Collection Title: Moonlight Schools Collection

Manuscript Series Number: MS018-1975

Date Received: The first items received for the collection were donated in the fall of 1975. Other items have been added to the collection since that date.

Processed by: Maggie Salisbury

Cataloged by: Dieter C. Ullrich

Date Listed: November 17, 2014; updated October 10, 2017.

Date Span: 1880-1992

Size of Collection: 6.0 linear feet.

Number of Boxes: 1 legal size document case; 1 record center box; 2 oversize boxes and large framed item.

Type of Material: Newspapers, correspondence, audio cassettes and artifacts.

Condition of Material: Good.

Arrangement: Organized by format of material; Chronological arrangement.

Biographical / Historical Information: The Moonlight Schools of eastern Kentucky were established in 1911 by Cora Wilson Stewart to promote literacy among adults in the Appalachian region. A Rowan County native, Stewart’s efforts in adult education received national attention. Moonlight Schools also served African American and Native American students.

Scope and Content: Collection consists of articles and research concerning the Moonlight Schools and the life of Cora Wilson Stewart, correspondence regarding the opening of the Cora Wilson Stewart Moonlight School at Morehead State University, teacher’s certificate and school examination report issued by Cora Wilson Stewart, examples of student work at Little Brushy School, materials concerning Laura Lee Duncan’s performance as Cora Wilson Stewart, and photographs of the Cora Wilson Stewart Moonlight School. Collection also includes twenty oral history audiocassette recordings, artifacts from the Moonlight School and a large framed portrait of Cora Wilson Stewart.

Subject Headings / Descriptors:
Adult education -- Kentucky -- History -- 20th century.
Literacy -- Kentucky -- History -- 20th century.
Rowan (Ky.) – History.
Stewart, Cora Wilson, -- 1875-1958.

Notes: Other items of the collection are housed at the Cora Wilson Stewart Moonlight School in downtown Morehead, Kentucky.