by partition notebooks by Alberta Gaines Stephens in 1908.
- f.05 1953-1974 Correspondence to and from Leslie Anderson regarding early reunions, events and hotel reservations for the weekend. The letters contain lists and addresses of the earliest graduates as well as reports on the health of those who have been ill, information about children, and announcements of deaths. Some discussion of the outstanding alumni award is also included.
- f.06 Newsletters from Texarkana Chamber of Commerce, The Texarkana Kiwanis Club, and the Central Christian Church of Texarkana.
- f.07 Scrapbook about Eastern's first graduating class. Summary of items included:  
Commencement Program, 1909  
Alumni Banquet Program (including photograph of the first graduating class)(1977-042.04)  
Photograph - Graduation Banquet, 12 Jul 1909 (1977-042.05)  
Photograph - Anderson presenting W.F. O'Donnell with his diploma (1977-042.06)  
Photograph - Anderson ('09) and Bobby Coleman ('49) comparing diploma styles (1977-042.07)  
Photograph - Leslie Anderson, 1909 (1977-042.08)  
Photograph - Simon B. Chandler, 1909 (1977-042.09)

Poem written by Mrs. Chandler "How to Become a Surgeon in One Easy Lesson"  
Photograph - Harry L. Davis (1977-042.10)  
Davis Insurance Family Album  
Photographs - Clarence H. Gifford, 1909, 1923, 1953 (1977-042.11-13)  
Photograph - Cam S. Holbrook, 1909 (1977-042.14)  
Photograph - Dudley H. Starnes, 1909 (1977-042.15)  
Photographs - First 'Pioneer' Reunion, May 23, 1953 (5) (1977-042.16-20)  
List of early graduating classes and reunion activities  
Newsclippings about alumni events  
Photographs - 'Pioneer' Reunion Groups, 1956-1960 (8) (1977-042.21-28)  
Three Decades of Progress Banquet Program, 1936  
Alumni Banquet Program, 1940

f.08

Oversized storage (41/01/06)  
Photograph - Students who boarded with W.B. Elder and family, probably taken at the 1907 graduation (1977-042.29)  
Photograph - Eastern KY State Normal Delegates, Y.M.C.A. Convention, 1908 (1977-042.31)  
Diploma - Leslie Anderson, 1909  
Kentucky Teacher's State Certificate - Leslie Anderson, 1908  
Arkansas Traveler Commission - Leslie Anderson, 1978  
Scrapbook with newsclippings of articles about Eastern Kentucky State Normal School, events in Anderson's life, education issues, historical topics relating to Lincoln County, several obituaries, and poetry.