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Finding Aid to the Willard Pye Papers

Pye, Willard D.,

Willard D. Pye, Papers, 1947-1957

1 linear ft.

[Biography](#)

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OVERVIEW

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BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Willard D. Pye was born in 1915 in Merzifon, Turkey. He received his bachelor's degree in geology and mathematics from Oberlin College in 1935, his master's in geophysics and economic geology from California Institute of Technology in 1937, and his doctorate in petroleum and sedimentation from the University of Chicago in 1942. Upon graduation he worked for the National Defense Research Corporation doing classified research the U.S. Chemical Warfare Service. In 1943 he joined the Texas Company as a research geologist in charge of the Idaho-Utah District and in 1946 became the Rocky Mountain Division Research Specialist for the Texas Company. In 1947 he began his association with North Dakota Agricultural College (NDAC) as Chairman and Professor of the Department of Geology and Geography. He stayed at NDAC until the end of June 1957, when he resigned.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This is an artificially created record group. Dr. Pye's files were discovered in 2000 in a file cabinet of his successor, Dr. Warren Kress. As to the "what and where" for Dr. Pye after he left North Dakota Agricultural College, an internet search proved to be inconclusive. The papers in essence are subject files that Dr. Pye maintained and they have been broken into four sub-series: Dr. Pye's correspondence (1949-1956); Department of Geology and Geography related, including budgets (1947-1954), curriculum (1947-1953), initial discussion and eventual discontinuance of the geology major (1950-1954), general departmental matters (1947-1954), and Forum articles (1951, 1953); School of Applied Arts and Sciences related, which consists primarily of advisor registration manuals (1949-1950, 1956) and Departmental Chair meetings/memos (1950-1954); and North Dakota Agricultural College related, including committee work (1948-1953), college memos (1947-1954), and college council minutes (1950-1954).

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

- 1 Finding Aid

Correspondence

- 2 Correspondence -1949-1950
- 3 Correspondence - 1951
- 4 Correspondence - 1952
- 5 Correspondence - Lecture/Presentation by Gladys Babson Hannaford - "Diamonds" 1952
6 Correspondence -1953
- 7 Correspondence - Dept. of Ed. & Psych - 1953
- 8 Correspondence - Dean Seth Russell, School of Applied Arts and Sciences - 1953-1954
- 9 Correspondence - 1954, 1956

Departmental

- 10 Departmental Budget - 1947-1950
- 11 Budget/Expenses - 1953-1954
- 12 Geology/Geography - Curriculum - 1947-1951
- 13 Requests for geographical/geological films/slides - 1949-1951
- 14 Petroleum Information - maps - 1953
- 15 Powder River & Big Horn Basin, Wyoming - Base Maps -1953
- 16 Geology 102 - n.d.
- 17 Developmental Study Report - Department of Geology and Geography - May 1950
- 18 Departmental Name Change [Earth Sciences] Discussion - 1952
- 19 Geology Department abolishment controversy - 1954
- 20 Discontinuation of Geology as a major - 1954
- 21 Geology/Geography - Enrollment - 1947-1951
- 22 Departmental Inventories - 1948-1956
- 23 Scholarships - 1950-1953
- 24 Geology Students - 1951-1954
- 25 Departmental Teaching Loads -1951-1954
- 26 Exhibits at Departmental Open Houses - 1952
- 27 Cooperative Project - Yellowstone Big Horn Basin Research Association - 1952-1953
- 28 Departmental Space Problems - 1953
- 29 Out-of-State Travel- 1953
- 30 Departmental Stationery - blank

- 31 Sunday Fargo Forum - 5 articles on fundamentals of geology by Dr. Willard Pye - 1951
- 32 North Dakota & Oil- Forum - Oil Edition - January 4, 1953

School of Applied Arts & Sciences

- 33 Manual - Arts & Sciences - Registration Advisors - 1949
- 34 Suggested revisions to the "Manual for Arts and Sciences Advisors" - May 1950
- 35 Manual- Arts & Sciences ~ Registration Advisors - September 1950
- 36 Guidebook for Advisors - June 1956
- 37 Memos and Meeting Minutes, Departmental Chairs, School of Applied Arts & Sciences - 1950-1954
- 38 Promotion Criteria - School of Applied Arts & Sciences - n.d.

North Dakota Agricultural College

- 39 Library Committee - 1948-1953
- 40 NDAC Health Committee - 1950-1952
- 41 Student Health Committee - 1950-1954
- 42 Faculty Committees - 1950-1954
- 43 Curriculum Committee - 1951
- 44 Committee on Counseling - Progress Report - September 1952
- 45 NDAC Insurance Committee - 1953
- 46 Memos -1947-1954
- 47 College Council Minutes - 1950-1954
- 48 Retirement information - 1949
- 49 State Surveys - Income from School Lands Study - 1952-1953
- 50 Business Office - Communications - 1953
- 51 Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan - .n.d.