Biographical Note

Jack Allen was born in 1914 in Prestonsburg, Kentucky to Anna Mayo Allen and Edward Allen. Jack Allen attended school in Prestonsburg and graduated high school in 1931. After high school he attended Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College where he received his A.B. in 1935. After teaching high school for two years in Prestonsburg Allen left for Nashville, Tennessee to attend graduate school at George Peabody College. He graduated with a doctoral degree in 1941 and took a job at his alma mater, Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College.

Jack met Peabody coed Cherry Falls in 1940 and married her in August 1941. He entered the Navy in August of 1942 and was assigned to Dallas, Texas on a Naval Selection Board. By 1943 he had reached the rank of Ensign and was re-assigned to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. In Hawaii he was placed with the Pacific Fleet Radar Center. He was released from duty in 1945 and took a job with George Peabody College in 1946 where he remained for 33 years.

Allen served on many boards and committees through the years including the National Council for the Social Studies where he was especially active in shaping the teaching of social studies to high school students. He also authored 15 textbooks and co-authored another 20 with colleagues.

He and Cherry had three sons David, Robert, and Edward. Jack Allen passed away on June 19, 2004 at the age of 89.

Scope and Content

The Jack Allen Collection is an accumulation of Allen’s productive life as an educator at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee. The collection comprises five linear feet (4 Paige boxes) relating to Jack Allen’s career and writings.

Only a few letters appear in the papers though the three from Jack Allen to his mother written in 1961 discuss his life in South Korea while on assignment from George Peabody College. Other items of interest are his writings on the teaching of Social Studies in high schools and primary grades.

Making up ¾ of the collection are textbooks which Allen wrote or co-wrote with colleagues. These textbooks trace the career of Jack Allen from 1949 to 1982 and are indicative of the progression of styles of social studies textbooks created for schools during those periods.

The Jack Allen Collection was donated to Special Collections in 2007 by his widow Cherry Allen of Nashville, Tennessee.
**Box Listing**

**Box 1**

Folder

1. Correspondence – Outgoing to Mother, 1961
4. Biographical Information – “And So I Became a Teacher” by Jack Allen
7. Biographical Information – Newspaper Clippings of Jack Allen
8. Biographical Information – Oral History Project at University of Texas
9. Education – Notebook from George Peabody College for Teachers (GPCT) Economics 440 Economics and Geography
10. Education – Notebook GPCT Education 420b History of Education
11. Education – Notebook GPCT Education 471
12. Education – Notebook GPCT Education 526 History of Philosophy/Education
13. Education – Notebook GPCT Education 689
14. Education – Notebook GPCT History 410 Revolutionary Period
15. Education – Notebook GPCT History 413 19th century Europe
16. Education – Notebook GPCT History 426 American Sectional Controversies
17. Education – Notebook GPCT History 473 Essay
18. Education – Notebook GPCT History 475
19. Education – Notebook GPCT History 540
20. Education – Notebook GPCT Sociology 531 Social Problems of the Southern Regions
23. Career – George Peabody College (GPC) activities
24. Career – Meetings and Awards
25. Writings – As Jack Allen Sees Henry Hill
27. Writings – Life in a Global Village
28. Writings – Old Oak Club
29. Writings – Peabody Saga, article
30. Writings – Textbooks for Schools and Colleges – A talk to Nashville Librarians on October 4, 1982
31. Writings – Thoughts on the future of Social Studies
32. Writings – Tribute to John E. Windrow, 1982
54 Reel-to-reel tapes “Citizenship Forum” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner, Unidentified, Program #3
55 Reel-to-reel tapes “Citizenship Forum” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner, Program #4
Program #5
56 Reel-to-reel tapes “Citizenship Forum” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,

Program #6
Program #7
57 Records -45’s “News Record” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,
Vol. 1 nos.1-5, 1959
58 Records -45’s “News Record” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,
Vol.2 nos.1-9, 1959-1960
59 Records -45’s “News Record” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,
Vol.3 nos.1-10, 1960-1961

Box 2

Textbooks


33 *This Government of Ours*, a prospectus, undated.

Box 3

Textbooks


4 *USA: History with Documents*, prospectus.


19 American Book Social Studies, Prospectus, 1979


Box 4

Textbooks


