

Acc.12792
August 2007



Inventory

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Maureen McIlwraith ('Mollie Hunter')

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Literary papers, 1967-2001, of Maureen McIlwraith, 'Mollie Hunter' (b 1922).

Mollie Hunter was born in Longniddry in East Lothian. She grew up there, and worked and studied in Edinburgh in the years prior to the Second World War. In 1940, she married Thomas McIlwraith (who was known to friends as 'Mike'), with whom she moved to the Highlands of Scotland following the war.

Her first novel for children, *Patrick Kentigern Keenan*, was published in 1963. Her novels for children and young adults draw on tales of Scottish history and folklore. They have won many awards, with *The Stronghold* (1974) winning the Carnegie Medal. She has published twenty-eight novels, and travelled widely talking about her writing. She has also published a number of works on writing for children.

For further papers of Mollie Hunter, see Acc.11073 and Acc.11993.

Presented, 2007.

This accession has been divided into the following sections:

1-10. Correspondence, 1967-2002.

11-26. Typescripts of fiction and non-fiction and papers concerning works, circa 1970-1998.

27. Photographs, circa 1960-1964 and undated.

28-40. Audio-visual material, circa 1975-1990.

41. Printed item, circa 1962.

1-10. Correspondence, 1967-2002.

1. Letters, 1967-2002, of various correspondents, with press cuttings, poems, research notes and a catalogue of an exhibition, 'Children's Fiction in Britain 1900-1990' (London: British Council, 1990).
- 2-3. Correspondence, 1975-1991, with agents, mainly staff at AM Heath and Company Ltd.
 2. 1974-1984.
 3. 1984-1991.
4. Correspondence, 1973-2001, concerning use of Mollie Hunter's works for audio recordings, radio and television.
5. Correspondence, 1975-1996, concerning translations of Mollie Hunter's works.
6. Correspondence, 1977-2001, concerning permission to use Mollie Hunter's works.
7. Correspondence, 1978-1982, concerning the supply of books for talks and events.
8. Correspondence, 1988-1989, with staff of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

9. Undated letter of Charles Buchanan, with an illustration, dated 1933, for 'The Pageant of Ayr 1934', and copies of letters, 1989, 2001, of Mollie Hunter.
10. Copies of letters, 1995-2001, of Mollie Hunter to Betty Greenway, with a copy of 'The Morphing of Mollie Hunter', an article by Betty Greenway in *The Alan Review*, Volume 23, Number 3, Spring 1996
[<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/ALAN/spring96/greenway.html>].

11-26. Typescripts of fiction and non-fiction and papers concerning works, circa 1970-1998.

- 11-12. Novels
- 13-15. Short stories
- 16-19. Audio adaptation
- 20-23. Research papers and correspondence concerning novels
- 24-26. Non fiction

Novels

11. Undated typescript of 'Danger's Envoy', an unpublished novel.

This typescript dates from before 1970. A note explains that the research for this novel was later used to write 'The Lothian Run'.
12. Undated typescript of 'Nearly A King', an unpublished novel about the Earl of Bothwell.

Short stories

13. Undated typescript of 'The Day of the Unicorn. A "Knight of the Golden Plain" story'.
14. Undated typescript of 'The Three-day Enchantment. A "Knight of the Golden Plain" story'.
15. Undated typescript of 'Kate Mary Ellen and the Fairies'.

Audio adaptation

16. Amended copy of 'The Kelpie's Pearls' (New York: Harper Row, 1976).
17. Corrected typescript of abridgement of 'The Kelpie's Pearls' for audio presentation, with related correspondence, 1980-1981, between Mollie Hunter and McIntosh and Otis, Inc.
- 18-19. Cassette recording of Mollie Hunter reading an abridged version of 'The Kelpie's Pearls' (New York: Random House, 1981).
 18. Cassette 1.
 19. Cassette 2.

Research papers and correspondence concerning novels

For further research notes, see Acc.12792/1 above.

20. Manuscript of research notes on broch building for 'The Stronghold'.
21. Sketch map of the setting for 'Escape from Loch Leven'.
22. Correspondence, 1991-1992, between Mollie Hunter and Mark Hamilton of AM Heath and Company concerning 'Lammerton's Ghost'.
23. Correspondence, 1995-1998, between Mollie Hunter and Julie Fallowfield, McIntosh and Otis, and Robert Warren, of Harper Collins, concerning 'The King's Swift Rider'.

Non fiction

24. Undated typescript of 'The Pied Piper Syndrome'.

This collection of talks was published as 'The Pied Piper Syndrome and other essays' (New York: Harper, 1991). For further typescripts of some of these talks, see Acc.12792/25 below.

25. Typescripts of a number of articles by and concerning Mollie Hunter:

Undated typescript of 'An Esoteric Little Library'.

Undated typescript of 'My First Book'.

Typescript, 1991, of 'Following a Star', with letters, 1991-1992, of Alice K Swinger, editor of the 'Newsletter of the United States Board on Books for Young People', with a copy of the Spring 1992 newsletter, in which this article appeared.

Typescript, circa 1982, of 'A Need for Heroes', with an incomplete letter, 1982, of Ethel Heinz, and copy of a letter, 1982, of Mollie Hunter. This article was published in 'The Horn Book Magazine about Books for Children and Young Adults' (Volume 59, number 2, April 1983, pages 146-154).

Undated typescript of 'Newes from Scotland'.

Undated typescript of 'One View'.

Acceptance speech for the Phoenix Award, 1992.

Typescript, 1976, of 'The Pied Piper Syndrome', a talk given at the University of Loughborough.

Offprint of 'Talent is Not Enough', the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, given at Drexel University, Philadelphia, on 24 April 1975. Reprinted from

'The Top of the News', June 1975, pages 392-406. This talk was also published in 'Talent is Not Enough' (New York: Harper and Row, 1976), pages 4-30.

Typescript, 1992, of an untitled autobiographical article for 'A Reader's Companion to Twentieth Century Children's and Young Adult Literature', with a letter, 1992, of Anita Silvey, the editor.

Typescript, 1992, of an untitled autobiographical article for 'Speaking for Ourselves II. More autobiographical sketches by notable authors of books for young adults', with a letter, 1992, of Michael Read Spooner, the editor.

Photocopy of an article, 'Mollie Hunter' by Henrietta Forrest, which was published in 'Scottish World', ? 1994, with photocopies of reviews.

26. Typescript drafts of autobiographical articles for the Gale 'Something About the Author Autobiographical Series', volume 7, with related correspondence, 1986-1988.

27. Photographs, circa 1960-1964 and undated.

For further photographs of Mollie Hunter, see Acc. I2792/33 below.

27. Black and white photograph, circa 1960, of Mollie Hunter with a Golden Labrador dog called Honey.

Black and white still photograph, circa 1964, from an off-cut from the film 'Culloden'. This film was written and directed by Peter Watkins.

Undated black and white photograph of Mollie Hunter giving a talk at a conference in Canada.

28-40. Audio-visual material, circa 1975-1990.

Reel to reel tapes

28. Tape recording possibly of an interview with Mollie Hunter for Radio Newcastle, circa 1975.
29. Undated tape recording of an interview with Mollie Hunter for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.
30. Undated tape recording of an interview of Mollie Hunter by Pat Craddock for Radio New Zealand.
31. Undated tape recording of a 'Profile of Mollie Hunter' made for New Zealand radio.

Audio cassettes

32. Cassette tape recording of an interview, 1975, of Mollie Hunter by Derek Cooper for a BBC Radio programme 'You and Yours'.

33. Cassette tape recording of an interview of Mollie Hunter and Elizabeth Blackadder for 'Woman's Hour' on BBC Radio 4, 1988, with related photographs.
34. Cassette tape recording of an interview, circa 1988, of Mollie Hunter and Elizabeth Blackadder by Mary Marquis for BBC radio.
35. Cassette tape recording of a review of books by Mollie Hunter for 'Tuesday Review', May 1988.
36. Cassette tape recording of a review of books by Mollie Hunter for 'Tuesday Review', September 1988.
37. Cassette tape recording of an interview, 1990, of Mollie Hunter by Frank Delaney for a BBC Radio Scotland programme in the series 'Secret Gardens'.
38. Undated cassette tape recording of a radio programme entitled 'Author in the spotlight' featuring Mollie Hunter and children of Lorne Primary School, Leith.
39. Undated cassette tape recording of an interview of Mollie Hunter and other authors by Edward Blishen.

Video cassette

40. Video cassette recording, 1981, of 'Mollie Hunter Enchantress', a television programme made by the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.
41. **Printed item, circa 1962.**
41. Photocopy of the published text of a one-act play, 'A Love Song for My Lady'. This play was published by Evans (London, 1962).