

**Guide to  
MS-132: Norman O. Forness Papers**



**Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections & College Archives**

**MS-132: Norman O. Forness Papers**  
(16 boxes, 5.05 cu. ft.)

Inclusive Dates: 1910-2008

*Processed by Karen Dupell Drickamer  
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**Provenance:** Gift of Pacific Lutheran College, 2009

**Biography:**

Norman Forness (1936-2009) graduated from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, in 1958 with a B.A. in history. He earned an M.A. in history from Washington State University in 1960 and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University in 1964, where he specialized in social and cultural history during the period between 1789 and 1860. Prof. Forness came to Gettysburg College in 1964 for a two year position in the Department of History, served as Assistant Dean of the College until 1968, returned to the Department of History. He served as Acting Chair of that department as well as the advisor for the history honorary society, Phi Alpha Theta. He also served on many College committees including the Schmucker Anniversary Committee. Prof. Forness retired in 2000.

**Scope and Content Notes:**

For the most part, the collection represents Forness' interest in architecture and architectural history as well as teaching. Included is his research and writing on John Dempwolf, (a German architect from York, Pennsylvania who designed Glatfelter Hall, Brua Hall, and McKnight Hall) as well as other Pennsylvania architects and architecture in America. The collection also contains his files during the time he served on the Historical Architecture Review Board for the Borough of Gettysburg, 1988 through 2008. Also included are Forness' course materials, lecture notes, examinations and grade book for his history courses at Gettysburg College.

**Series Description:**

**Series I: Research** contains Forness' notes, images and articles concerning architecture in south Central Pennsylvania in general and John A. Dempwolf, York, PA, in particular; Gettysburg College's Franklin Professorship; and Samuel Simon Schmucker.

**Series II: Historic Architecture Review Board** consists of correspondence, meeting minutes, research, and resource publications for the Board during the years in which Forness served on the Board as a member, 1988-2005.

**Series III: Schmucker Anniversary Committee** includes correspondence and meeting minutes leading up to the celebration of the bicentennial and continues through the publication and distribution of *The Papers of the Schmucker Bicentennial*, from 1996 through 2001.

**Series IV: Gettysburg College** contains correspondence, CIC architecture survey, and Forness' lecture notes, course materials, examinations, and grade books for the courses he taught from 1964 through 2000.

**Series V: Personal Papers** include correspondence, sabbatical proposals, his high school yearbooks, and obituaries of friends and colleagues.

**Series VI, VII**, consist of photographs and slides taken by Forness and others from the 1960s through his retirement in 2000. Subjects include Europe, campus, the house on East Stevens Street, and architecture slides taken on his trips and used in his architecture courses.

Series VIII: Postal Cards are of Europe, United States, and holiday greeting cards (most of which are addressed to Forness' parents Olaf and/or Mable Hall Forness).

### **Box 1**

1-1 Inventory

#### **Series I: Research**

- 1-2 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf – Diary Notes for 1871-1872
- 1-3 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf – Diary Notes for 1873
- 1-4 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf – Diary Notes for 1875, 1876, 1882
- 1-5 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf – Notes
- 1-6 Architecture: Dempwolf Family
- 1-7 Architecture: Dempwolf Buildings – Office List of Buildings Erected
- 1-8 Architecture: Dempwolf Buildings – Images and Articles

### **Box 2**

- 2-1 Architecture: Dempwolf Buildings – Notes, Images and Articles
- 2-2 Architecture: Dempwolf Buildings – Notes, Images, and Articles
- 2-3 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf in Gettysburg, PA
- 2-4 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf in Hanover, PA
- 2-5 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf in York, PA
- 2-6 Architecture: John A. Dempwolf – Harrisburg State Hospital
- 2-7 Architecture: The Small Family and John A. Dempwolf
- 2-8 Architecture: Stephen D. Button (1813-1897)

### **Box 3**

- 3-1 Architecture: Samuel Sloan (1815-1884)
- 3-2 Architecture: Gettysburg College Architecture
- 3-3 Architecture: Glatfelter Hall
- 3-4 Architecture: Hummelstown Brownstone
- 3-5 Architecture: Pennsylvania Architecture
- 3-6 Architecture: American Architecture Articles

#### **Box 4**

- 4-1 Architecture: "Philadelphia Dethroned: Architecture and Social Change in South-central Pennsylvania, 1850-1886," by Norman O. Furness
- 4-2 Architecture: "Philadelphia Dethroned" Images and Figures, 1-10
- 4-3 Architecture: "Philadelphia Dethroned" Images and Figures, 11-20
- 4-4 Gettysburg College: Franklin Professorship
- 4-5 Gettysburg College: S. S. Schmucker an Abolitionist?
- 4-6 Gettysburg College: S. S. Schmucker and Catholicism

#### **Box 5**

##### **Series II: Historic Architecture Review Board (HARB)**

- 5-1 HARB: Correspondence, 1994-2008
- 5-2 HARB: 2005
- 5-3 HARB: 2002
- 5-4 HARB: Minutes, 2001
- 5-5 HARB: Minutes, 2000
- 5-6 HARB: Minutes, 1997
- 5-7 HARB: Minutes, 1996

#### **Box 6**

- 6-1 HARB: Controversy, 1993-1995
- 6-2 HARB: Gettysburg Historic Railway Station, 1999
- 6-3 HARB: Gettysburg Comprehensive Plan, 1996
- 6-4 HARB: Architectural Survey Committee
- 6-5 HARB: Resources

#### **Box 7**

- 7-1 HARB: Main Street Gettysburg, 2006
- 7-2 HARB: Main Street Gettysburg, 2005
- 7-3 HARB: Main Street Gettysburg, 2004
- 7-4 HARB: Interpretive Plan, Borough of Gettysburg, 2000
- 7-5 HARB: Gettysburg Railroad

##### **Series III: Schmucker Anniversary Committee**

- 7-6 Schmucker Anniversary Committee: Meeting Minutes and Correspondence

### **Box 8**

- 8-1 Schmucker Anniversary Committee: *The Papers of the Schmucker Bicentennial*
- 8-2 Schmucker Anniversary Committee: *Papers Contributor's Biographies*
- 8-3 Schmucker Anniversary Committee: *Papers Distribution*

### **Series IV: Gettysburg College**

- 8-4 Gettysburg College: Department of History
- 8-5 Gettysburg College: CIC Survey of Historic Architecture & Design 2003

### **Box 9**

- 9-1 Gettysburg College: Lecture Notes, HIST 233, 236. January Term Course
- 9-2 Gettysburg College: Course Materials, HIST 239

### **Box 10**

- 10-1 Gettysburg College: Course Materials, HIST 335, 336
- 10-2 Gettysburg College: Lecture Notes
- 10-3 Gettysburg College: Lecture Notes and Course Materials

### **Box 11**

- 11-1 Gettysburg College: Lecture Notes
- 11-2 Gettysburg College: Lecture Notes
- 11-3 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1997-2000
- 11-4 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1994-1996
- 11-5 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1990-1993
- 11-6 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1986-1989

### **Box 12**

- 12-1 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1982-1985
- 12-2 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1978-1981
- 12-3 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1975-1977
- 12-4 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1970-1974
- 12-5 Gettysburg College: Examinations, 1968-1967
- 12-6 Gettysburg College: Examinations, prior to 1968
- 12-7 Gettysburg College: Grade Books, 1964-1975 – RESTRICTED

### **Box 13**

- 13-1 Gettysburg College: Grade Books, 1975-1988 – RESTRICTED
- 13-2 Gettysburg College: Grade Books, 1988-2000 – RESTRICTED

### **Series V: Personal Papers**

- 13-3 Personal Papers: Correspondence, 1963-2005
- 13-4 Personal Papers: Sabbatical Proposals

### **Box 14**

- 14-1 Personal Papers: Gettysburg Times Blunders
- 14-2 Personal Papers: Summer High School Yearbook, 1954
- 14-3 Personal Papers: Summer High School Yearbook, 1953
- 14-4 Personal Papers: Summer High School Yearbook, 1952
- 14-5 Personal Papers: Miscellaneous Documents

### **Box 15**

- 15-1 Personal Papers: Obituaries

### **Series VI: Photographs**

- 15-1 Photographs: Family, Travel, etc.
- 15-2 Photographs: A Pictorial Review of the Minot Flood of 1969

### **Box 16**

#### **Series VI: Photographs**

1 box of photographs of Europe, campus, and house on East Stevens Street.

#### **Series VII: Slides**

8 boxes of architecture slides from Forness' travels in the United States and Europe used in his classes.

#### **Series VIII: Postal Cards**

4 boxes of postal cards: United States, Europe, and Greeting Cards.

**Removed from Collection:**

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century paperweight with photograph of Glatfelter Hall. Added to College Artifacts Collection.