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## Leichhardt, Maxwell Mitchell, 1923-2015 (MSS 570)

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### Recommended Citation

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
 Department of Library Special Collections  
 Western Kentucky University  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 570 LEICHHARDT, Maxwell Mitchell, 1923-2015**

2 boxes. 25 folders. 673 items. 1776-2015. Originals or photocopies

SC2016.21.8

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Maxwell Mitchell Leichhardt, who went by Mitchell Leichhardt, was born 29 November 1923 to Maxwell and Marjorie Mitchell Leichhardt in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He attended the public schools in Bowling Green and held a part-time job at Deemer's Florist and Greenhouse, helping grow and propagate plants. He served as a navigator in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, flying missions across Africa and Europe, and rose to the rank of captain. Following his military service, he and his business partner Sonny Barr founded what became Leichhardt Landscape Company. Barr eventually sold his interest in the business to J. Lewie Harman. Mitchell landscaped numerous residential and commercial properties throughout the years in Bowling Green, and in communities along the Nashville to Louisville corridor. He was instrumental in the design and development of the Baker Arboretum in Bowling Green. He served as a board member and president of the Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association and was a registered landscaper with the Kentucky Landscape Architecture Board. Mitchell, along with his niece and her husband—Cindy and Casey Schott—hybridized and introduced outstanding daylilies, naming many for friends. Mitchell graduated from Western Kentucky University (WKU) in 1970, where he studied German.

The Augustine Alumni Center at WKU boasts a small garden named for Leichhardt. His good friend Jerry Baker endowed the Mitchell Leichhardt Professorship in Horticulture in his honor. The garden at the Alumni Center, the endowed professorship in horticulture, his design and supervisory work at the Baker Arboretum, and his many landscape designs will be lasting reminders of Leichhardt's legacy.

In his early days as an entrepreneur he developed a talent for raising, training and showing boxers. His dogs Pennyryle Pendulum and Pennyryle Fanletters won many awards, including best in show at the Westminster Dog Show. Mitchell was an avid opera fan and a world traveler, trekking throughout South and Central America, western Europe, Japan, Egypt and Kuwait. Yearly trips to New York to visit The Metropolitan Opera were common as were sojourns to visit the gardens in the United States and around the world.

Leichhardt died on 23 September 2015.

## **COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection documents the life and interests of Bowling Green landscape architect Maxwell Mitchell Leichhardt. The older items in the collection are photocopies. Most of Box 1 contains information about Mitchell's military career during World War II and his subsequent service in the National Guard. Folders 11-13 contain photographs of Mitchell from World War II (Folder 12), family and friends (Folder 13), and more recent photographs (Folder 11) showing Mitchell's business on Nashville Road and trips to Europe where he and Jerry Baker frequently visited southcentral Kentucky expatriate and artist Joe Downing. Folders 14 and 15 contain information about the boxer dogs that Leichhardt bred and showed. The general correspondence folder (Folder 16) contains several pieces of stationery and envelopes that advertise another entrepreneurial venture of Leichhardt's, that of pigeon breeding. The folder also includes a typed note from Kentucky author Janice Holt Giles, who thanks Mitchell for sending some pansies to her in Adair County. Mitchell and several of his Bowling Green cohorts frequently visited Janice and Henry Giles at their log house near Knifley, Kentucky. A photograph of Mitchell enjoying a meal with the Giles' can be found in Folder 13, item 11.

Box 2 Folder 1 contains registration forms, photographs and correspondence related to daylilies hybridized by Leichhardt. It also includes a 1996 catalog of daylilies offered by Schott Gardens, a business operated by Mitchell's niece Cindy and her husband Casey. The rest of the box contains folders of genealogical material related to the Leichhardt family (Folders 2-6) and related families: Sublett (Folder 7) and Perkins (Folder 8). The oldest items in this collection are photocopies, not originals.

## **SHELF LIST**

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>LEICHHARDT, Maxwell Mitchell</b>	<b>1914-2015</b>	<b>461 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory	2009-2015	3 items
Folder 2	World War II correspondence with family	1942-1945	41 items
Folder 3	Undated World War II correspondence with family	n.d.	13 items
Folder 4	Personal military records	1942-1952	80 items
Folder 5	Unit orders and assignments	1944-1952	41 items
Folder 6	Supply orders and receipts	1945-1951	18 items
Folder 7	Flight logs	1943-1952	51 items
Folder 8	Flight charts	1943-1944	10 items
Folder 9	Military training documents	1951	32 items

Folder 10	Certificates	1943-1956	5 items
Folder 11	Photos – Newer	1967-2015	43 items
Folder 12	Photos – World War II	1943-2005	11 items
Folder 13	Photos – Family and friends	1914-1950	22 items
Folder 14	Dogs – Boxer breeding and ownership records	1951-1970	19 items
Folder 15	Dogs – News clippings, photos, certificates	1959-1971	50 items
Folder 16	Correspondence – General	1923-2015	11 items
Folder 17	Miscellaneous – Car registration, drawings of furniture, invitation	1944-1990	11 items
<b>BOX 2</b>	<b>LEICHHARDT, Maxwell Mitchell</b>	<b>1891-2009</b>	<b>212 items</b>
Folder 1	Daylillies – Registration	1987-2009	41 items
Folder 2	Leichhardt family – Genealogical charts	n.d.	27 items
Folder 3	Leichhardt family – Genealogical correspondence	1975-1997	48 items
Folder 4	Leichhardt family – Documents	1776-1929	8 items
Folder 5	Leichhardt family documents – Secondary sources	1957-1998	37 items
Folder 6	Leichardt family – Related photos	1985-1994	20 items
Folder 7	Sublett family – Genealogical information	1891-1946	25 items
Folder 8	Perkins family – Genealogical information	n.d.	6 items

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD**

MSS LEICHHARDT, Maxwell Mitchell, 1776-2015  
570 1923-2015

Correspondence, military records, photographs and scrapbooks of Bowling Green, Kentucky, landscape architect Mitchell Leichhardt. Also includes information about his work hybridizing daylilies, breeding and showing of boxer dogs, and genealogical information about the Leichhardt, Perkins, and Sublett families.

2 boxes. 25 folders. 673 items. Originals and photocopies.

SC2016.21.8

## **SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

Baker Arboretum – Bowling Green – Relating to B1,F1,10  
Baker, Jerry Ellis, b. 1931 – Photos B1,F11  
Beam, Marion – Correspondence B2,F3  
Birthday cards B1,F3  
Cayce, Edgar, 1877-1945 – Photographer B1,F13  
Certificate – Penmanship B1,F10  
Certificates B1,F10  
Davis-Monthan Field – Tuscon, Arizona – Relating to, 1944 B1,F3  
Daylillies – Relating to B2,F1  
Dogs – Photos B1,F15  
Dogs – Relating to B1,F14-15  
Downing, Joseph Dudley, 1925-2007 – Photos B1,F11  
Drake, Mary (Wiley) – Photo B1,F13  
Elliott, Janet (Leichhardt) – Correspondence B2,F3  
Furniture – Drawings B1,F17  
Giles, Janice Meredith (Holt), 1905-1979 B1,F16  
Giles, Janice Meredith (Holt), 1905-1979 – Photo B1,F13  
Kiel, Arthur – Photo B1,F13  
Kiel, Evelyn (Sublett) – Photo B1,F13  
Kimmel, Forrest E. B2,F3  
Leichhardt, Amanda Rowe – Photos B1,F13  
Leichhardt, Constance “Connie” – Correspondence B1,F2-3  
Leichhardt family B2,F2-6  
Leichhardt, Field M., d. 1990 – Relating to B2,F5  
Leichhardt, Harold Adolphus, 1902-1990 B1,F2  
Leichhardt, Harold Adolphus, 1902-1990 – Relating to B2,F5  
Leichhardt, Herman – Photos B1,F13  
Leichhardt, Keith L. – Correspondence B2,F3

Leichhardt, Frederick Wilhelm Ludwig, 1813-1848? – Relating to B2,F5-6  
 Leichhardt, Frederick Wilhelm Ludwig, 1813-1848? – Will, 1846 B2,F4  
 Leichhardt, Marjorie M. “Margie” (Mitchell), 1902-1994 – Correspondence B1,F2-3  
 Leichhardt, Marjorie M. “Margie” (Mitchell), 1902-1994 – Photos B1,F13  
 Leichhardt, Maude – Photos B1,F13  
 Leichhardt, Maxwell Herman, 1898-1962 – Letters to B1,F2-3  
 Leichhardt, Maxwell Herman, 1898-1962 – Photos B1,F13  
 Leichhardt, Maxwell Mitchell, 1923-2015 – Photos B1,F11-13  
 Licenses – Landscape architecture B1,F10  
 Lindsey, William B. B1,F2  
 Nelson, Jeanette B1,F2  
 Nelson, Warren B1,F2  
 Pennyryle Fanletters (Dog) – Relating to B1,F14-15  
 Pennyryle Kennels – Bowling Green – Relating to B1,F14-15  
 Pennyryle’s Pendulum (Dog) – Relating to B1,F14-15  
 Perkins family B2,F8  
 Pool, William P. – Will, 1845 B2,F4  
 Sublett family B2,F7  
 Sublett, Harold W., 1880-1973 – Photos B1,F13  
 Sublett, Lura Dean (Wiley) – Photos B1,F13  
 Sublett, Samuel Benson, 1846-1926 – Relating to B2,F7  
 Temple, Alvis Howard, 1904-1992 – Mentioned, 1944 B1,F2  
 Thanksgiving, 1944 B1,F2  
 U.S. Army Air Corps – Relating to, 1941-1945 B1,F2-8  
 Valentines, 1945 B1,F2  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Relating to B1,F2-8  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Soldiers from – Warren County B1,F2-8

### **SEE or SEE ALSO**

Leichhardt, Ludwig, 1813-1848?

See:

Leichhardt, Frederick Wilhelm Ludwig, 1813-1848?

Thomas, Constance (Leichhardt) Choate “Connie”

See also:

Leichhardt, Constance “Connie”