



MCDONOGH SCHOOL

Archives & Special Collections

Guide to the Collection of Louis E. Lamborn



**Processed by Christine Ameduri, Archivist
July 2020**



McDONOGH SCHOOL Archives & Special Collections

MS-01: The Louis E. Lamborn Collection

(12 Boxes, 5.14 cubic feet)

Inclusive Dates: c.1880 - 2003

Bulk Dates: c.1910 – c.1930; c.1950 – c.1960

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Provenance

The bulk of the material in this collection was donated in 1991 to the Archives by Louis Lamborn's son, Robert Lamborn. Additional materials were received as an accretion to the collection in 2019 from his grandson, Alan Lamborn.

Biography

Louis E. Lamborn began the longest running tenure of any McDonogh School Headmaster when he was elected to the post in December of 1925. "Doc", as he was affectionately known to both students and staff alike, served in that capacity for 27 years until his retirement in 1952.

He was born on a farm in Kent County on Maryland's Eastern Shore on August 16, 1890 to Louis and Mary Rebecca Taylor Lamborn. His family moved to Baltimore while Louis was still young, and it was there that he received his secondary education in the public schools, graduating from Baltimore City College in 1909. In the fall of 1910, he entered Dickinson College and was subsequently elected Class President. He was a member of the Belles Lettres Literary and Oratorical Societies, and Glee Club, and also participated in football, baseball and track.

In the spring of 1912, he left college to manage a family ranch and coal mine in Salmon City, Idaho, staying for three years before eventually returning to Dickinson in the fall of 1915. It was during this period that he married Florence Jean Wagner, on February 15, 1913, to which he had two children; Robert in 1918, and Elizabeth, "Betty", in 1922. He graduated first in his class in 1916 - completing his education in three years - and accepted the position of Physical Director at the Friends School in Baltimore that September.

At the outset of the United States' involvement in WWI in April 1917, Lamborn enlisted in the army, and was assigned to the Aviation Section, Signal Corps. Realizing it would be months before this unit saw active duty, he transferred to the infantry and was sent to Second Officers' Training School in Ft. Myer, VA, and graduated with the rank of Captain in November of that year. Soon after, he was assigned to Camp Meade and spent a year as a senior instructor in the Officers' Candidate School. During the height of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic, Lamborn was selected to command a special detail of almost 800 men to care for the Camp's influenza patients. Shortly before being mustered out of the Army, he completed a short tour of duty as commanding officer of a detachment of military police in Baltimore following Armistice in 1918.

Lamborn returned to civilian life (with the rank of Major in the Cavalry Reserve) and to Friends School as Vice Principal and Director of Athletics in February 1919 and served in that position for six years. It was during his time at Friends that he co-founded Camp Red Cloud for Boys (1919), and Camp Red Wing for Girls (1921) with his colleague and mentor, Edward C. Wilson, Headmaster of Friends School. The first camp site was located at Silver Lake, PA, but moved to larger quarters at Long Point on Lake Champlain, NY in 1936. Over the course of the next 20 years, about 300 boys and girls spent their summers swimming, hiking, and boating and perfecting their skills in horseback riding, tennis, and riflery among many other sports. Campers could also engage in non-sporting activities and intellectual pursuits, such as making crafts in the camp woodworking shop, playing in the camp orchestra, or working on the camp newspaper, the *Gwunduk*, published weekly and sent home to parents. The Camps were sold in 1939, so that Lamborn could devote more time to his duties at McDonogh.

McDonogh School was still very much a working farm school when Lamborn took the helm as Principal on January 1, 1926. Boys still helped to husk corn, pick apples, and harvest hay, peas, potatoes and other crops during the summers and when needed during the school year. Student enrollment was just over 100, with seven teaching faculty, and a handful of other staff. Financed principally from endowments, costs and overhead continued outpacing returns on investments.

From the start, Lamborn began addressing the School's financial concerns, presenting a comprehensive financial plan to the Board, as well as addressing academic and military issues. Among his many accomplishments are, the creation of the Lower School, admission of the first "day students", expansion of the athletic program, and the establishment of the Cavalry. Under his steady and focused leadership the School weathered a world war, the Great Depression, and a devastating fire in 1928 that destroyed the "old" main building. Upon his retirement in 1952, student enrollment was well over 700, there were more than 100 faculty and staff, and the School endowment had more than doubled. His son, Robert L. Lamborn, succeeded him as the next Headmaster.

Scope and Content Notes

About half of this collection is comprised of photographs, photo albums and scrapbooks that document Lamborn's life beginning with his time in Idaho a few years before his marriage in 1913, to his death in 1972, and is one of the strengths of the collection. The collection also contains correspondence, the bulk of which relates to and after his retirement, and condolence letters to him upon the death of his wife Jean in 1966, and to his son Robert upon his death in 1972.

Additionally, there is a substantial collection of Lamborn's addresses, speeches, notes and reflections about McDonogh School, as well as on education, discipline, character, and religion that span the years between 1916 and after his retirement in 1952. Another highlight of the collection are the documents, correspondence, photographs and ephemera documenting Camps Red Wing and Red Cloud, which he established in 1919 and 1921 respectively with his peer, Dr. Edward C. Wilson, Principal at Friends School in Baltimore.

See also *RG 2.7 Office of the Headmaster: Louis E. Lamborn, 1925 – 1952*, for official records produced by Lamborn during his tenure.

Series Description

The Louis E. Lamborn Collection is divided into four Series and five Sub-Series. **Series 1:** Biographical & Family: **Sub-Series A:** Photographs & Photo Albums; **Sub-Series B:** Florence Jean (Wagner) Lamborn; **Series 2:** McDonogh School: **Sub-Series A:** Addresses, Other Writings & Miscellaneous; **Sub-Series B:** Testimonial Dinners, 1936 and 1953; **Series 3:** Retirement & Death; **Series 4:** Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing: **Sub-Series A:** Photographs & Albums.

Series 1: Biographical & Family contains biographical information about Lamborn and his wife, Florence Jean Wagner Lamborn, but the bulk of this series is comprised mostly of photographs and photograph albums of Lamborn's time in Idaho, before and after his marriage. Also included are correspondence and documents related to Lamborn's WWI military service, as well as miscellaneous materials from his time at Dickinson College (Carlisle, PA), Johns Hopkins University, and Friends School (Baltimore, MD).

Series 2: McDonogh School consists of speeches, addresses, notes, etc., written during his tenure as Headmaster at McDonogh School, and correspondence, addresses and remarks, photographs, scrapbook, and other materials related to two testimonial dinners held in his honor in 1936 and 1953.

Series 3: Retirement & Death consists mostly of congratulatory correspondence upon his retirement, and some related miscellaneous materials, and materials related to his death and funeral, including a condolence register, list of contributors to the Louis E. Lamborn Memorial Scholarship Fund, and obituary notices from newspapers and other publications.

Series 4: Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing contains two boxes of photographs from Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing of various camp scenes and activities, and camper and staff group photographs, (c.1920-1940.) Other materials in this series include correspondence and legal documents related to the administration of the camps, and camp catalogs, camp song sheets, and a boating and sailing instruction handout for campers. There is also a scrapbook belonging to camper, Curtis Jansky which includes camp programs, schedules, photographs, medals, misc. ephemera, and letters written by Jansky, and by camp staff to his parents (1934-1936), and a photo album of a camper (name undecipherable) at Camp Red Cloud at Silver Lake, PA (1920-1922). Other materials, such as newsletters (*Gwunduk* and *Noosanwit*), news clippings, materials about camp reunions, and reminiscences by former campers were compiled by Lamborn's grandson, Alan Lamborn from various campers and added as an accretion to this collection.

Box 1 of 12

Series 1: Biographical and Family

1-1 Biographical Info – L. E. Lamborn

1-2 Military Service (WWI) – Correspondence, 1918-1922; Commission certificate to promotion of Major in Officer Reserve Corp, Cavalry (March 6, 1925), Commission certificate to promotion of Major in United States Army, Cavalry (September 7, 1929) Honorable Discharge form the United States Army – Private 1st Class of Signal Enlisted Reserve Corp (September 17, 1917); Honorable Discharge – Captain, 11th Division and Military Police (February 4, 1919) and other documentation.

1-3 Military Service (WWI) – Photos

- 1-4 Family Correspondence –Robert Lamborn (son), Betty Lamborn XX (daughter), Alan X (grandson), and Joan X (granddaughter), 1947-1972 w/gaps.
- 1-5 D. C. Lyle Notebook for L. E. Lamborn, 1925-1937
- 1-4 Yearbooks – *The Green Bag*, 1909 (Baltimore City College); *The Quaker*, 1926 (Friends School, Baltimore, MD)
- 1-7 Letter to Lamborn from Edward C. Wilson, Principal of Friends School, 1921, and pamphlet, *Benjamin Franklin: 1706-1790*, given to Lamborn by Wilson in 1916.
- 1-5 Misc. Newspaper and Magazine Clippings - L. E. Lamborn at Johns Hopkins University, Friends School, and McDonogh School, c.1922-2013 w/gaps.
- 1-6 Papers and Reminiscences about, and interviews with, L. E. Lamborn, 1972, 1993 and 2003.
- 1-10 Misc. Awards and Certificates – Kappa Sigma Fraternity, 1911; Dickinson College Combined Musical Clubs, 1912; Special Deputy of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for the State of Maryland, 1930; Honorary Membership on the Executive Board of the McDonogh Patrons Club, 1954; Kelly Scholarship, 1969 (photo negatives); McDonogh Boosters Club Card (1972-73); McDonogh School Alumnus Card (1953), and *The Headmasters' Club of the Philadelphia District; Membership, January 1, 1942*.
- 1-11 Day Book for 1953 – Misc. notes, poetry, etc., and two letters to Robert Lamborn, 1966.
- 1-12 Reports and Notes by L. E. Lamborn about Board of Education, Woodstock, VT, c.1940-1955; Commencement Invitation - Woodstock Union High School, 1962; Ticket – *62nd Annual Firemen's Ball, Dec. 31, 1953*, Woodstock, VT.

Box 2 of 12

Series 1: Biographical and Family

Sub-Series A: Photographs & Photo Albums

- 2-1 Professional portrait and candid photographs of L. E. Lamborn
- 2-2 Miscellaneous Lamborn Family Photos – Lamborn's parents, uncle, children, etc.
- 2-3 Betty Lamborn
- 2-4 Misc Photos – William Snowden (McDonogh employee) with horse; Camp Opinicon, Opinicon Lake, Ontario; Johns Hopkins University baseball game, c. 1922; misc. friends and students, and other.
- 2-5 L. E. Lamborn's yacht, *Priscilla*
- 2-6 Idaho – L. E. and Jean Lamborn on horseback; Lamborn and Wagner families; misc. farm and ranch scenes; hunting, fishing, freight boat on river, and town scenes in/near Salmon City, ID, c. 1910-1912
- 2-7 Idaho – Ranch scenes; mountain vistas near Salmon City, ID, c.1910-1912
- 2-8 Vermont – "Sweet Sixteen" boys' camp, c.1951; Lamborn house and farm, horseback riding scenes, and family, c.1950-1955
- 2-9 Color Woodblock Print, *The Barn in Winter*, 44/150, and Letterpress print, *"The Home" in Vermont*, 1935. Both by artist Mitchell Hager.

- 2-10** Dickinson College – Football team photo w/L. E. Lamborn, c.1906-1907; Lamborn in football uniform; Lamborn in line of scrimmage; Annual Brawl between freshman and sophomores, and fraternity house interior. Also, letter to Lamborn from Leon C. Prince, Professor of History, April 21, 1922.
- 2-11** Friends School, Baltimore, MD – Football team photo with L. E. Lamborn as coach, 1920 and Faculty photo c.1920.

Box 3 of 12

Photo Album (c.1906-1920) – Lamborn family (L. E. Lamborn in his youth, Jean Wagner Lamborn and extended family) misc. farm, ranch and mountain scenes, hunting, fishing, and horseback riding in Idaho; L. E. Lamborn at Dickinson College; Jean Wagner Lamborn at the National Service School, Chevy Chase, MD, c.1916-1919; misc. photos of various girls and women, presumably family and friends.

Photo Album (1910-1966) – Lamborn family (L. E. Lamborn's parents, wife, Jean and children, Bob and Betty); Jean Wagner Lamborn in her youth; misc. farm, ranch, and mountain vista scenes near Salmon City, ID; McDonogh School – interior and exterior of Headmaster's House, 1935, Bowman House, 1925, portrait of Harry, Edna and Bernice Mitchell, caretakers for Headmaster's House, c.1935-1945.

Photo Album (1961) – Gift to L. E. Lamborn from Valdemar Kruse & Jonna. Trip to Copenhagen, Denmark, and Amsterdam and Rotterdam, Holland, Oct.-Nov. 1961.

Photo Album (c.1955-1960) - Kruse Family in Denmark.

Box 4 of 12

Series 1: Biographical & Family

Sub-Series B: Florence Jean (Wagner) Lamborn (b.1892-d.1966)

- 4-1** Photos – Jean Wagner Lamborn in her youth, c.1893-1916
- 4-2** Photos – Wagner and Smiley Families, c.1880-1920
- 4-3** Photos – Jean Lamborn at her home in Woodstock, VT, 1954
- 4-4** Photos – Jean Lamborn in FL just before her death, c.1965
- 4-5** Family history of Jean Wagner Lamborn
- 4-6** Dance Cards – *Fourth Annual Dance, Beta Pi Chapter, Kappa Sigma Fraternity, February fourteenth, 1913, Mentzer Hall* (Dickinson College). Dance cards of L. E. Lamborn and Jean Wagner Lamborn.
- 4-7** Marriage certificate, license and announcement of Jean Wagner and Louis E. Lamborn, February 15, 1913, Carlisle, PA; Book -*The Wedded Life*, by J. R. Miller, D.D with signatures of wedding guests; Newspaper clippings of wedding
- 4-8** Greeting cards – Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc. from her children and husband.
- 4-9** Letters of condolence, funeral cards, memorial service cards, condolence register, and color slides of flowers sent to Marion Nelson Funeral Home, Lake Wales, FL.
- 4-10** List of people who sent condolences and memorial contributions to the Jean Wagner Lamborn Memorial Fund.

- 4-11 *A Valediction for Miss Jean*, by Hugh Burgess. Given at McDonogh School's 1964 Commencement Day.
- 4-12 McDonogh Alumni Association – Resolution honoring Jean Lamborn (September 1966), and photo of plaque, memorializing “a fund established by the Alumni Association in appreciation of the life and influence of ‘Mrs. Doc’” ...; Memorial Service Program, April 9, 1966, Memorial Service Attendee List, and Correspondence between Robert L. Lamborn and Aunt, Emma C. Wagner and Uncle, James Smiley Wagner, 1966.
- 4-13 Obituary Notices – Clippings from newspapers and *The Week*
- 4-14 James Smiley Wagner and Emma Crawford Wagner, (brother and sister-in-law of Jean Wagner Lamborn) – Poetry by E. C. Wagner; Memorial card for J. S. Wagner, 1987, etc.
- 4-15 Letter from L. E. Lamborn to Jean Wagner Lamborn, re: insurance policy, December 11, 1936, and other miscellaneous.

Box 5 of 12

Series 2: McDonogh School

Sub-Series A: Addresses, Other Writings & Miscellaneous

- 5-1 Thoughts on McDonogh School –Addresses, speeches, and miscellaneous notes about McDonogh School and John McDonogh. Handwritten and typed, c. 1925-1935 and 1941
- 5-2 Philosophical Thoughts and Poetry –Notes, poetry, etc., about life, discipline, character, etc., by L. E. Lamborn and others. Handwritten and typed, c.1916-1938

The following four folders contain the contents of one three-ring binder of typed stories, addresses, speeches, notes, poetry and other reflections regarding life, education, discipline, character, religion, etc., written by L. E. Lamborn and others, 1926-1957 w/gaps.

- 5-3 Three-Ring Binder/Folder 1
- 5-4 Three-Ring Binder/Folder 2
- 5-5 Three-Ring Binder/Folder 3
- 5-6 Three-Ring Binder/Folder 4
- 5-7 L. E. Lamborn Award, “Lamborn Trophy” – List of winners (1953-1959), news clippings, and photos
- 5-8 Trafford Partridge Klots Portrait of L. E. Lamborn – Correspondence, Patrons Club invitation to portrait viewing and photos (March 4, 1956), misc. newspaper clippings and catalogue, *The Lives and Paintings of Alfred Partridge Klots and His Son, Trafford Partridge Klots*, 1979.

Box 6 of 12

Series 2: McDonogh School

Sub-Series B: Testimonial Dinners, 1936 and 1953

- 6-1 Correspondence, 1935 & 1936
- 6-2 Scrapbook - *Testimonial Dinner; Major Louis E. Lamborn, Headmaster at McDonogh School, 1925-1935, Stafford Hotel, Friday, January 17, 1936*
- 6-3 Photo – 10th Anniversary of L. E. Lamborn at McDonogh (January 19, 1936)
- 6-4 Address and Remarks – Testimonial Dinner, January 14, 1953

- 6-5 Testimonial Dinner program, Official announcement/invitation letter, and "Doc-O-Grams", 1953
- 6-6 Testimonial Dinner Guest List, 1953
- 6-7 Congratulatory Letters, 1953
- 6-8 Photos – 1953 Testimonial Dinner, 1953
- 6-9 Misc. Newspaper Clippings, re: Testimonial Dinner, 1953

Box 7 of 12

Series 3: Retirement and Death

- 7-1 Correspondence, March-June 1952
- 7-2 Correspondence, July-December 1952
- 7-3 Correspondence, January-December 1953 and January-October 1954
- 7-4 Correspondence, 1955, 1956; 1958-1961, and n.d.
- 7-5 Correspondence, 1962-1969
- 7-6 Correspondence, 1970-1972
- 7-7 Correspondence, n.d.
- 7-8 Correspondence – (donated by Deets, Earl), 1952, 1961 & 1964
- 7-9 Correspondence – Kolscher, Jack, 1964-1966
- 7-10 Correspondence – (donated by Schmidt, Carl W.), 1964 & 1966
- 7-11 Correspondence – between Newton E. Wayson, M.D., '00, and Lamborn and Wayson and Williamson, '94 - (photocopies), 1952 and 1955.

- 7-12 Presentation – *WBAL Presents: "Let the People Know"; "Freedom Through Knowledge" or "The Truth Makes Men Free..."*, n.d.; Address – *Approach to the Concept of a Public Service Program: "Freedom for Free Men"*, n.d.; Miscellaneous typed and handwritten notes, n.d.; Letter to the Editor of *The Week* (photocopy), c.1953

- 7-13 Civil Service and McDonogh School Retirement – misc. documents; Small Business Administration, Service Corps of Retired Executives, (SCORE), 1967
- 7-14 Fedhaven – Retirement Community in East Lake Wales, FL
- 7-15 Misc. Newspaper Clippings about L. E. Lamborn's retirement
- 7-16 General Miscellaneous – misc. publications and ephemera

Box 8 of 12

- 8-1 Correspondence – Letters and cards of condolence to Robert L. Lamborn, 1972
- 8-2 Correspondence – Letters and cards of condolence to Robert L. Lamborn, 1973
- 8-3 Condolence Register from Mitchell-Wiedefeld (Funeral) Home, Baltimore, MD
- 8-4 List of contributors to the Louis E. Lamborn Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1973
- 8-5 List of people who sent condolences, flowers, and memorial contributions to various charities, etc.
- 8-6 Obituary Notices – Clippings from newspapers and other publications

Box 9 of 12

Series 4: Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing

- 9-1 Correspondence – 1919, 1937, (1938), (1942), 1951, 1971, and *Summary Report for Betty for Camp, January 9, 1951*; Pamphlet - *Friends School, Baltimore: Western Tour for Boys: Summer-1917: July 2-August 13* (under the leadership of Edward C. Wilson, Principal and Louis E. Lamborn, Physical Director and Instructor in U. S. History and Government.)
- 9-2 Correspondence – Letter in response to L. E. Lamborn’s request for “outline for a plan for this summer,” for teaching tennis and golf to female campers. 18p., n.d.
- 9-3 Legal Documents - Bills of Sale, Deeds, Lease, and Correspondence pertaining to Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing.
- 9-4 Catalogs – *Camp Red Cloud: A summer Camp for Boys: On Long Point, Lake Champlain above Plattsburg, N.Y. Twenty-Eighth Season, July 3 to August 27, 1939*, and, c. 1950-1955.
- 9-5 Catalogs - *Camp Red Wing: A Summer Camp for Girls: On Long Point, Lake Champlain above Plattsburg, N.Y. Eighteenth Season, June 30th to August 25th, 1939*; and others: 1942, and c.1950-1955. *The Diary of a Red Wing Girl: Silver Lake, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania* (1936).
- 9-6 Catalogs - *Camp Red Cloud: Cruising and Yachting*, c. 1935-1940, and *Camps Red Wing-Red Cloud: Cruising and Yachting*, c. 1945-1950.
- 9-8 *Racing Boats and their Sails; Small Boat Handling and Racing Tactics*; diagrams of ships and ship parts; glossary of nautical terms, n.d.
- 9-9 *Camp Archery Association Diploma*, August 21, 1945; misc. ephemera, of Jack Kerns, camper.
- 9-10 *The Great Silver Lake Stable Boys Steeplechase (C.1923)*, by Robert L. Lamborn; *The Epic Voyage of the Eleanor From Baltimore to Plattsburgh*, by Charlie Diehl; *Memories by Lantern Light*, by Katrine Lovell Lynch; Thoughts about the founding of the Camps, by Robert L. Lamborn
- 9-11 Newspaper Clippings, 1940
- 9-12 Newsletter – *Gwunduk* (photocopies), 1959, 1960, 1962-1964
- 9-13 Newsletter - *Noosanwit & Gwunduk*, 1991 - 1999
- 9-14 Newsletter – *Noosanwit & Gwunduk*, 2000 – 2008
- 9-15 Song Sheets – Camp Songs
- 9-16 Miscellaneous material – Correspondence, Remembrances, News Clippings, regarding Camp Reunions, etc., 1990 – 2003 w/gaps.
- 9-17 Artifact - Red Cloud Sweater Patch of camper, Louis (Skip) Horst who attended Camp Red Cloud, 1948 through 1953.

Box 10 of 12

Series IV: Camp Red Cloud and Camp Red Wing

Sub-Series A: Photographs & Albums

- 10-1 Archery
- 10-2 Baseball
- 10-3 Boating
- 10-4 Building and Lodges, Interior and Exterior
- 10-5 Camp Scenes, Miscellaneous
- 10-6 Campers - Group Photos
- 10-7 Campers - International
- 10-8 Campers and Staff – Group Scenes

- 10-9** Chapel – Camps Red Cloud and Red Wing at Long Point, NY
- 10-10** Crafts/Outdoor Activities
- 10-11** Equestrian
- 10-12** Football Squads, McDonogh School
- 10-13** Golf
- 10-14** Individuals – Campers, Staff, Others
- 10-15** Lamborn, Louis L. at Silver Lake and Long Point
- 10-16** Miscellaneous
- 10-17** Riflery
- 10-18** Staff, Group Photos
- 10-19** Swimming
- 10-20** Tennis
- 10-21** Tents and Campsites
- 10-22** Theater and Performances
- 10-23** Track & Field

Box 11 of 12

Archery: See: **11-11** Shooting and Archery

- 11-1** Baseball and Basketball
- 11-2** Boating
- 11-3** Campers – Group Photos
- 11-4** Campers and Staff – Individuals & Small Group Scenes
- 11-5** Crafts
- 11-6** Equestrian
- 11-7** Golf
- 11-8** Lodges, Interior and Exterior
- 11-9** Miscellaneous – Outdoor Group Scenes
- 11-10** Pageant at Silver Lake
- 11-11** Shooting and Archery
- 11-12** Staff, Group Photos
- 11-13** Swimming
- 11-14** Tennis

Box 12 of 12

Photo Album (1920-1922) – Souvenir photograph album belonging to, “Wm” (William) “A” (possibly “Allaugh”, and undecipherable and “1920”. Campers and miscellaneous camp scenes of Camp Red Cloud at Silver Lake, PA.

Scrap Book, Camp Red Cloud (1934-1936) – Belonging to Curtis Jansky. Includes camp programs, schedules, photographs, medals, misc. ephemera, and letters written by Jansky, as well as camp staff to his parents.

Map – Canoe Trip: August 1-6th: Binghamton to Tunkhannock: 1922