

Name Sewell, Walter Edwin 1904 Negro  1939  
White Southerner  1940

EDUCATION

Position Assistant Professor of Mathematics Special Field ( Mathematics )  
Georgia School of Technology Group

College University of Georgia, B. A., 1925; B. S. in C.E., 1926; M. A., 1927

University Harvard University, M. A., 1932; Ph. D., 1936.

Plan of Work:

1939 To effect a greater harmony between the mathematical training in the high schools and colleges of the South; to encourage the study of higher mathematics in the South, and to aid in the establishment of centers of mathematical research in the South. Will do part of study abroad. One year.

1940 Renewed for one year, for research in polynomial approximation. Work to be done in Cambridge, Massachusetts, under Professor Walsh of Harvard.

Action of Fellowship Committee:

1939 Granted \$2,000.  
1940 Granted \$2,000.

Part time instructor in Mathematics, University of Georgia, Athens, 1925-27; Civil Engineer with United Fruit Company, Columbia, 1927-28; with Cherequi Hand Co., Puerto Armuelles, Panama, 1929-31; with U. S. Army Air Corps, France Field, C. Z., 1931; Instructor in mathematics, part time, Harvard University, 1934-36; Assistant professor of mathematics, Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta, 1936-

Has published Review Course in Algebra, D. C. Heath & Co., 1938. Adopted by the Georgia State Board of Education, and the Department of Mathematics, Georgia School of Technology. Author of articles on mathematics.

Spent summer abroad. Returned to this country in October, 1939, because of war. In January will go to Cambridge to work on a book in mathematical analysis. Professor Walsh of Harvard will be consultant. 11/3/39

11/17/40 Called into service and will probably be at Fort Benning until middle of February; station thereafter uncertain for the remainder of the year. Has finished manuscript of the book and is having it typed. Would like to continue fellowship until end of next quarter as typing and checking involve considerable expense. See Publications card.

1946. Colonel, Lt Col. Ren 4 E 622 265  
Chief, Army Ed. Branch <sup>Paragon</sup>  
Was kept Special Staff

SEWELL, WALTER EDWIN

PUBLICATIONS

The Derivative of a Polynomial on Further Ards of the Complex Domain. American Math. Monthly.

*no dates given*

Degree of Approximation by Rational Functions. Reurta de Ciencias

Book completed under fellowship, Degree of Approximation by Polynomials in the Complex Domain. Published by, and costs borne by, the Annals of Mathematics Studies, Princeton University, 1941.

SEWELL, WALTER E.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

In fall of 1940 Mr. Sewell was called into the army. He was at various military camps, Fort Benning and Camp Croft, and in November of 1941 was sent to Montevideo, Uruguay, as Assistant Military Attache at the United States Embassy. 12/19/41 Rank of Major.

Colonel, Chief, Army Education Branch, Room 4E622, Pentagon (November, 1946)

Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
Georgia School Technology

Mathematics

A Top mathematician of the South  
Amazing record of A's in  
college and at Harvard

My real question is as to whether  
this study will get any where.  
If he were at a teachers college  
or at the University at Athens  
he might influence the schools.  
Influence from Georgia Tech is  
apt to be harmful rather than  
helpful to school math, because  
of emphasis on special technical skill

B+

Candidate Walter Edwin Sewell

Special Field

Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
Georgia School of Technology

Mathematics

Plan of Work

To effect a greater harmony between the mathematical training in the high schools and colleges of the South, to encourage the study of higher mathematics in the South, and to aid in the establishment of centers of mathematical research in the South.

Wishes to make part of study abroad. One year. Can return to present position.

*spent summer abroad. Returned in October; see next sheets.*

Digest of Application

Born October, 1904, Newnan, Georgia.

A. B. University of Georgia, 1925. B. S. University of Georgia, 1926. M. A. University of Georgia, 1927. M. A. Harvard University, 1932. Ph.D. Harvard University, 1936.

Shattuck Scholarship, Harvard University, 1933-34, \$500.

Instructor in mathematics, University of Georgia, 1925-27, part time, \$1200; civil engineer, United Fruit Company, Santa Marta, Columbia, 1927-28, \$1800; civil engineer, Cherequi Hand Company, Puerto Armuelles, Panama, 1929-31, \$2400; civil engineer, U. S. Army Air Corps, France Field, C. Z., 1931, \$2400; instructor in mathematics, Harvard University, 1934-36, part time, \$1100; assistant professor, Georgia School of Technology, 1936 - , \$2300.

For publications see attached.

References

Mr. M. L. Brittain, Pres. Georgia School of Technology  
Mr. D. M. Smith, Georgia School of Technology  
Mr. J. L. Walsh, Harvard University  
Mr. M. E. Thompson, Georgia Department of Education  
Mr. Henry A. Robinson, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia

Budget Summary

Total amount needed	\$2550
From applicant	<u>250</u>
From Fund	\$2300

Committee Notes

Granted

*\$2000*

Documents submitted

Photograph x  
Exhibit material  
Transcripts x  
University of Georgia  
Harvard University

Plan of work x

Digest

Sent to Committee *M*

Documents returned



Walter Edwin Sewell - Publications

- Book - REVIEW COURSE IN ALGEBRA, D. C. Heath & Co., 1938. (Adopted by the Georgia State Board of Education, and also by the Department of Mathematics, Georgia School of Technology for review of high school Algebra.)
- Papers - GENERALIZED DERIVATIVES AND APPROXIMATION, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., vol. 21 (1935), pp. 255-258.
- DEGREE OF APPROXIMATION BY POLYNOMIALS TO CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONS, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., vol. 41 (1935), pp. 111-117.
- ON THE MODULUS OF THE DERIVATIVE OF A POLYNOMIAL, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., vol. 42, (1936), pp. 699-701.
- GENERALIZED DERIVATIVES AND APPROXIMATION BY POLYNOMIALS, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., vol. 41 (1937). pp. 84-123.
- NOTE ON THE RELATION BETWEEN INTEGRAL AND TOLBYCHEFF APPROXIMATION BY POLYNOMIALS IN THE COMPLEX DOMAIN, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., vol. 43 (1937), pp. 425-431.
- DEGREE OF APPROXIMATION BY POLYNOMIALS -- Problem, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., Vol. 23 (1937), pp. 491-493.
- NOTE ON THE FABER COEFFICIENTS OF A CONTINUOUS FUNCTION, Revista de Ciencias, vol. 39 (1937), pp. 79-82.
- ON THE POLYNOMIAL DERIVATIVE CONSTANT FOR AN ELLIPSE, Amer. Math. Monthly, vol. 44 (1937), pp. 577-78.
- THE DERIVATIVE OF A POLYNOMIAL ON VARIOUS ARCS OF THE COMPLEX DOMAIN, Nat. Math. Magazine, vol. 12 (1938), pp. 167-170.
- NOTE ON THE RELATION BETWEEN LIPSCHITZ CONDITIONS AND DEGREE OF POLYNOMIAL APPROXIMATION, Tohoku Math. Jour., vol. 44 (1938), pp. 347-350.
- DEGREE OF APPROXIMATION BY POLYNOMIALS IN  $\mathbb{Z}$  AND  $1/\mathbb{Z}$ , Duke Math. Jour., vol. 4 (1938), pp. 393-400.
- Co-Authors: NOTE ON DEGREE OF APPROXIMATION TO AN INTEGRAL BY RIEMANN SUMS, Amer. Math. Monthly, vol. 44 (1937), pp. 155-160.
- NOTE ON THE RELATION BETWEEN CONTINUITY AND DEGREE OF POLYNOMIAL APPROXIMATION IN THE COMPLEX DOMAIN, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. vol. 439 (1937), pp. 557-563.
- EXISTENCE THEOREMS FOR SOLUTIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS OF NON-INTEGRAL ORDER, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., vol. 44 (1938), pp. 100-107.

WALTER EDWIN SEWELL

Mr. Sewell is to consult with Mr. Moe and Dr. E. B. Wilson of Harvard regarding his plans.

Sailed middle of June for Europe; was in Germany in August.

Returned to Boston from Europe October 6, 1939. Talked with Professor E. B. Wilson at Harvard and with Mr. Moe.

Mr. Moe and Professor Wilson advised Mr. Sewell during the balance of his Fellowship year to work in his field, mathematical analysis, and try to get out a book on the subject. Professor Walsh, Chairman of the Division of Mathematics at Harvard, is eager for him to return there and will devote considerable time to working with him. Although this is not a direct attack on the problem proposed it is a powerful indirect attack.

Mr. Sewell says (11/3/39) that this seems to be a magnificent opportunity to gain momentum in furthering mathematical education in the South, and he expects to return to Boston about the first of the year. At present he is teaching a few weeks at Georgia School of Technology.

2/5/40 Now settled in Cambridge, Mass., working on the book. Address is The Ambassador, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Mass.