Morehead State University Special Collections & Archives Manuscript Accession Form

Collection Title: Robert M. Rennick Papers

Manuscript Series Number: MS067-2008

Date Received: June 1, 2018; Additions to collection received in 2008.

Processed by: Dieter C. Ullrich, Elizabeth Brewer and Torianne Crouch.

Cataloged by: Dieter C. Ullrich

Date Listed: January 20, 2019

Date Span: 1951-2009

Size of Collection: 36 linear feet.

Number of Boxes: 61 letter size document cases, 3 record center boxes, 3 15x10.5x3.5 inch

ledger boxes and 1 oversize box.

Type of Material: Manuscripts, correspondence, diaries, journals, research files, maps, photographs, audio recordings and ephemera.

Condition of Material: Good.

Arrangement: Organized into ten series: I. County Research. II. Subject Files. III. Wayne County. IV. Kentucky Geographical Names. V. Manuscripts and Publications. VI. Daily Journals. VII. Robert M. Rennick Correspondence. VIII. Betsy Rennick Correspondence. IX. Audio Recordings. X. Miscellaneous. Arranged alphabetically by subject title; Chronological arrangement for correspondence.

Biographical / Historical Information: Robert M. Rennick was an authority on Kentucky place names and post offices. He wrote a number of books, including Kentucky Place Names and From Red Hot to Monkey's Eyebrow: Unusual Kentucky Place Names, as well as a series of newspaper and journal articles on post offices in various regions of the state. Rennick was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 28, 1932. He taught at a number of colleges and universities before moving to Kentucky in 1970, when he took a position at Prestonsburg Community College. He was also employed by the Kentucky Division of Licensing and Regulations from 1972 until his retirement in 1997. He later served as a consultant in cooperation with Morehead State University on a project to add names to the federal Geographical Names Information System database. Rennick died on April 8, 2010 and buried at Gethsemane Gardens in Prestonsburg.

Scope and Content: Collection consists of manuscripts, correspondence, research files, diaries, journals, research files, maps, photographs, audio recordings and ephemera acquired and retained by Robert and Elizabeth Rennick of Prestonsburg, Kentucky from 1951 to 2009. The bulk of the collection focuses upon the research conducted of Robert Rennick on the history of post offices and place names in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The collection also contains personal correspondence and the daily journals of Robert Rennick and Betsy Rennick, manuscripts and publications of Robert Rennick, and oral histories and interview transcripts with local and regional historians. Included in the collection are correspondence, photographs and family history information on the McComb family.

Subject Headings / Descriptors:

Rennick, Robert M., 1932-2010. Rennick, Elizabeth McComb, 1928-2017. McComb family. Names, Geographical -- Kentucky. Kentucky -- History, Local. Names, Geographical.

Notes: This collection is part of the Robert M. Rennick Kentucky Place Name Collection, MS044-2008, which was acquired following the death of his widow, Betsy McComb Rennick on June 1, 2018. Audio reel-to-reel tapes, containing oral histories of Wayne County, Kentucky, were removed and placed with the other oral history recordings in the Robert M. Rennick Kentucky Place Name Collection (MS044-2008).