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Crabb, Alfred Leland, 1884-1979 (MSS 367)

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

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 367 CRABB, Alfred Leland, 1884-1979

7 boxes. 58 folders. 664 items. 1823-2010. Originals, typescripts, and photocopies

1972.16.1

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Alfred Leland Crabb was born on 22 January 1884 the son of James Wade Crabb and Fannie (Arbuckle) Crabb in the Girkin area of Warren County, Kentucky. He attended the Plum Springs Grade School, which he recalled frequently and with great fondness in his later writings. Before enrolling at the Southern Normal School in Bowling Green in 1904, Crabb attended Bethel College in Russellville. He received a life [teaching] certificate from Western Kentucky State Normal School in 1910. From 1913 to 1927 he served on the faculty at Western. He received his Bachelor's degree from George Peabody College for Teachers in 1916; a Master's degree from Columbia in 1921; and a PhD from Peabody in 1925. He later received honorary doctorates from the University of Kentucky (1942) and Georgetown College.

Crabb accepted a faculty position at Peabody College in 1927 and remained there until his retirement in 1949. He wrote extensively for scholarly journals and was editor of the *Peabody Journal of Education* from 1932 to 1967. He is best remembered for his historical fiction novels about Nashville and middle Tennessee. A bibliography of his fiction and non-fiction is appended to this finding aid; it was compiled by his son.

Crabb was involved in a number of community and professional organizations. He was a member of Belmont Heights Baptist Church in Nashville. He was a member emeritus of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, the Old Oaks Club, the Freolac Club and the Shakespeare Club.

Crabb married Bertha Gardner of Morgantown, Kentucky. She died in March 1979. They had one son, Alfred Leland, Jr. Dr. Crabb died on 1 October 1979 in Lexington, Kentucky. The Crabbs were interred at Mt Olivet Cemetery in Nashville.

COLLECTION NOTES

This collection consists chiefly of the published and unpublished writings of Alfred Leland Crabb, Sr., with the bulk of the material being produced from 1913 to 1966. Most of the nineteenth century items are transcriptions of original letters located elsewhere. Box 1 contains Crabb's correspondence, chiefly with friends and colleagues in Bowling Green including the administration and faculty of Western Kentucky University and the Bowling Green Business

University. Boxes 2-4 contain corrected drafts, usually bound, of some of Crabb's historical fiction novels. Samples of Crabb's non-fiction writing is contained in Box 5, including a large number of short biographical sketches of prominent Nashvillians (Folders 5 & 7) and a group of short feature articles about lessons learned while at the Plum Springs School (Folder 12). Box 6 contains examples of Crabb's short fiction including two large folders filled with "Hilltop Stories" loosely based on his experiences as a student at Western Kentucky University. Box 7 contains writings by others associated with Crabb. Photographs from this collection were transferred to the Kentucky Library and to University Archives.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Correspondence	1823-2010	414 items
Folder 1	Inventory		3 items
Folder 2	News clippings, bibliography prepared by Crabb's son, and sundry other items	1937-2010	21 items
Folder 3	Three tax receipts and a deed of Crabb	1901; 1919; 1920	3 items
Folder 4	Holographic notes about Dr. Crabb's early education at Western	n.d.	1 item
Folder 5	Correspondence	1916-1929	19 items
Folder 6	Correspondence	1930-1935	88 items
Folder 7	Correspondence	1936-1939	82 items
Folder 8	Correspondence	1940-1949	59 items
Folder 9	Correspondence	1950-1974	85 items
Folder 10	Correspondence – Undated	n.d.	10 items
Folder 11	Christmas cards	1932-1975	40 items
Folder 12	Letters – Transcriptions of historic letters	1823-1865	3 items
BOX 2	Dinner at Belmont & Peace at Bowling Green	1942-1955	6 items
Folder 1	Dinner at Belmont – First draft	[1942]	1 item

Folder 2	Peace at Bowling Green – Draft (many pages missing)	[1955]	1 item
Folder 3	Peace at Bowling Green – Draft with edits sent from publisher (p. 1-109)	[1955]	1 item
Folder 4	Peace at Bowling Green – Draft with edits sent from publisher (p. 110-217)	[1955]	1 item
Folder 5	Peace at Bowling Green – Draft with edits sent from publisher (p. 218-379)	[1955]	1 item
Folder 6	Peace at Bowling Green – Galley proof (216 p.)	[1955]	1 item
BOX 3	Home to Kentucky	[1953]	2 items
Folder 1	Home to Kentucky – Bound copy (448 p.)	[1953]	1 item
Folder 2	Home to Kentucky – Bound copy (473 p.)	[1953]	1 item
BOX 4	<i>Lodging at the St. Cloud</i>	[1946]	2 items
Folder 1	Lodging at the St. Cloud – Draft with edits (208 p.)	[1946]	1 item
Folder 2	Lodging at the St. Cloud – Bound draft	[1946]	1 item
BOX 5	Non-Fiction	1913-1971	179 items
Folder 1	Notebook containing essays by Crabb	[1917]	1 item
Folder 2	Essays, etc. related to Western Kentucky University	1924-1962	10 items
Folder 3	Essays about Henry Hardin Cherry	n.d.	4 items
Folder 4	Articles about the city of Nashville, Tennessee	1939-1941	7 items
Folder 5	Leadership in Nashville: A List of the Most Prominent Citizens in Nashville	1961	1 item

Folder 6	Articles, etc. related to education, teachers, and teaching	1916-1966	10 items
Folder 7	Short biographical sketches of prominent people in Nashville's history and others	1918-1956	37 items
Folder 8	Articles related to Andrew Jackson	1971	4 items
Folder 9	Essays, etc. related to Kentucky	1939	7 items
Folder 10	Essays, etc. on a variety of topics	1932-1964	10 items
Folder 11	Essays, etc. on a variety of topics	1924-1961	9 items
Folder 12	Stories about Plum Springs	1913-1966	24 items
Folder 13	The College Series	1933-1935	13 items
Folder 14	Kiwanis Bulletin – Nashville, Tennessee	1935	42 items
BOX 6	Fiction	1913-1940	50 items
Folder 1	"Hilltop Stories"	[1913-1923]	8 items
Folder 2	"Hilltop Stories"	[1913-1923]	12 items
Folder 3	Short stories	[1916-1927]	13 items
Folder 4	Short stories	[1916-1927]	10 items
Folder 5	Untitled short story	n.d.	1 item
Folder 6	Poetry	1940	6 items
BOX 7	Miscellaneous	1875-1959	11 items
Folder 1	History of St. Gabriel High School – Iberville Parish, Louisiana	1935	1 item
Folder 2	Writings by Bertha Lee (Gardner) Crabb	[1909-1911]	3 items
Folder 3	Research material related to education in nineteenth century Kentucky assembled by T.E. Smith for his dissertation	[1955-1959]	1 item

Folder 4	"Factors Promoting Interest in Normal Schools, 1860-1885	[1955-1959]	1 item
Folder 5	Bibliography "no. 3" from T.E. Smith's thesis including Dr. Crabb's comments	[1955-1959]	1 item
Folder 6	Miscellaneous items – Programs and news	1875-1955	4 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS CRABB, Alfred Leland, Sr. 1823-2010
367 1884-1979

Correspondence, book and article manuscripts, and research material of Alfred Leland Crabb, a native of Warren County, Kentucky and later professor at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee. The topics of the manuscripts include historical fiction related to Nashville and Bowling Green, biographies of prominent Nashvillians, and articles on all levels of education. Much of the unpublished material is fiction but draws from Crabb's Plum Springs school days and his student experiences at Western Kentucky University.

7 boxes. 58 folders. 664 items. Originals, typescripts, photocopies.

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SEE and SEE ALSO

Leiper, Mary (Taylor), 1885-1973

See:

Moore, Mary (Taylor) Leiper, 1885-1973

Peabody College

See:

George Peabody College

Tucker, Rosa Pierce, 1860-1946

See:

Taylor, Rosa Pierce (Tucker), b. 1860

Jeffrey 05/19/2011