

Mays, James O'Donald

(1918-2010)



On the left - Photo thanks to University of Southampton Special Collections (MS 379/3 A4024/10)



Photo thanks to Melinda Mays

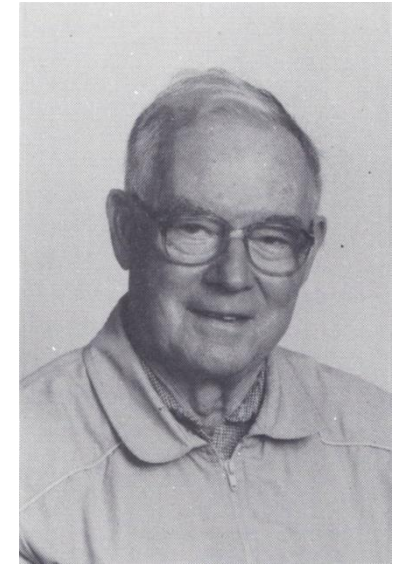


Photo thanks to Galata

James O'Donald Mays

Biographical and Other Notes

Born in Millen, Georgia, USA, he collected maps and stamps as a child. After studying Journalism at University at 23 he became editor of the 'Cobb County Times', a weekly newspaper in Marietta, Georgia. Joining the US army, he was posted to Southampton in 1942 where he married. In 1956 he joined the US diplomatic service and was posted to Israel, France and Finland, returning to the USA in 1967. Following early retirement in 1970 he focused on his philately and numismatics, joining the BNS in 1971. He wrote several books including *The Splendid Shilling* and *Tokens of Those Trying Times*, both focusing on the social history attached to the coins and tokens.

Sources and References

- 1982 The Splendid Shilling
- 1983 Mr Hawthorne Goes to England
- 1989 The New Forest Book: An Illustrated Anthology
- 1991 Tokens of those Trying Times: A Social History of Britain's 19th Century Silver Tokens
- 2008 Sweet Magnolias and English Lavender, an Anglo-American Romance (Autobiography)

Thanks to his daughter Melinda Mays for the biographical notes.

Also: <https://specialcollectionsuniversityofsouthampton.wordpress.com/tag/2nd-world-war/>