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**Mary Elizabeth Trenary Swanson Collection**  
**Collection Number: 456 THL**

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS:** Collection is open to all researchers.

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE:** Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

**PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Initial processing undertaken in 2011. Last updated by Buffy Knappenberger in June 2024.

**EXTENT:** 0.82 linear feet

**DATE:** 1901-2011

**EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES:** Photographs in this collection have been digitized and are available to view online through the Past Perfect online database: <http://handley.pastperfectonline.com/>

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:** The Mary Elizabeth Trenary Swanson Collection contains correspondence to and from Kathleen McCartney, as well as other McCartney family items, including materials concerning the guardianship of her sister, Claire M. Ferger. The Collection also includes items belonging to Jack G. Swanson. These include service records and various certificates issued to his Barbershop business.

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL:** Mary Elizabeth “Libby” Swanson was born January 13, 1921 in Clarke County, VA, and was the daughter of Marshall Hackley Trenary and Mary Lee Trenary. She worked as a branch manager with Farmers & Merchants National Bank (now BB&T) until age 65, and was a part-time teller at BB&T Bank until age 86. She married Jack Swanson on April 24, 1948, and died on September 8, 2011 at the age of 90. She was a good friend of Kathleen McCartney.

Jack G. Swanson was born in 1920 to Ernest and Grace Swanson. During World War II, he was an Army sergeant at Camp Shelby, MI. He owned and operated Swanson’s Barber Shop until his retirement in 1995 after 45 years. He died December 16, 2007 at the age of 87.

Kathleen McCartney was born July 19, 1893 in Newcastle, PA and was daughter of Lee Jackson and Virginia Firestone McCartney. A sister, Claire Ferger, predeceased her. McCartney worked as a piano teacher after retiring from John Handley High School in 1965. She died on September 28, 1985 at the age of 91.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** Kathleen McCartney obituary, *Winchester Star*, September 30, 1985; Jack G. Swanson obituary, *Winchester Star*, December 19, 2007; Mary Elizabeth Swanson obituary, *Winchester Star*, September 10, 2011.

**IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION:** Gift of Mary Elizabeth Trenary Swanson

## CONTAINER LIST:

### BOX 1

F&M National Corporation, History from 1901-1993, 9 pages, typescript

Ferger, Claire (folder contains the following):

In the Matter of the Guardianship of Claire M. Ferger, Incompetent," June 19, 1979, 2 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Certificate of purchase from the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea Columbarium, bought by Kathleen McCartney for Claire Ferger, May 6, 1979, 1 leaf, printed

Instructions—silvering and treating mirrors (c. 1920s)—used by Ernest T. Swanson; 3 leaves, manuscript

Marriage Certificate of Ernest Swanson and Grace Clevenger on June 12, 1908 in Kernstown by Reverend White.

### Physical Location, Oversize, Box 2

McCartney Family – Bios for Lee Jackson McCartney and Alcinda Virginia Firestone McCartney (*folder contains the following*):

*Shirer Family Genealogy Project*, Lee Jackson McCartney biography, 2 leaves, printed

*Shirer Family Genealogy Project*, Alcinda Virginia Firestone biography, 2 leaves, printed

McCartney Family – Evergreen Burial Park, map of McCartney plots, September 27, 1952, 2 leaves, print (photocopy)

McCartney, Kathleen – Biographical Notes News Article (folder contains the following):

“The Person I Adore – Her Character,” essay about Kathleen McCartney, date and author unknown, 2 leaves, manuscript

*Winchester Star* article, October 7, 1980, and associated Letter to the Editor, 2 leaves, print (photocopy)

McCartney, Kathleen – Donation to First Presbyterian Church, 1983(folder contains the following):

Letter of donation of a clock and piano to First Presbyterian Church (Dr. James Jackson) from Kathleen McCartney, June 27, 1983, 1 leaf, typescript

Thank-You letter from Dr. James Jackson on behalf of First Presbyterian Church, July 8, 1983, 1 leaf, typescript

Hamilton Pianos Manufacturers Warranty issued to Kathleen McCartney, September 3, 1947, 1 leaf, printed

McCartney, Kathleen – Funeral Book and Program, October 1, 1985, 2 items,

McCartney, Kathleen – Genealogy letter from “cousin Mary Ann” to Kathleen McCartney, October 11, 1983, 2 pages, typescript

McCartney, Kathleen – letters from (folder contains the following):

Kathleen McCartney to Mrs. Swanson, March 13, 1980, 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, July 23, 1980, 2 leaves, manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mrs. Swanson, August 19, 1980, 1 leaf, manuscript

Christmas card from Kathleen McCartney to “Nikki,” 1980, 1 leaf, printed and manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mrs. Swanson, January 12, 1981 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, May 27, 1981, 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, August 10, 1981, 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from Kathleen McCartney to Mrs. Swanson, April 21, 1982, 1 leaf, manuscript

Easter Card from Kathleen McCartney to an unknown recipient, year unknown, 1 leaf, print and manuscript

McCartney, Kathleen (folder contains the following):

Letter from Robbie Robinson to Kathleen McCartney, May 18, 1979, 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from Robert O'Brien to Kathleen McCartney, July 2, 1979, 1 leaf, manuscript

Letter from "Willie" to Kathleen McCartney, December 1984, 1 leaf, manuscript

McCartney, Kathleen – Miscellaneous (folder contains the following):

Correspondence from James L. Myers concerning estate of Claire Ferger, 1 leaf, typescript

Correspondence, from Betty, Dean, and Kathy, July 16, 1984, 1 page, manuscript

Obituary, September 28, 1985, 1 leaf, printed (photocopy)

Card, October 1, 1985, 2 pages, printed

Burial Information on Charles H. Strosnider stationary, n/d

Genealogical Information, 1 leaf, manuscript

Swanson, E.J. – Honorable Discharge from U.S. Army, July 8, 1916

Swanson, Jack G. – Barber Shop (folder contains the following):

Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Registration, issued to Jack G.

Swanson as a professional barber, November 13, 1964, 1 item, printed and typescript

Virginia Board for Barbers Barber License, issued to J.G. Swanson, date of issue unknown, expired on March 31, 1999, 1 item, printed and typescript

Certificate of Occupancy – Business, applicant Jack Swanson, January 24, 1996, 2 leaves, printed and manuscript

Diploma issued from El Toro, Inc. to Jack G. Swanson, date unknown, 1 leaf, printed

Virginia State Board of Barber Examiners, certification for Jack Gordon Swanson, July 1, 1962, 1 leaf, printed

Man's World Hairpieces Certificate, issued to Jack G. Swanson, August 31, 1971, 1 item, printed

Men's Hairstylist Certificate, issued to Jack G. Swanson, August 31, 1971, 1 item, printed

Swanson, Jack, G. – Elk's Club name badge- "Old Timer Night"

Swanson, Jack, G. – WWII (folder contains the following):

Registration Certificate for Jack Gordon Swanson, February 16, 194?, 1 item, printed and manuscript

Non-Commissioned Officers' Club membership card for Corporal Jack G. Swanson, date unknown, 1 item, printed and manuscript

War Department Identification Card for Cpl. Jack G. Swanson, issued August 10, 1944, 1 item, printed

Permanent Pass for Jack G. Swanson in Camp Shelby, Mississippi, issue date unknown

## PHOTOGRAPHS

- [456-001] Winchester baseball team at Rouss Park? Published in "The Way It Was," *Winchester Star*, February 1, 1992, circa 1940
- [456-002] Bowling team at Northside Recreation (Northside Lanes, 6 Richards Street, Winchester, VA). Winners of Apple Capital Bowling League, circa 1960
- [456-003] Kathleen and Claire McCartney as little girls (Kathleen is the older child), circa 1898
- [456-004] Claire McCartney Ferger. Soft focus, head only, circa 1930
- [456-005] Claire McCartney Ferger. ¾ length formal, circa 1950
- [456-007] Claire McCartney Ferger. Head and shoulders, informal, circa 1950
- [456-008] Claire McCartney Ferger. Head and shoulders, informal, circa 1950
- [456-009] Claire McCartney Ferger. Head and shoulders, informal, circa 1950

- [456-010] Claire McCartney Ferger at formal dance, possibly with husband (Roger H. Ferger), circa 1970
- [456-011] Ralph Ernest Pugh, a student of Kathleen McCartney and a graduate of Handley High School (class of 1949). Inscribed "To You I Owe My World of Music and may all my success be a credit to You," circa 1949
- [456-012] Lee Jackson and Alcerida Virginia McCartney, parents of Kathleen and Claire McCartney, circa 1898
- [456-013] Diploma from Southern Seminary certifying that (Leola) Kathleen McCartney successfully completed the piano course, 1910
- [456-014] Andrew McCartney, father of Lee Jackson and grandfather of Kathleen McCartney and Claire McCartney Ferger. Probably a photograph of a pastel or chalk/charcoal drawing, circa late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- [456-015] Kathleen McCartney (or possibly her sister Claire) in the height of 1920s fashion, circa 1925
- [456-016] Two men in a one-horse "convertible" buggy (folding top), circa 1900
- [456-017] Lee Jackson McCartney (seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right, 2<sup>nd</sup> row – suit and bowtie) and students at one-room schoolhouse, probably near Roanoke, VA. Woman standing behind his left shoulder may be Virginia McCartney, circa 1895
- [456-018] McCartney family house in Craig County, VA. Brick end-gable with two chimneys, close to road, 1983
- [456-019] McCartney family house in Craig County, VA. Brick end-gable with two chimneys, close to road, 1983
- [456-020] McCartney family house in Craig County, VA. White or cream ramshackle vernacular with outbuildings and fields, 1983
- [456-021] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Unidentified person by main stone, 1987
- [456-022] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Unidentified person by main stone, 1987
- [456-023] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Main stone, 1983
- [456-024] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Main stone, 1983
- [456-025] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Virginia Firestone McCartney (1868-1952), 1983
- [456-026] McCartney family gravestones in Evergreen Cemetery, Roanoke, VA. Lee Jackson McCartney (1862-1927), 1983
- [456-027] Kathleen or Claire McCartney as an infant, circa 1890
- [456-028] Kathleen or Claire McCartney as toddler on carved and wickerwork chair, circa 1895
- [456-029] Charles W. Firestone and sisters, circa 1920
- [456-030] Firestone family group, no persons identified, circa 1920
- [456-031] Grandfather clock belonging to Kathleen McCartney that she gave to the First Presbyterian Church of Winchester, VA, 1983
- [456-032] Kathleen McCartney visiting with Jack G. and Mary Elizabeth Swanson, circa 1983
- [456-033] Kathleen McCartney and Mary Elizabeth Swanson in Swanson living room, circa 1983
- [456-034] Kathleen McCartney and Mary Elizabeth Swanson in Swanson kitchen, circa 1983
- [456-035] Unidentified couple (possibly Mr. and Mrs. Swanson), circa late 20<sup>th</sup> century
- [456-036] Four women, three names provided without association, circa late 20<sup>th</sup> century
- [456-037] Four women, three names provided without association, circa late 20<sup>th</sup> century
- [456-038] Four women, three names provided without association, circa late 20<sup>th</sup> century
- [456-039] National Barber Show held at Hotel Statler Hilton, New York City, NY, 1962
- [456-040] Grace Clevenger Swanson (Mrs. Ernest T. Swanson) in a print housedress, circa 1940
- [456-041] Grace Clevenger Swanson (Mrs. Ernest T. Swanson) in hat and coat, circa 1940
- [456-042] Claire McCartney Ferger in uniform (Navy Nurse Corps?), circa 1942-1946
- [456-043] Kathleen McCartney, piano teacher at Handley High School until 1965 and privately thereafter, circa 1960 or later.

- [456-044] Kathleen McCartney, piano teacher at Handley High School until 1965 and privately thereafter, circa 1930-1950.
- [456-045] Roger H. Ferger, owner-publisher of the Cincinnati Enquirer 1940 – 1965, husband of Claire McCartney Ferger, circa 1950
- [456-046] Sue Ferger Uhl in wedding dress and veil with “Queen Mary” tiara in lace, sister of Roger H. Ferger, sister-in-law to Kathleen McCartney, circa 1910
- [456-047] Claire McCartney Ferger. Head and shoulders, formal, circa 1950