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McGregor Collection (MSS 566)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 566  McGregor Collection

1 box. 8 folders. 328 items. 1937-1943. Originals, carbon copies, photocopies.

1956.12.3

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of correspondence and related material pertaining to the acquisition by the Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky State Teachers College (now WKU), of rare books, maps, engravings, manuscripts, periodicals, newspapers and other items with funding provided by the McGregor Plan. An inventory is in Folder 1.

The McGregor Plan was proposed to the American Historical Association (AHA) in 1933 by Tracy W. McGregor, a Detroit book collector and philanthropist, to assist from 10 to 20 colleges “in purchasing rare source books in American history, commonly called Americana.” The McGregor Fund, incorporated in Michigan, provided funds to an AHA-appointed Committee on Americana for College Libraries. The Committee made available to participating institutions $500 per year as long as they could appropriate an equal amount and could participate for approximately 10 years. The Committee purchased rare items from dealers, auction houses and other vendors, circulated lists of available material to the Plan participants, and filled orders on a first-come, first-served basis. Acquisitions were regarded as rare books and expected to be treated accordingly. Under the direction of Mary T. Moore, Librarian of the Kentucky Collection, WKU was accepted into the Plan and began purchasing in May 1937. By February 1939, WKU was one of 15 participating colleges and the only Kentucky college. The College Heights Foundation was responsible for raising its matching funds.

The correspondence in the collection is primarily between Mary T. Moore and Randolph G. Adams, Director of the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan and head of the Committee on Americana for College Libraries. Moore consults with both Adams and Committee secretary Kathryn L. Slagle regarding appropriate acquisitions for the Kentucky Library, then in its formative stage with the completion in 1939 of the Kentucky Building. (At one time, a “McGregor Room” was established in the building to house the acquisitions, but no longer exists). The correspondence includes related items such as listings of available material and prices, lists of acquired material, and account statements. Also included is some correspondence from rare book dealers and publishers, a brochure about the McGregor Plan (Folder 4), and one of the bound catalogs (1940) issued by the Plan (Folder 5).
SHELF LIST

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<thead>
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<th>BOX</th>
<th>McGregor Collection</th>
<th>1937-1943</th>
<th>328 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td>1 item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>42 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>48 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1940</td>
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<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1941</td>
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<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>46 items</td>
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<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td>41 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td>31 items</td>
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</table>

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS 566  McGregor Collection  1937-1943

Correspondence, accounts, and lists of materials relating to the acquisition by the Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky University, of rare books, periodicals and manuscripts with funding provided by the McGregor Plan.

1 box. 8 folders. 328 items. Originals, carbon copies, photocopies.

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Adams, Randolph Greenfield, 1892-1951 – Correspondence B1,F2-8
Kentucky Building – Relating to
McGregor Plan – Relating to
McGregor, Tracy William, 1869-1936 – Relating to B1,F4
Moore, Mary (Taylor) Leiper, 1885-1973 – Correspondence B1,F2-8
Western Kentucky University – Kentucky Library – Relating to

Niedermeier/Jeoffrey 02/24/2016