



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**FRAZER, GEORGE PRESTON (1908-2003)**  
**PAPERS, 1978-1992**

*Processed by:*

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Archival Technical Services

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This finding aid focuses on the papers of George Preston Frazer, Associate Professor Emeritus of Art at Virginia Technical Institute, born in Davidson County, Tennessee. Spanning the years 1978-1992, the papers are divided into two parts: One part deals with a sculpture ("Behold" by Patrick Morelli) donated to the Virginia Military Institute and to the Tennessee State Museum. The second part of the collection consists of materials relating to Lord Hailsham, former Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, grandson of Tennessee Governor Neill Brown, and cousin of Preston Frazer. Many of the items deal with the creation of a bronze bust and a portrait of Lord Hailsham.

The materials in this finding aid measures .5 cubic feet. There are no restrictions on the material. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the George Preston Frazer Papers may be made for Scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The George Preston Frazer Papers, containing approximately 120 items, span the period 1978-1992. The collection is composed of biographical sketches, clippings, correspondence, photographs, and several miscellaneous items.

A major portion of the collection consists of correspondence relating to a sculpture, "Behold," one of which was given to the Tennessee State Museum and another donated to the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia. These bronze statues were given in honor of Alex Haley, author of "Roots." Other correspondence relates to Lord Hailsham of Saint Marylebone, former Lord Chancellor of Great Britain. These letters concern a bronze portrait (bust) of Lord Hailsham, which was given to the Tennessee State Museum to commemorate his visit to the Magna Charta Exhibit, and also in memory of his Tennessee ancestry.

The George Preston Frazer papers supplement two earlier manuscript collections in the holdings of the State Library and Archives: the Sadie Warner Frazer papers, 1894-1974, Accession Number 1983.040, and the Sadie Warner Frazer Family Papers, 1941-1986, Accession Numbers 1994.140; 1994.141; and 1994.142.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### George Preston Frazer

- 1908 February 4, born at "Renrow," Davidson County, Tennessee, the son of George Augustine and Sadie Warner Frazer.
- 1922-1926 Secondary school preparation at the University School for Boys, Atlanta and Western High School, Georgetown.
- 1929 Received a B. A. degree in Liberal Arts from Virginia Military Institute.
- 1935 Received a B. S. degree in engineering from the University of Hawaii.
- 1937 Received a Masters of Architecture degree from Harvard University.
- 1937-1938 While on the staff at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, served as an artist for the Megiddo Expedition in Palestine.
- 1939-1940 Taught at Virginia Technical Institute.
- 1941-1946 Served with the Second Armored Division during World War II.
- 1946-1974 Taught in the Art Department at Virginia Technical Institute.
- 2003 September 10, died at his residence in Catawba, North Carolina.

#### Honors

Military decorations: Belgium Fourragese; French Medal of Liberty; Bronze Star with Oak leaf Cluster.

G. Preston Frazer Prize at Virginia Tech., established as an annual award to an outstanding graduate in art.

## CONTAINER LIST

1. Biographical sketches—Neill S. Brown
2. Biographical sketches—Lord Hailsham
3. Clippings—“Behold” sculpture
4. Clippings—Lord Hailsham
5. Correspondence—Neill S. Brown, 1978-1989
6. Correspondence—Buckingham Palace, 1982-1986
7. Correspondence—The English-Speaking Union of the U. S., 1980
8. Correspondence—G. Preston Frazer, 1980, 1985
9. Correspondence—P. Warner Frazer, n. d.
10. Correspondence—Lord Hailsham, 1978-1992
11. Correspondence—Kenneth Hari, 1981
12. Correspondence—E. S. Humphries, 1980
13. Correspondence—Peter Hunter, 1980
14. Correspondence—Ria Ned Maria Kirby-Smith, 1987
15. Correspondence—Patrick Morelli, 1983-1990
16. Correspondence—Fred W. Okie, 1980
17. Correspondence—James St. L. O’Toole, 1980
18. Correspondence—O’Toole-Ewald Associates, Inc., 1986
19. Correspondence—Col. Beverly M. Read, 1980
20. Correspondence—Margaret (Frazer) Rose, 1981
21. Correspondence—Royal Opera House, 1982
22. Correspondence—The Tennessee Historical Society, 1988
23. Correspondence—Virginia Military Institute, 1985-1987
24. Correspondence—Virginia Polytechnic Institute, 1981-1982
25. Correspondence—Margaret Lindsley Warden, 1982
26. Correspondence—Miscellaneous, 1982-1983
27. Genealogical data—Lord Hailsham
28. Invitations—“Ball in Honor of H. R. H. The Prince of Wales...,” June 12, 1981
29. Invitations—“The Magna Carta to the Constitution...,” September 16, \_\_\_\_
30. Invitations—Polo matches, 1980
31. Photographs—G. Preston Frazer, Patrick Morelli and “Behold” statue (4)
32. Photographs—Lord Hailsham (3)
33. Photographs—Lord Hailsham’s bust (8)
34. Photographs—Patrick Morelli’s bust of \_\_\_\_
35. Speeches—G. Preston Frazer—Presentation of portrait of Lord Hailsham..., n. d.
36. Speeches—Lord Hailsham—Richard Dimpleby Lecture, October 14, 1976