

SETTLE, MARY LEE.
Mary Lee Settle collection, circa 1985-1987

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Settle, Mary Lee.
Title: Mary Lee Settle collection, circa 1985-1987
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 80
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Papers of American author, Mary Lee Settle, including typescripts of her writings, edited manuscripts, and galley proofs, as well as correspondence and photographs.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Purchase 1992, with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Mary Lee Settle collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Barbara J. Mann, Associate Processing Archivist, February 1992.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Mary Lee Settle, author and American novelist, was best known for her historical novels which center around the Appalachian region. Settle was born on July 29, 1918 in Charleston, West Virginia, to Joseph Edward and Rachel Tompkins Settle. She attended Sweet Briar College (1936-1938), but did not complete her degree. During World War II (1942-1943), Settle served in the Women's Auxiliary of the Royal Air Force, first in signals and then as a writer for the Office of War Information. Settle was an associate professor at Bard College and Annandale-on-the-Hudson in New York (1965-1976). She also served as a visiting lecturer to the University of Iowa (1976) and the University of Virginia (1978). Settle has been the recipient of the Merrill Foundation Award (1974), the National Book Award (1978), and the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for Fiction (1983). She was also awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship (1958, 1960).

Mary Lee Settle married Rodney Weathersbee circa 1939 and divorced in 1946. She then married Douglas Newton, marriage and divorce dates unknown. William Littleton Tazewell became her third husband on September 2, 1978.

Biographical source: *Contemporary Authors: Autobiographical Series, Volume 1* (1984), and *Who's Who of American Women, 17th Edition, 1991-1992*.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of papers of Mary Lee Settle. The papers include typescripts of Settle's writings, edited manuscripts, and galley proofs; as well as correspondence and photographs. Most of the correspondence is from Mary Lee Settle to Tom Jenks of *Esquire* magazine. Four of the brief letters and notes (of which three are holographs and one a corrected typescript) are undated or contain a partial date. They discuss unidentified writings by her and the craft of writing. A longer holograph letter, also to Jenks and dated May 6, 1985, discusses an article she wrote for *Esquire* about her travels to Hong Kong. Three other holograph letters refer to accompanying story typescripts. One holograph letter dated January 30th is an apology from Settle to Dr. Nottman for not sending the books sooner. This was not part of the original purchase, but was given separately.

The writings include galley proofs of an untitled story, as well as a typescript and corrected typescript for "The Days of October," both of which were later incorporated into her novel *Celebration*. Two corrected typescripts for an untitled travel piece on Hong Kong, one of which was edited by Tom Jenks, are also included. An untitled typescript which has been annotated "Here's the beginning of the book," possibly from *Celebration*, is also included. Photographs consist of five color snapshots, possibly of Hong Kong, and what appears to be a title page from *Celebration*.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

| Box | Folder | Content |
|-----|--------|---|
| 1 | 1 | Letters: Mary Lee Settle to Tom Jenks: TLS, 1 p., no date; ANS, 1 p., no date; ALS, 1 p., 16 Oct [?]; ALS, 1 p. 31 December [?] |
| 1 | 2 | Untitled story: Corrected galley, p. 7-24 with accompanying ALS, 1 p., no date |
| 1 | 3 | "The Days of October": Typescript, p. 1-11 |
| 1 | 4 | "The Days of October": Corrected typescript, p. 1-13, 1987 |
| 1 | 5 | Letter: Mary Lee Settle to Tom Jenks re travel piece, 6 May 1985 [ALS, 3 p.] |
| 1 | 6 | Travel piece on Hong Kong and Southeast Asia: Corrected typescript edited by Tom Jenks, p. 1-23, with accompanying ALS, 1 p., 12 June 1985 |
| 1 | 7 | Travel piece on Hong Kong and Southeast Asia: Corrected typescript, p. 1-19 |
| 1 | 8 | Photographs: [Hong Kong?] |
| 1 | 9 | Untitled story annotated "Here's the beginning of the book" [from <i>Celebration?</i>]: Typescript, p. 1-3, 21-22 with accompanying ALS, 1 p., 20 April [1984] |
| 1 | 10 | <i>Celebration</i> : Title page |
| 1 | 11 | Letter: Mary Lee Settle to Dr. Nottman: ALS, 1 p., 30 January [?] |
