Dr. W. C. Block Donated Materials (Hannah Stanton and Dr. Margaret Keay)

Collection of materials provided by Dr. William Block relating to Ms. Hannah Stanton and Dr. Margaret Keay.

Hannah Stanton (1913-1993) was a missionary and anti-apartheid activist. She graduated from Oxford in 1956, subsequently travelling to South Africa. She worked as Warden at the Tumelong Anglican Mission in Lady Selborne, a mixed-black township on the edge of Pretoria, until 1960. She was imprisoned without charge for two months following the Sharpville atrocities (see below). Following deportation, she worked as Warden at the Mary Stuart Women’s Hall at Makerere University in Uganda. Upon her return to the UK, she became involved with various groups and campaigns including the anti-apartheid movement\(^1\), \(^2\), \(^3\).

Dr. Margaret Keay (1911-1998) was a plant pathologist born in Pretoria, South Africa. She studied and worked in Cambridge at the Botany School of Newnham in Mycology and plant pathology\(^4\). After World War II she worked with the Commonwealth Potato Collection which was attached to the University’s School of Agriculture\(^5\). She joined a pressure group based on the Women Graduates Club, which called for a third college for women at the University (at the time only Girton and Newnham were open to women). From 1954 she was Reader in Agricultural Botany at the faculty of Agriculture at what was to become Makerere University at Kampala, Uganda; she was subsequently appointed as Head of the Department of Agricultural Biology. After a decade at Makerere she moved to Northern Nigeria where she worked at the Institute for Agricultural Research and Special Services at Ahmadu Bello University as Senior Plant Pathologist; in 1968 she was appointed Chair and Headship of the Department of Crop Protection. In 1976 she took up desk space at the Department of Applied Biology at Cambridge until her retirement\(^6\).

Dr. William Block studied Zoology at Durham University in the early 1960s. He went on to lecture at Makerere University (1963-66) at the Department of Agricultural Biology, Faculty of Agriculture, under Dr. Keay. He then returned to the UK in 1966, where he held a University Demonstratorship in Entomology at Cambridge, followed by a Lectureship in Zoology at Leicester University. He developed an interest in the ecological physiology of insects and mites whilst working in Alaska and went on to work in Antarctica in 1971-72 on a Leverhulme Research Fellowship. In 1976, he led a research group investigating the adaptations of organisms to cold with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS). Retiring in 1997, he continued in research as Emeritus Fellow at BAS and held Honorary Professorships at the Universities of East Anglia, Birmingham and Abertay Dundee. His recent interest is in the public understanding of science and he has continued to lecture and speak on many aspects of polar science, especially ecology, and has developed a course for the University of the Third Age in Cambridge entitled ‘Antarctica in a Nutshell’\(^6\).

BOX WCB/HSMK/1

2. Envelope containing cuttings, letters etc re. Hannah Stanton, the African missionary and
Author of WCB/HSMK/1.1

C) Copy of the Order of Service from a service of “Thanksgiving and Celebration of the life
of Hannah Stanton”, with notes pencilled in regarding attendees and trusts. Also a
separate note regarding attendees and a post-it note referring to “The week of Prayer for
World Peace” and the name and address of a Rabbi Albert Friedlander. Pp 1-5 (middle
D) Photocopy of a transcript of (possibly) a Memorial service or tributes held in January
1994 for Hannah Stanton. 2 A4 pages, stapled.
F) Photocopy of Obituary from the Independent (see original: WCB/HSMK/1.2A). No date.
G) Handwritten letter from Hannah Stanton to Margaret Keay (also Anne, Louise) dated
(possibly) 16/11/1993 after Dr. Keay’s retirement; Ms. Stanton died shortly afterward.
One page, handwriting on both sides.
H) Photocopy of some notes made describing Hannah Stanton’s funeral. 2 sheets of A4,
stapled.

3. Plastic folder containing photographs, Curriculum Vitae and Obituary notes for Dr. Margaret
Keay:

A) Photocopy of a photograph of Dr. Keay on A4 paper. One sheet.
B) Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Keay. 3 A4 sheets, each with text on each side.
C) A short piece written by Dr. Keay to mark the 50th anniversary of the admission of
women to Cambridge Degrees (04/07/1998). Text suggests piece was written 30/05/1998.
4 sheets of A4, text on recto side.
G) Obituary notes for Dr. Keay, with tributes, compiled by Dr. W. C. Block and May Block.

4. Plastic folder containing photographs of Faculty of Agriculture, Makerere University,
Kampala, Uganda:

A) Photograph (B & W) of Faculty of Agriculture members 1964, with accompanying list of
names (typed). Picture includes Dr. Keay and Dr. Block.
B) Photograph (B & W) of Faculty of Agriculture members 1959, with accompanying list of
names (handwritten). Picture includes Dr. Keay.
C) Photograph (B & W) of “Installation of Sir Frederick Crawford as Visitor” (note written
D) Photograph (B & W) of attendees at “Seminar of Agricultural Education, Kampal” (note

institution of higher learning in East and Central Africa, covering its history and work.
Includes a typed note either to or from Dr. Keay, dated 12/10/1972. Pp 1-64. Interior spine of booklet is splitting with some sections of pages (3-20) threatening to become loose. Published by Makerere University, Kampala.


7. Envelope containing various photographs from Dr. Keay (Nigeria and Cambridge).

A) Photograph (B & W) of academics of or at “ARC Potato Genetics Station”, dated December 1953. Includes Dr. Keay.
B) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others in Jos, Nigeria, dated 13/07/1966.
C) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others at Makeri farm (presumably still in Jos, Nigeria), dated 13/07/1966.
D) Photograph (B & W) of unidentified man writing (presumably an academic; Dr. Block thought it might be Professor Harry Darling, a colleague of Dr. Keay from Ahmadu Bello University (he will confirm or deny if he is able to in the future)). No date.
E) Five small B & W photographs of Makerere University Dept. Of Agriculture Faculty open day, 1971. Several pictures include Dr. Keay.
F) Photograph (B & W) of Robert V. Akeley, a potato breeder (geneticist?) and “Mallan* Alhassan Bida” at Makeri farm, Jos, Nigeria, 13/07/1966. (* Handwriting does not make this first name clear).
G) A photograph (B & W) of “Two Fulani girls from Yakawada” sent to Dr. Keay from Cecile Jackson, currently (it would seem) Professor of Development Studies at the School of International Development, University of East Anglia. Dated 09/12/1977.
I) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others, not identified or dated.
J) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others, not identified or dated.
K) Photograph (B & W) of “Ellis Marks” (possibly G. Ellis Marks who appears to have been a plant geneticist), dated 1954.

L) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others, noted “Farewell A. B Kolawole”, dated April, 1971.

M) Photograph (colour) of Dr. Keay and others, from “Tom”, not dated.

N) Photograph (B & W) of Dr. Keay and others of the same event as WCB/HSMK/1.7M.


P) Small envelope containing several photographs:

P1: A small note “with compliments” from S. K. (surname difficult to read- Dr. Block suggests it may be S. K. Quansel, possibly a student or colleague of Dr. Keay at the University of Ahmadu Bello; he expressed uncertainty as to whether the contents of the envelope are related to the signature.)
P2: A small piece of paper with a B & W photograph of Mokwa Agricultural Research Station affixed inviting Dr. Keay to a “welcome drink” at the house of Maaike and Henk van Rheenen on 13/10/1970 (at 5:30PM).
P3: B & W photograph of Dr. Keay and others noted “farewell photo, Mike Strawsfield”, dated 1970.
P4: Colour photograph of a man in a suit giving a calf a bowl of feed. A note to Dr. Keay on the reverse wishing Christmas wishes, possibly from “Eric”
P6-P8: three B & W photographs of an unnamed event, not dated.

1. University of Oxford biographical description of Hannah Stanton
2. Obituary for Hannah Stanton
3. MUNDUS biographical description of Hannah Stanton
4. Obituary for Margaret Keay
5. The James Hutton Commonwealth Potato Collection
6. All information provided by Dr. W. C. Block.