

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
Handley Regional Library & Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society
P.O. Box 58, Winchester, Virginia 22604
Tel.: (540) 662-9041, ext. 17 • Email: archives@handleyregional.org
Website: www.handleyregional.org/archives

John Handley High School Collection
Collection Number: 145 WFCHS/THL

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplications, or publication of items in the 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. *Note: Correspondence between the Handley Board of Trustees and General Education Board of New York, NY cannot be copied or published in its entirety without permission from the Rockefeller Archives Center, Sleepy Hollow, New York.*

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Processed by Buffy Knappenberger. Last updated October 2025.

ACCESSION NUMBER(S): 2023.018 WFCHS, 2025.007 THL, 2025.008 THL

EXTENT: 1.87 linear feet

DATES: 1917-2024.

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 John Handley High School Records consists of class memorabilia, student newspapers, alumni material, and other items concerning the school. There is also correspondence related to the school's construction and blueprints. Other items in the collection include a history of the school by former student, Kenneth W. Rose, and histories of Handley Football (1919-2012) and Handley Basketball (1923-2013) by Sam McCall.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: John Handley High School was built with money from the estate of Judge John Handley (1835-1895). The cornerstone was laid June 13, 1923, and the school was opened in September 1923; the first day of class was September 10. Ceremonies for the first graduating class were held on June 12, 1924. Handley High was a primary example of the use of private endowment funds to supplement tax money in support of public education.

RELATED MATERIAL: John Handley Collection 522 WFCHS/THL; Frederick County Virginia School System Collection 199 THL; Winchester City School Records 581 THL; Media Collection 1306 THL. Additional information regarding Handley High School is in the James A. Miller Collection, 1421 WFCHS, Box 4. The DVD "Handley High School 75th Anniversary Video," no date, is located in the Media Collection, 1306 THL.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Quarles, Garland R., *Winchester, Virginia, Street-Churches-Schools*, Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, Winchester, VA, 1996

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Gift of multiple donors.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1 Construction

Architect's contract, July 1919, 1 item, 4 leaves, typescript

Bell, Stewart, Sr. – involvement, 1 leaf, typescript

Bills, correspondence, and receipts, 1922-1923, 5 items, 5 leaves, typescript

Construction contracts, 1921, 5 items, unnumbered pages, typescript (copy)

Cornerstone laying - correspondence, 1923, 2 leaves, typescript; 2 leaves, typescript (copy)

Handley High School reservoir - drawing and explanation, May 19, 1922, 1 leaf, manuscript

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 17

Kellison, Dennis – Research Notes for doctoral dissertation, “The Renovation and Restoration of John Handley High School, Winchester, Virginia,” Shenandoah University, 2012, correspondence between the Handley Board of Trustees and General Education Board of New York, NY. **These items should not be copied or published in their entirety without the permission of the Rockefeller Archives Center, Sleepy Hollow, New York.**

Correspondence is organized chronologically into five folders, as follows:

Correspondence – February, 1917-December, 1917, 60 letters, 65 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Correspondence – January, 1918-August, 1918, 81 letters, 102 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Correspondence – September, 1918-January 1, 1919, 45 letters, 59 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Correspondence – January, 1919-November, 1919, 101 letters, 117 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Correspondence – February, 1920-February, 1924, 33 letters, 54 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

"Establishing the Handley School: R. Gray Williams, the General Education Board, and the Problematic Legacy of Judge John Handley," by Kenneth W. Rose, 1994, 1 item, 49 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

“The Handley School, Winchester, VA”, by William R. McCormack, Architect, *The Southern Architect and Building News*, Vol. 53 (Nov., 1927), No. 11, pgs. 47-71

Sale of Smithfield farm to Colonial Brick Company - contract, 1921, 2 items, 6 leaves, typescript, copy

Workmen's compensation, 1922, 6 items, 6 leaves, typescript

BOX 2 News Articles

Handley H.S. 1906-1979, news articles, unnumbered, printed, (photocopy)

Handley High 1980-1999, news articles, unnumbered, printed, (photocopy)

News Articles 2000-2018, news articles, unnumbered, printed, (photocopy)

Photos, unnumbered, printed

Misc, news articles, unnumbered, printed, (photocopy)

BOX 3 Sports

Banner- Handley football banner, 1 item, felt

Edwin K. Barksdale Wing – Hunter Maddox Hall of Fame, John Handley High School, 2010, Recipients Photographs, 1 leaf, printed

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 17

Edwin K. Barksdale Wing – Hunter Maddox Hall of Fame, John Handley High School, 2011, Recipients Photographs, 1 leaf, printed

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 17

Football game Program 1941 Handley vs. Hagerstown, printed

Football Programs- 1946 (folder contains the following:)

Handley vs. Harrisonburg, October 18, 1946

Handley vs. Covington, November 1, 1946

Warren County High vs. Handley High School, November 15th, 1946

2nd Annual Thanksgiving Game, Handley vs. Martinsburg, November 28, 1946

Football Programs- 1949

Handley vs. Warren, November 11, 1949

Football Programs- 1955

Handley vs. Loudoun County, September 17, 1955

Official Program Blue Ridge Shrine Club Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital Fund,

Handley Judges vs Fort Hill Sentinels of Cumberland, MD, Winchester, Virginia

October 15, 1955

Handley vs. Warren County, October 22, 1955

Football Programs- 1956

Handley vs. Clarke County, November 3, 1956

Handley vs. Martinsburg, November 22, 1956

Football Records 1921-2004, [compiled by Justus Stryker, Aug. 2005],

12 leaves typescript

Handley Basketball – A Complete History: All Time Results of John Handley Basketball 1923-2024 by Sam McCall, 2024, 1 booklet, typescript

Handley Pride – A History of John Handley Football, 1919-2024 by Sam McCall, 2024, 1 booklet, 154 pages, typescript

Hunter Maddox Hall of Fame, Establishment Edwin Barksdale Wing, Oct. 2010, 5 items, printed and CD

Hunter Maddox Hall of Fame, Edwin Barksdale Wing, Nov. 2011, 2 items, printed

Hunter Maddox Hall of Fame, John Handley High School, 2011 Recipients Photographs, 1 leaf, printed

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 17

Judges Athletic Association - awards banquet program, 1970, 1 item, 1 page, printed

Runners-up—History of Handley Basketball in the Virginia State Tournament by Sam McCall, 1 booklet, 132 pages, typescript

Runners-Up: The Story of the 1961-1962 Handley Judges Tate Final Basketball Team by Sam McCall, n.d., 1 booklet, 21 leaves, typescript

Near Miss: The Story of Handley High School's 2014 State Final Season by Sam McCall, n.d., 1 booklet, 30 pages, typescript

Near Miss 2: The Story of Handley High School's 2018 State Final Season by Sam McCall, n.d., 1 booklet, 18 pages, typescript

Stadium - opening program, 1973, 1 leaf, typescript; 1 leaf, typescript (copy); 1 leaf, printed (5 copies)

Tennis—Boys' AA State Tennis Tournament, 1 item, printed

BOX 4 Activities

100th Anniversary Committee, 3 items, printed

Archives, Handley High School, 5 items, printed

Art and Literature Magazine (folders contain the following):

Mimesis, 1987, 48 pages, printed

Mimesis, 1988

Miscellanea, 2008-2009

Miscellanea, 2012

Cracks in the Stairs, 2013-2014, 18 pages, printed

An Ocean of Lost Expressions—You Dive, 2016, 46 pages, printed

Miscellanea, 2017—1 book, 36 pages, printed

Miscellanea, 2019, 36 pages, printed

Miscellanea, 2021, 38 pages, printed

Calendar 1926-27, 34 pages, printed (2 copies)

Competitive drill between Handley High School and Massanutten Military Academy, 1928, 1 item, 6 pages, printed

Concert programs, 1947 and 1950, 2 items, 5 pages, printed

Faculty—Listing 1921 & 1931 faculty, Photo of 1921 Faculty, news articles, unnumbered items, printed, photocopy

"John Handley Public Schools" -pamphlet, c. 1918, 6 items, 4 pages, printed (6 copies)

Key Club Scrapbook, 1972-73, 24 pages, contains photographs, quotes, and memorabilia, housed in custom made wooden frame.

Physical Location: Oversize Shelves - Scrapbooks

National Register of Historic Places registration form, April 15, 1998, 1 item, printed

Newspaper – *The Gavel*, October 1989, 5 pages, printed

Report Cards (folder contains the following):

Duane Hughe, 1933-1934, 1 item, printed with manuscript on printed form

John C. Blackburn, 1968-1969, 6 cards with manuscript on printed form, 1 envelope with manuscript on printed form

School within a School 1999 calendar, 1 item, printed

Seventy-fifth Anniversary Celebration, 1998 (folder contains the following):

Invitation May 16, 1998, 1 page, printed

Program, May 16, 1998, 4 items, printed

Booklet, 75 Years of Excellence, 16 pages, printed (2 copies)

Minutes of Planning Committee 10/21/97, 3/3, 3/13, 3/24/98, 6 leaves, typescript

List of Possible Interviews for 75th Anniversary, 2 leaves, typescript

List of all Valedictorians and Salutatorians (1924-1997)

List of All Superintendents (1924-1997)

List of All Principals (1924-1997)

List of All Assistant Principals (1924-1997), 7 leaves total, typescript

Seventy-fifth Anniversary: “John Handley and the Value of Commemorations” Speech delivered by Kenneth W. Rose, 1995, 1 item, 8 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Student handbook, 1987-1988, 1 item, 68 pages, printed

World War II – Art stored at Handley High School, 12 leaves

World War II – Students and Staff who served in World War II
(folder contains the following):

Handley High School Students enrolled in the Armed Forces of the United States during WWII “Final copy with classes” 19 leaves, typescript, 941 names including women

JHHS students and some staff who served in WWII, 1941-45, with notes and additions including Handley students who have made the extreme sacrifice World War II and Korean War 7 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

Roll of Honor Plaque, 1 leaf, photo (photocopy)

Winchester High School Seniors now serving in US Army, no date, 1 leaf printed (photocopy)

Veterans Day Commemoration 11/11/2014, 1 item, printed; 11/9/2017, 1 item, printed

BOX 5 Activities

Alumni Authors List, compiled 2024, 4 leaves, printed

Alumni Directory, 1993, 2012, 2 items, printed

Catalog, John Handley High School, c. 1918

Class of 1924 (folder contains the following):

- Baccalaureate Service – June 8, 1924, 1 item, printed
- Graduation Exercises – June 12, 1924, 1 item, printed
- News article, 1 item, printed (photocopy)

Class of 1926, Sermon to the Graduates – June 6, 1926, 1 item, printed

Class of 1927 (folder contains the following):

- 7 items, typescript/mimeograph
- 25th Anniversary Reunion, June 1952, 3 leaves, printed
- 35th Anniversary Reunion Banquet, June 28, 1962, 1 item, 6 leaves, printed
- Golden Anniversary Reunion Banquet, June 3, 1977, 1 item, 12 leaves, printed (2 copies)
- 55th Anniversary Reunion Banquet, June 26, 1982, 1 item, 6 leaves, printed
- “Handley Class of 1927 Goes Back to School,” *Winchester Star* article, 1982.

Class of 1929, Graduation Exercises – June 13, 1929, 1 item (2 copies), printed

Class of 1930, Class Day Exercises – June 11, 1930, 1 item, printed

Class of 1932, News Article – August 27, 1982, 1 item, 2 leaves, printed (photocopy)

Class of 1933, Graduation Exercises – June 8, 1933 1 item, printed (2 copies)

Class of 1936, Sermon to the Graduates – June 7, 1936, 1 item, printed

Class of 1936, Pin, Metal, est. 1936, 1 item, metal

Class of 1938, Graduation Exercises – June 9, 1938, 1 item, printed

Class of 1937, Senior Class Banquet – June 8, 1937, 1 item, printed

Class of 1939, Sermon to the Graduates – June 4, 1939, 1 item, printed

Class of 1940 (folder contains the following):

- Prophecy, 1 item, 4 leaves, typescript (copy)
- Will, 1 item, 2 leaves, typescript (copy)

Class of 1942, News article – October 22, 2007, 1 item, printed

Class of 1944 (folder contains the following):

- Sermon to Graduates – June 11, 1944, 1 item, printed
- Graduation Exercises – June 16, 1944, 1 item, printed

Class of 1945(folder contains the following):

- Playbill – Senior class play “The Young in Heart,” 1 item, printed
- Sermon to graduates conducted by Winchester Ministerial Association, 1 item, typed
- The senior banquet – June 7, 1945, 1 item, typed
- Graduation exercises – June 8, 1945, 1 item, typed

Class of 1948 (folder contains the following):

- News article on Handley High School Glee Club – April 2, 1947
- News article “Ten Seniors in Cast of Class Play” – March 11, 1945
- Program senior class play “Dear Ruth” – March 12, 1948
- Admission ticket 1948 graduation exercises – June 10, 1948
- Program 1948 graduation exercises – June 10, 1948
- Five-year reunion program with attached “class will” – June 20, 1953
- Ten year reunion program – November 29, 1958

Class of 1951

Playbill, senior class play “A Date with Judy”

Class of 1952 (folder contains the following):

- 25th Reunion Program, July 16, 1977, 6 pages, typescript
- 50th Reunion Program, Sept. 28, 2002, 2 pages, printed
- 55th Reunion Program, Oct. 5, 2007, 2 pages, printed
- Address List, October 2007, 3 pages, typescript(photocopy)
- 60th Reunion Program, Oct. 12, 2012, 6 pages, printed

Class of 1953, playbill – senior class play “The Youngest,” 1 item, printed

Class of 1954 (folder contains the following):

- “The History of the Class of 1954” by Pat Cahill, 2 pages, typescript
- “The Last Will and Testament of the Senior Class of 1954” by Robert Lewis, 4 pages, typescript
- “Prophecy – 1954” by Carle Germelman, 3 leaves, typescript
- Reunion – August 7, 1999, 8 leaves, printed

Class of 1955, 20th reunion – July 12, 1975, 32 pages, photocopy

Class of 1959 (folder contains the following):

- 25th reunion yearbook-Sept. 22, 1984
- 50th reunion yearbook – 1999, 26 pages, printed

Class of 1961, “Then and Now” 50th reunion, 2011, 54 pages, printed

Class of 1969 (folder contains the following):

- Sermon to the graduates – June 8, 1969, 1 item, printed
- Graduation exercises – June 13, 1969, 1 item, printed

Class of 1970 - Sermon to the graduates- June 7, 1970, 2 pages, printed

Class of 1971 (folder contains the following):

- Graduation Exercises, June 10, 1971, 2 pages, printed
- 20th Reunion flyer, August 31, 1971, 1 leaf, typescript (photocopy)

Class of 1972 - Graduation Exercises, Jun 7, 1972, 2 pages, printed

Class of 1975 (folder contains the following):

- Baccalaureate Service, June 8, 1975, 2 pages, printed
- Senior Banquet Program, June 10, 1975, 6 pages, printed

Graduation Exercises, June 11, 1975, 2 pages, printed
Graduation Exercises ticket, June 11, 1975, 1 leaf, printed

Class of 1978 - Senior Will and Testament, 16 leaf, printed

Class of 1980 - Baccalaureate Service- June 1, 1980

Class of 1995 – Graduation Exercises, June 15, 1995, 1 leaf, printed

Class of 1998 - Graduation Exercises, June 2, 1998, 1 leaf, printed

Pin, Metal, est. 1936

BOX 6: *Trail Blazer* (school newspaper),

Physical Location: Oversize, Collections, Box 6

Volume I, 1920

April 1920, vol. I, no. 1 (2 copies)
May 1920, vol. I, no. 2
June 1920, vol. I, no. 3

Volume II, 1921

March 1, 1921, vol. II, no. 1 (2 copies)
April 1, 1921, vol II, no. 2
May 1, 1921, vol. II, no, 3 (2 copies)
June 1, 1921, vol. II, no. 4

Volume III, 1921-1922

December 1, 1921-22, vol. III, no. 1 (2 copies)
January 1, 1922, vol. III, no 2 (2 copies)
February 1, 1922, vol. III, no. 3 (2 copies)
March 1, 1922, vol. III, no. 4 (2 copies)
April 1, 1922, vol. III, no. 5 (2 copies)
May 1, 1922, vol. III, no. 6 (3 copies)
June 1, 1922, vol. III, no. 7 (3 copies)

Volume IV, 1922-1923

October 10, 1922, vol. IV, no. 1 (2 copies)
November 10, 1922, vol. IV, no. 2 (3 copies)
December 1922, vol. IV, no. 3 (2 copies)
January 1923, vol. IV, no. 3 (2 copies)
February 1923, vol. IV, no. 3
April 1923, vol. IV, no. 7
May 1923, vol. IV, no. 8 (2 copies)
June 1923, vol. IV, no. 9 (2 copies)

Volume V, 1923-1924

October 15, 1923, vol. V, no. 1
October 31, 1923, vol. V, no. 2
November 22, 1923, vol. V, no. 3

December 5, 1923, vol. V, no. 4
 December 20, 1923, vol. V, no. 5
 January 17, 1924, vol. V, no. 6
 February 8, 1924, vol. V, no. 7
 February 21, 1924, vol. V, no. 8
 March 6, 1924, vol. V, no. 9
 March 21, 1924, vol. V, no. 10
 April 7, 1924, vol. V, no. 11
 April 23, 1924, vol. V, no. 12
 May 8, 1924, vol. V, no. 13
 May 20, 1924, vol. V, no. 14
 May 27, 1924, vol. V, no. 15
 June 9, 1924, vol. V, no. 16

Volume VI, 1924-1925

8 issues (date and issue number not marked)

Miscellaneous Volumes

March 17, 1926, vol. VII, no. 3 (2 copies)
 March 1932, vol. [IV?], no. 6

PHOTOGRAPHS

- [145-001]** Architect model of Handley High School, 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA. Modeler identified as Leroy Grumbine, circa 1920.
- [145-002]** Handley High School seniors, class of 1932 - closeup. Copied from 1932 Handlian, circa 1932.
- [145-003]** Preparation of the site for construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA. Overview of the site as work was just beginning, circa early 1921.
- [145-004]** Preparation of the site for construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA. Horse and cart teams, machinery, men beginning excavation, circa early 1921.
- [145-005]** Six members of the Winchester School Board observing preliminary excavation for Handley High School. Persons identified as (left to right) John W. Rosenberger, Stewart Bell, Sr., Charles P. McVicar, Fred L. Glaize, Sr., Frederick E. Clerk (Superintendent), W.A. "Sandy" Baker, 1921.
- [145-006]** John Handley High School graduating class of 1969, in caps and gowns on school steps. Women only. No persons identified, 1969.
- [145-007]** John Handley High School graduating class of 1969, in caps and gowns on school steps. Men only. No persons identified, 1969.
- [145-009]** Handley High School football team for the school year 1947-48 or 1948-49. Some persons identified as listed: Coaches: Otis S. ("Snag") Sargent (top row, left), Hunter Maddex (third row, right), Richard Kern (top row, right). Players: #89 James George Sempeles (2d row, 6th from left), circa 1948.
- [145-010]** John Handley High School. From a color postcard, circa 1930s.
- [145-011]** Handley High School football team, the "Judges", including coaches and managers. All persons identified (by last name only). Left to right, front row: Fred Boulineau (Co-Manager), Marshall Carper, Robert Royston, Kenneth Lake, Donald Seabright, Richard Hart, George Clowser, Wilbur Kersey, John Kaknis, Garland(?) Clark, NN Robinson (Robertson?); second row: Hunter J. Maddex (coach), Eugene Dicks, Fritz Briggs, Ronald Binner, Gilbert Streit, Robert Anderson, Donald Grove (Co-Captain), Richard Boxwell (Co-Captain), Loring Burkart, Douglas Cochran, Charles Sunderlin, (Albert or Tony) Lazazzera, Glenn LaVecchia, (Herman or Pat) Barr, Paul E. Barr (Coach); 3rd row: Bill Gochenour, Frank Smith, Meredith Boyd, James Blackburn, Charles

Robertson, (James, Manuel, or Demo) Sempeles, Ronald Wilson, James Lawrence, Richard Brumback, Paul Hotinger, Harry Shendow, NN Jackson; back row: "Snag" Sargent (Coach), Gayle DeHaven (Co-Manager), NN Russell, Frederick Sprenkle, John Gavis, NN Aikens, NN Clark, Braxton McKee, George Vaught (Co-Manager), 1949.

- [145-012] Handley High School Class of 1923, on steps of Frederick County Courthouse(?). Scanned from 1923 Handlian. Most persons unidentified. 2nd row, far left: Mary Virginia Jackson, 1923.
- [145-013] John Handley High School students in costume, possibly for Valentine's Day party (based on date). George "Buddy" Eagle tentatively identified as third from left in plaid shirt, February 15, 1947.
- [145-014] John Handley High School Class of 1948 reunion, possibly 35th. No persons identified. Location unknown, circa 1983.
- [145-015] John Handley High School Class of 1948 reunion, possibly 50th. No persons identified. At Winchester Travelodge, circa 1998.
- [145-016] John Handley High School Class of 1948, 45th reunion. No persons identified. Location unknown, 1993.
- [145-017] John Handley High School Class of 1948 reunion, possibly 40th. No persons identified. Location unknown, 1988.
- [145-020] Three John Handley High School coaches for the school year 1950. Left to right: Hunter Maddex, Paul Barr, Otis S. "Snag" Sargent. Scanned from 1950 Handlian, 1950.
- [145-021] Handley High School Class of 1936, at 35th reunion. Five members. Left to right: Isabelle Bailey Hickman, Eleanor Mercer(?), Mr. Shirley Bly, Ms. Dwayne Mallory(?), nfn Goss(?), July 1971.
- [145-022] Handley High School Class of 1936, at 35th reunion. Three members. Left to right: Ms. Dwayne Mallory(?), Mr. Shirley Bly, nfn Goss(?), July 1971.
- [145-023] John William Scott Hofstedt, alias John Huertas (actor). Handley High School Class of 1987, scanned from yearbook, 1987.
- [145-024] Postcard of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA. Published by Marken & Bielfeld, Inc. Frederick, MD. Two copies, one postmarked June 14, 1932.
- [145-025] Construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA, June 13, 1921.
- [145-026] Construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA, June 13, 1921.
- [145-027] Construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA, June 13, 1921.
- [145-028] Construction of Handley High School at 425 Handley Boulevard, Winchester, VA. Copied from Barr photograph, circa 1923.