John Lawson papers, 1935-1996

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-4166

Collection Stored Off-Site
All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Title: John Lawson papers, 1935-1996  
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 093  
Extent: 2.5 cubic ft. (7 boxes)  
Abstract: Contains articles, correspondence, manuscripts, reviews, lectures, and other material related to John Lawson.  
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Pitts Theology Library in advance to access this collection.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], John Lawson Papers, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Courtney Williams, February 2004.

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.
**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**
John Lawson was born in Leeds, England, July 16, 1909. He was the fifth John Lawson and was born into a family which had been Methodist since the time of Wesley. He was raised and educated in the city of Nottingham. Lawson attended Midland Agricultural College and received the B.S. degree in 1929. Shortly thereafter he was called to the ministry, and the Methodist Church then sent him to Cambridge University, where he completed the M.A. in 1935 and the B.D. in 1946. From 1935 to 1955, he served in the pastoral ministry, mainly in the agricultural counties of eastern England. In 1955, he was invited to teach at the Candler School of Theology. Lawson spent 21 years, from 1955 to 1976, teaching Church History, Historical Theology, Wesleyan History and Wesleyan Theology. During his tenure at Candler, he maintained his permanent residence in England. In 1976 he retired from teaching and returned to England. Lawson died in September of 2003.

**Scope and Content Note**
This is a collection of the papers of John Lawson. It consists of articles written by Lawson, both published and unpublished; class notes and tests from the time he taught at Candler; correspondence; manuscripts (mostly unpublished); research; reviews of Lawson’s published works as well as his reviews of others’ published works; lectures from various seminars and conferences, as well as several sermons.
## Container List

### Articles - Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>Anglican Theological Review</em> – “The Liturgy of the Lord’s Supper Considered”, 1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>Christian Advocate</em>, 1960, 1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>Christianity Today</em> – “Saving Faith as Wesley Saw it”, 1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Emory University and Candler publications, 1959, 1968, 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td><em>Encyclopedia Britannica</em> – “Iranaeus” 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>Encyclopedia of World Methodism</em>, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Headline</em>, 1987-1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td><em>History of the Methodist Church</em> – “The People Called Methodists”, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td><em>Together</em> – “Should British Methodists Unite With Anglicans?”, 1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td><em>The Bulletin of the Fellowship of the Kingdom</em>, 1956-1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td><em>The Mint Methodist Church Exeter Forward</em>, 1993-1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td><em>The Kingdom Overseas</em> – “The Name’s the Same”, 1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td><em>Wesley Fellowship</em> – “The Conversion of the Wesleys Reconsidered”, 1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td><em>Worship</em> – “An Ironic Statement from a Protestant”, 1967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Articles - Unpublished

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[Ministerial], 1957, 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>[Miscellaneous], 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>[New Service Book], 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>[Wesleyan], undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Church Services and Sermons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sermons, 1963, 1971, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Services, 1953-1954, 1970, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Class Notes and Tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Church History 301-History of Ancient and Mediaeval Christianity, 1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Church History 303-Reformation and Modern Period, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Church History 305-Highlights of Church History and Church History 336: History of Christianity in the British Isles Church History 338-Wesley and the Genesis of Methodism, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Historical Theology 313-History of Christian Doctrine, Early Period, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Historical Theology 317-History of Theology, Modern Period, undated
Historical Theology 326-The Apostolic Fathers, undated
Historical Theology 348-Studies in Wesleyan Documents, undated
Historical Theology 349-Wesley's Place in the Evangelical Tradition and
Historical Theology 350-Theology of John Wesley, undated
Historical Theology 421-Irenaeus and Systematic Theology 354-Theology and
Evangelism, 1970
[Doctoral examinations, Master of Arts questions and tests], 1960-1973

Correspondence
Application for the degree of D.D., 1970
Consideration for appointment to full professor, 1968

Manuscripts
“The Benevolent Neutral,” undated
“Christian Reaction,” 1991
Excerpts from the Preface to “A Collection of Hymns for the People Called
Methodist,” undated
“Getting to Know You,” undated
“Made to Wesley Documents,” undated
Reasoned Evangelical Belief in Outline with Full Scripture Proofs and with
Reference, undated
“Scriptural Christianity,” 1989
“The Christian Year selected and Arranged from the verses of Charles Wesley –
Volume II,” undated
“The Discipline of the Methodist Societies,” undated
“The Gospel in the Hymnal,” undated
“The Non-Trad God,” undated
“The Signature of Love Divine,” undated
“The Thousand Tongues,” undated
“To the Church of England: with Love,” undated
“Thoughts on My Life and Ministry,” 1989
“Verses Selected and Arranged from Charles Wesley, Volume I,” undated

Research/Notes
Books read by John Wesley on his mission to Georgia, undated
“Christianity as Old as the Creation: or, The Gospel a Republication of the
Religion of Nature,” undated
Digest of “Christianity not Mysterious…,” undated
[Family history], 1970
Reviews of Lawson's Works
7  9  “Evangelical Faith for Today,” 1973
7 10  “Introduction to the Apostolic Fathers,” 1961-1963
7 11  “The Biblical Theology of Saint Iranaeus,” 1949

Reviews of Other Published Works
7 12  “Early Christian Creeds” by J.N.D. Kelly, undated
7 13  Editorials, 1974, 1992, undated
7 14  Editorials–Christian Advocate, 1963, undated
7 15  [Temperance] by Sheffield, 1963
7 16  “The Impact of American Religious Liberalism” by Kenneth Cauthen, undated

Seminars/Conferences/Lectures
7 17  [Dated], 1959, 1963-1964
7 18  [Undated]