6-3-2015

Hochstrasser, Maud Adelaide, 1900-1994 (MSS 555)

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Maud Adelaide “Addie” Hochstrasser, the daughter of Andrew Martin Hochstrasser and Susan Emaline Hochstrasser, was born in Wyoming, Illinois on 13 May 1900. She received A.B. and M.A. degrees from the University of Illinois in 1925 and 1941, respectively. After many years of teaching high school in Illinois, in September 1965 she joined the faculty of Western Kentucky State College (now WKU) as an English instructor. Miss Hochstrasser retired from WKU in 1970, and died on 28 May 1994 in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists almost exclusively of correspondence, printed materials and photographs reflecting Addie Hochstrasser’s interest in and long friendship with author Jesse Stuart, who she first met in 1949. Stuart, a native and lifelong resident of Greenup County, Kentucky, taught high school and college, lectured worldwide, and published novels and autobiographical works as well as poems and hundreds of short stories. In 1954, he was named Poet Laureate of Kentucky. Among his numerous awards and honors was a Pulitzer Prize nomination in 1975 for The World of Jesse Stuart: Selected Poems.

A collection inventory is in Folder 1. Folder 2 contains photocopies of newspaper and magazine articles about Stuart, as well as book reviews and obituaries. Folder 3 contains letters and cards from Stuart to Hochstrasser in which he writes of his publications and lecturing, his love of teaching (including a year spent the American University in Cairo, Egypt), his recovery from a severe heart attack in 1954, and his family. He also praises Hochstrasser’s personal and professional qualities, thanks her for sending him clippings and other materials of interest, offers to sign books for her and her friends, and endorses her pursuit of travel after retirement. Of interest are Stuart’s 1975 comments about the forthcoming release of The World of Jesse Stuart, which he did not believe would be well received because of its anti-war content.

Folder 4 contains materials relating to Jesse Stuart’s 1949 speech to the Illinois Association of Teachers of English, arranged by Hochstrasser as the Association’s program chairman. Included are programs and clippings, a biography of Stuart, and the lyrics to a song performed at the event in Stuart’s honor. Folder 5 contains printed matter relating to Stuart and...
his work, including the 1958 “Jesse Stuart number” of *The American Book Collector*, an issue of *W-Hollow Harvest*, a newsletter for Stuart’s readers; bibliographic material; and published stories. Some of the material is inscribed by Stuart. Folder 6 contains a handwritten copy of Stuart’s poem “To Three Low Grades: Vanderbilt” (where he attended graduate school). Folder 7 contains Stuart’s funeral program as well as WKU professor Jim Wayne Miller’s handwritten poem commemorating Stuart’s death.

Folder 8 contains personal and professional correspondence of Addie Hochstrasser. Included are notes from students, letters regarding book donations, letters from former WKU colleague Mary (Washington) Clarke, and a speech offering Hochstrasser’s reflections on aging and on life as an English teacher. Items related to Jesse Stuart include notes from Stuart’s wife Naomi Deane, Hochstrasser’s memorial to Stuart written after his death, correspondence regarding Hochstrasser’s contributions in his honor to WKU’s College Heights Foundation, and correspondence reflecting her interest in the Jesse Stuart Foundation, established in 1979 to preserve Stuart’s literary legacy and his Greenup County homestead, W-Hollow.

The remainder of the collection consists of book jackets from two Stuart books (Folder 9), and photographs. Photographs in Folder 10 are mostly of Stuart and Hochstrasser during visits to WKU’s Kentucky Building. Photographs in Folder 11 were taken during Stuart’s visits to WKU and at gatherings held at his Greenup County home.

**SHELF LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Hochstrasser, Maud Adelaide</th>
<th>1938-1992</th>
<th>235 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Jesse Stuart – Biography and obituary articles</td>
<td>1956-1984</td>
<td>18 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Letters and cards from Jesse Stuart to Addie Hochstrasser</td>
<td>1949-1980</td>
<td>53 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Materials relating to Jesse Stuart speech at Illinois Association of Teachers of English</td>
<td>1949-1952</td>
<td>13 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Programs, printed material relating to Jesse Stuart</td>
<td>1953-1970</td>
<td>16 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Holograph copy of poem, “To Three Low Grades: Vanderbilt,” by Jesse Stuart</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Jesse Stuart funeral program; letter and poem of Jim Wayne Miller regarding Stuart’s death</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>3 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>Personal and professional correspondence of Addie Hochstrasser (some related to Jesse Stuart)</td>
<td>1951-1992, n.d.</td>
<td>33 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folder 9  Book jackets – *Beyond Dark Hills* and *The Thread That Runs So True* by Jesse Stuart
1938, 1949  2 items

Folder 10  Photographs – Addie Hochstrasser, Jesse Stuart, WKU staff
1967-1970  7 items

Folder 11  Photographs – Addie Hochstrasser, Jesse Stuart, W-Hollow (Stuart home), etc. (includes negatives)
1974, 1984  84 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS  HOCHSTRASSER, Maud Adelaide, 1938-1992
555  1900-1994

Correspondence, clippings, photographs and other papers of WKU English instructor “Addie” Hochstrasser, relating almost exclusively to her friendship with and interest in author Jesse Stuart. Includes letters, cards and a holographic poem by Stuart, as well as photographs of Stuart and his home in Greenup, Kentucky.
1 box.  11 folders.  235 items.  Originals, photocopies, photographs.
1970.51.1; 1982.62.2

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Authors – Kentucky
Christmas cards, 1959-1975  B1,F3
Clarke, Kenneth W. – Relating to  B1,F8
Clarke, Mary Louise (Washington), d. 1999  B1,F8
Clarke, Mary Louise (Washington), d. 1999 – Photographs  B1,F10
Egypt – Travel and description, 1960-1961  B1,F3
Hochstrasser, Maud Adelaide “Addie,” 1900-1994 – Photographs  B1,F10,11
Juergensmeyer, Jessica Jane (Stuart), b. 1942 – Photographs  B1,F3
Juergensmeyer, Jessica Jane (Stuart), b. 1942 – Relating to  B1,F3
Miller, Jim Wayne, 1936-1996  B1,F7
Miller, Mary Ellen (Yates)  B1,F8
Poets – Kentucky
Schweitzer, Albert, 1875-1965 – Comments about, 1957  B1,F3
Stuart, Jesse Hilton, 1907-1994 – Correspondence  B1,F3
Stuart, Jesse Hilton, 1907-1994 – Photographs  B1,F10,11
Stuart, Jesse Hilton, 1907-1984 – Relating to
Stuart, Naomi Deane (Norris), 1908-1993  B1,F3,8
Stuart, Naomi Deane (Norris), 1908-1993 – Photographs  B1,F3,10,11
Stuart, Naomi Deane (Norris), 1908-1993 – Relating to  B1,F1,3
Teachers and teaching – Illinois, 1949, 1951  B1,F4,8
Tyler, Sara Elizabeth, 1910-2001  B1,F8
Western Kentucky University – College Heights Foundation – Relating to  B1,F8

SEE or SEE ALSO

Hochstrasser, Addie, 1900-1994
  See:
    Hochstrasser, Maud Adelaide

Niedermeier/Jeffrey  06/03/2015