

Finding Aid Report

10/18/2016

Willis & Mary Mensch Lederach Family Papers

Willis K. Lederach (1896-1983) and Mary H. Mensch Lederach (1898-1980) were resident mission workers at the Norristown Mennonite Mission, 1921-1928. Willis was a banker in Norristown and Bridgeport, 1912-1946. After the family moved to Lederach in 1944, Willis became an insurance agent, real estate broker and treasurer of the Alderfer Bologna Co., Harleysville (1948-1959). Mary was a schoolteacher, and college professor at Hesston College for on year before her marriage in 1921. She was a speaker and preacher; her messages centered on social issues including sex education. From 1944 until their deaths, they were members of the Salford Mennonite Church.

Container List

Location	Container	Folder	Title
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 01	Biographical
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 02-03	Personal -- combined
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 04	Receipts
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 05	CDMHS students essays re Mary
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 06	Theona Sharrar <i>Theona I. Sharrar (1911-2004) was a woman from Nebraska who was a patient at the Norristown State Hospital. The women from Salford Mennonite Church visited the State Hospital as volunteers. Willis' sister, Eva Lederach Hess, became frients with Theona. When Pennsylvania closed state psychiatric facilities in the 1970s, the patients were assigned to community residences. Theona moved to the town of Lederach to live with Eva Hess. After Eva died, Theona lived with Willis and Mary, went with them to Rockhill Community, and died at Rockhill.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 07	Funeral Notices
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 08	Mary's death
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 09	Photographs
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 01	Folder 10	Photographs
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 02	Folder 01	Mary: Childhood valentines
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 02	Folder 02	Mary: Education, elementary school
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 02	Folder 03	Mary: Education, Millersville Normal School
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 02	Folder 04	Mary : Teaching, Ironbridge School, 1918-1919
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 02	Folder 05	Mary: Teaching, Hesston College, 1919-1920
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 03-04		Mary: Letters to family, 1949-1977 <i>Letters sent in carbon copy to all four children, saved by daughter Ruth Lederach Rittgers.</i>

Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 04	Folder 11-14	Mary: Letters to daughter Ruth in Jordan, and later, 1952-1979 <i>Mary and Willis's daughter, Ruth Lederach Rittgers saved all these letters.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 04	Folder 15	Mary: Letters from Walter Rutt in France, 1919 <i>Walter N. Rutt (1898-1990) was a college friend of Mary's, who served with American Friends Service Committee in France after World War I; includes numerous photos.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 01	Correspondence <i>Mary to Willis, 1916-1918</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 02	Correspondence <i>Post cards sent to their home in Trooper, 1928-1944</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 03	Correspondence <i>Mary: regarding her social talks, 1929-1967</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 04	Correspondence <i>Kathryn Lederach (1901-1989): Letters regarding her mission work in China.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 05	Correspondence <i>Ralph, Alma, Arthur Smucker: regarding Mission work in India, 1929-1930</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 06	Correspondence <i>William & Florence Lauver: regarding mission work in Argentina, 1930</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 07	Correspondence <i>Willis & Mary: letters of appreciation sent to them, 1932-1980.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 08	Correspondence <i>Lewellyn Groff: "Your letter to me that started me in mission work." Sept. 29, 1945.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 09	Correspondence <i>Mary: Letters she wrote, 1948-1979</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 10	Correspondence <i>Jacob Mensch Collection: Letters regarding donation to MHC and publishing in MQR.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 11	Correspondence <i>Elizabeth "Lizzie" A. Landis: Letters written to Mary, 1976-1979.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 12	Correspondence <i>Linford Hackman, Irwin Schantz, 1977-1978.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 05	Folder 13	Correspondence <i>Mary & Willis: Misc. letters written to them, 1918-1980.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 01	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Articles published in Youth Christian Companion. 1928-1929</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 02	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Misc. published articles</i>

Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 03	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Manuscripts</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 04	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Limerick Mission: Research, notes, letters, final essay</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 05	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Derstine affair, Franconia Mennonite Church, 1956-1958</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 06	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Notes and research for social talks.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 07	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Notes about women leaders, ca. 1955</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 08	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Notes for talks, sermons, Sunday School teaching</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 09	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Talks/sermon notes, 1938-1976</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 10	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Notes for Sunday School teaching, etc.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 06	Folder 11	Mary: Published articles, manuscripts, sermon notes <i>Norristown State Hospital: record of volunteers from Salford Mennonite Church, photographs, articles</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 01	Norristown Mission <i>Willis: Notes, 1921-1928</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 02	Norristown Mission <i>Mary: Letters and writings, 1921-1945; photographs</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 03	Norristown Mission <i>Catharine Becker, convert from the community</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 04	Norristown Mission <i>Cora Landis, mission worker</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 05	Norristown Mission <i>Rewards and cards used at the Mission</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Folder 06	Norristown Mission <i>Cards received by Willis and Mary while they lived at the Mission, 1921-1928</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 07	Loose in Box	Norristown Mission <i>Five Notebooks: Meetings held in homes, 1922-1924; Preachers, baptisms, funerals, 1921-1928; Sunday School and Bible study, 1921- 1923; Record of meetings, 1923-1928.</i> <i>Gray Notebook: Record of meals served at the mission, 1923. Also contains Willis's records for his cars -- Dodge business coupe, 1925-1927; Buick, 1928-1931 (traded for Essex coach).</i>

Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 01	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Education</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 02	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Banker, 1912-1946</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 03	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Alderfer Bologna Company, 1948-1959</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 04	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Real estate business</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 05	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Community business</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 07	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Misc.</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Folder 08	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Death</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 08	Loose in box	Willis: Diaries, education, business career, death <i>Diaries, 1924, 1928, 1930</i>
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 10		Mary: Diaries, 1911-1917; speaking engagements, 1946-1976; misc. books
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 11		Guest book, 1942-1983
Hist. Mss. 530 (Lederach)	Box 12		Oversize photographs, books, misc. <i>Includes Interlinear Greek-English New Testament sent in 1964 to the Lederach's Korean son, Byung Dong Kim. In July 2104 it was returned to the Lederach family by Byung's son, Dae Wee.</i>