

12-18-2009

## Hall, Dorthie A. (MSS 295)

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*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 295 HALL, Dorthie Anne**

½ box. 14 folders. 306 items. 1941-1945. Originals.

2009.4.172

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Dorthie Anne Hall, a native of Stearns, Kentucky, earned a bachelor's degree in English from Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1942 and a master's degree in education in 1943. While at Western, she was on the staff of the school's newspaper, the *College Heights Herald*, serving as editor from 1942-1943. After graduating from Western, she taught high school English before joining the faculty of Northwest Missouri State Teachers College in Maryville, Missouri. Though raised as a Baptist, in January 1950 Hall was baptized in the Catholic faith and began teaching English and literature at St. Joseph's Academy in Chillicothe, Missouri. Hall moved to Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge in 1962, but returned to religious life in 1978 and took her vows in 1980. As "Sister Dorthie Anne," she published poetry and taught English and literature at Donnelly College in Kansas City, Kansas from 1978-1991. After her resignation from college teaching, Hall became a volunteer teacher of GED classes with the Community Action Partnership program in Savannah, Missouri.

**COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection consists almost exclusively of letters written to Dorthie Ann Hall, when she was a senior and graduate student at Western Kentucky State College, Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1942-1943, and as a young teacher in Federalsburg, Maryland. The letters, written by former male students at Western, tell about military life and the experiences of these young men as they traversed the globe during World War II. Two correspondents are of particular interest: Bill Bassett (Folder 2) and Bert J. Borrone (Folder 3). Bassett, a student from Cincinnati, was in the U.S. Army Air Corps when he was killed in a training accident in Phoenix, Arizona. Bassett wrote Hall approximately 60 letters. Included with his correspondence is his obituary and a letter from his mother to Hall in which she expresses her appreciation for Hall's concern. Borrone's letters discuss his tenure as a member of the 2625<sup>th</sup> Signal Service Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Company B stationed in Algiers during the war. Borrone was from Bowling Green, and his letters ask about family members, campus happenings and community personalities. His correspondence consists of 113 letters and V-Mails. Throughout the

collection, the letters discuss military life and question Hall about happenings at Western and in Bowling Green. Because the collection spans several years, it includes Christmas and other holiday cards.

All staples have been removed from items in the collection. The letters were sorted and placed in folders alphabetically by the correspondent. Correspondents with only one letter were placed together in Folder 13 and sorted alphabetically by name. Small V-Mails were photocopied and added to the individual folders; the original V-Mails were placed in Folder 14 in chronological order.

### ***SHELF LIST***

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>Hall, Dorthie A. – Letters to</b>	<b>1941-1945</b>	<b>306 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory		4 items
Folder 2	Bassett, Bill – Letters from	1942-1944	63 items
Folder 3	Borrone, Bert J. – Letters from	1941-1945	114 items
Folder 4	Brite, Murrel – Letters from	1943	2 items
Folder 5	Burkhead, Harold L. – Letters from	1943	3 items
Folder 6	Harrison, Lowell H. – Letters from	1943-1944	4 items
Folder 7	Marshall, Benton H. – Letters from	1943-1944	3 items
Folder 8	Murray, James T. – Letters from	1943	3 items
Folder 9	Sisk, Mack – Letters from	1943	4 items
Folder 10	Wallace, George O., Jr. – Letters from	1943	2 items
Folder 11	Whitaker, David B. – Letters from	1943-1944	16 items
Folder 12	Woods, Zilman C. – Letters from	1943	7 items

Folder 13	Other correspondents	1943	7 items
Folder 14	V-Mail originals	1944-1945	78 items

### ***BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD***

MSS HALL, Dorthie A. 1941-1945  
295

Letters written to Hall, student and editor of the *College Heights Herald* at Western Kentucky Teachers College, Bowling Green, Kentucky, during World War II. The male correspondents are all former students from Western, and they describe military life in their specific locations around the world. They all express devotion to Western and ask for details and comment about the school, sports teams, and the Bowling Green community.

1/2 box. 306 items. Originals.  
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### ***SUBJECT ANALYTICS***

Algiers – Travel and description F3  
 Autry, Gene, 1907-1998 – Mentioned, 1943 F2  
 Bassett, William R., 1925?-1944 F2  
 Borrone, Bert Joseph, Jr., 1919-1995 F3  
 Brite, Murrel F4  
 Burkhead, Harold L. F5  
 Camp Carson, Colorado – Relating to, 1944 F6  
 Christmas cards, 1943-1944 F2-3,11,13  
*College Heights Herald* – Relating to, 1943 F3,6,8-11  
 Courtship, 1944 F11  
 Dann, Muriel – Comments about, 1943 F3  
 Davis-Monthan Field (Tucson, Arizona) – Relating to, 1944 F2  
 Death, 1944 F7  
 Florida – Travel and description, 1943 F2  
 Fox, Arthur F13  
 Harrison, Lowell Hayes, b. 1922 F6  
 Harrison, Lowell Hayes, b. 1922 – Comments about F3  
 Jones, Joe W., Jr. F13  
 Laredo Army Air Field (Laredo, Texas) – Relating to, 1943 F2  
 Letterheads – Western Kentucky State Teachers College, 1942 F2  
 Marcum, Ruth A. F13  
 Marshall, Benton Hines F7  
 Mexico – Travel and description, 1943 F2

Military service, Compulsory – Comments about, 1942 F2  
 Murray, James T. F8  
 New Guinea – Travel and description, 1944 F7  
 New York City – Travel and description, 1944 F6  
 North Africa – World War II, 1939-1945 F3  
 North Carolina – Travel and description, 1943 F11  
 Parrish, Louis, d. 1944 – Mentioned F7  
 Radio – Relating to F3  
 Richards, Frances, 1893-1991 – Comments about, 1943 F3  
 Sisk, Preston McAllister F9  
 South Dakota – Travel and description, 1943 F2  
 Stonecipher, Sibyl – Comments about, 1943 F3  
 U.S. Army – Air Corps – Relating to, 1943-1944 F2,10-11  
 U.S. Army – Relating to, 1943-1944 F3,5-6,13  
 U.S. Marines – Relating to, 1944 F11  
 U.S. Navy – Relating to, 1943 F4,7,13  
 Veach, Steely E., 1923?-1997 – Comments about, 1944 F2  
 Wallace, George O., Jr. F10  
 Webster, Pauline (Martin) Tabor, 1905-1992 – Comments about, 1943 F11  
 Western Kentucky State Teachers College – Relating to, 1941-1945  
 Whitaker, David B. F11  
 Whitaker, James T. F13  
 Wood, Zilman C. F11  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Casualties, 1944 F2  
 World War II, 1939-1945 - Letters  
 World War II, 1939-1945 – Military life  
 Writing – Comments about F9

**SEE or SEE ALSO**

Bassett, Bill  
     See:  
         Bassett, William R., 1925?-1944

Sisk, Mack  
     See:  
         Sisk, Preston McAllister

Jeffrey 12/18/2009