

HUDSON FAMILY COLLECTION

Historical Background

Margaret Hudson (née Birchall) (1852-1927) was a teacher who trained at Southlands Training College between 1873-4, just a year after the institution opened. Born in Liverpool, her family were members of the local Wesleyan Methodist church. Her future husband, John Newton Hudson (1853-1933), also a Liverpudlian, was teaching in London at the time she was studying. On completing her teaching qualifications, she returned to the north-west to reside and work in Bacup in Lancashire. It was there that the couple married in 1877. The Hudsons were active in Methodist life in the area until their retirement, when they relocated to Manchester.

Custodial History

This collection represents a portion of a larger body of family papers that descended through the maternal line of the depositor. They were received by the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History in 2021. Other items from the larger collection are now at Aberdeen City Archives, Greater Manchester County Record Office, Liverpool Archives, and Robert Gordon University Library. Manuscript items relating to Margaret Hudson's teaching training are found at HUD/1-3. Correspondence spanning a longer period is at HUD/4. All printed books are grouped at HUD/6.

Description

The major part of this collection comprises items relating to Margaret Hudson's teacher training at Southlands College (and elsewhere), such as exercise books, certificates, and correspondence. HUD/3 is a friendship album dating 1872-8 that includes entries by over fifty named individuals, many of which were Hudson's contemporaries at Southlands. HUD/6 includes printed books by other members of the wider family, such as works by Harry Lindsay Hudson, and a photocopy of the life of Theophilus Woolmer.

Arrangement

HUD/1, exercise books

HUD/2, teaching examinations

HUD/3, friendship album

HUD/4, correspondence

HUD/5, other documents

HUD/6, printed books

Dates 1860s-1950s

Extent One box, and nine books

HUD/1/ - EXERCISE BOOKS

HUD/1/1

Title: Paraphrase exercise book
Date(s): 1873
Description: Dated on first page 25 February 1873

HUD/1/2

Title: British geography exercise book
Date(s): 1873
Description: Dated on first page 5 June 1873, 'Southlands'. Includes numerous hand-drawn maps

HUD/1/3

Title: Domestic economy exercise book
Date(s): 1873-4

HUD/1/4

Title: Theology exercise book
Date(s): 1874
Description: Dated on second page 7 February [1874]

HUD/1/5

Title: World geography exercise book
Date(s): 1874
Description: Dated on first page 11 February 1874, 'Southlands, Battersea'. Includes numerous hand-drawn maps

HUD/2/ - TEACHING EXAMINATIONS

HUD/2/1

Title: Queen's Scholarship Examination, Southlands College, notification for Margaret Birchall

Date(s): February 1873

HUD/2/2

Title: Teachers Certificate of the Second Class for Margaret Birchall

Date(s): December 1874

Description: Notes that Birchall served a period of probation at Bacup Wesleyan School

HUD/3 – FRIENDSHIP ALBUM

HUD/3/1

Title: Friendship album**Date(s):** 1873-8**Description:** Bound volume of calligraphic verses, drawings, and prints. Includes over fifty names, mostly contemporaries at Southlands College and others in Liverpool.

HUD/4 - CORRESPONDENCE

HUD/4/1

Title: Letter to Margaret Hudson

Date(s): 29 December 1888

Description: Describes working at Barnsley Infant School. Their sister was formerly at Müller's Orphanage in Bristol, but is moving to work with Dr Stephenson at Edgeworth

HUD/4/2

Title: Postcard of Southlands College, Battersea

Date(s): c1900

Description: Blank

HUD/4/3

Title: Postcard to Margaret Hudson from 'James', Richmond

Date(s): 11 July 1906

Description: Addressed to 'Dear Mother'. Describes waiting for exam results

HUD/4/4

Title: Letter to Mrs Hudson from H Williamson, Pendleton

Date(s): 9 September 1915

Description: Refers to their 'pleasure' at having Jack with them at Keswick

HUD/4/5

Title: Postcard to Mrs Hudson from M Stapleton, Bacup

Date(s): 6 October 1922

Description: Gives advice on a recipe, and provides health updates

HUD/5 – OTHER DOCUMENTS

HUD/5/1

Title: Manuscript recipes

Date(s): early 20th cent.

HUD/6 – PRINTED BOOKS

HUD/6/1

Title: C. A. Johns, *Flowers of the Field* (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, [c1860s]), 664pp.

Description: Ninth edition. Ownership inscription of Margaret Birchall

HUD/6/2

Title: J. G. Wood, *Natural History* (London: George Routledge and Sons, 1868), 444pp.

Description: New edition. Ownership inscription of Margaret Birchall

HUD/6/3

Title: Isabella Beeton, *The Englishwoman's Cookery Book* (London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler, [c1870s]), 208pp.

Description: Lacking front matter. Includes manuscript recipes in inside cover dated 1882 and 1884

HUD/6/4

Title: John Eadie (ed.), *A New And Complete Concordance To The Holy Scriptures, On the Basis of Cruden* (London: The Religious Tract Society, [1874]). 568pp.

Description: Thirty-sixth edition. With manuscript leaf, 'Presented to Mr. J. N. Hudson by the Masters & Scholars of the Kentish Town Wesleyan Day School, As a token of their esteem. Xmas, 1874'

HUD/6/5

Title: Theophilus Woolmer, *My Way And My Work: Some Reminiscences of My Earlier Life* (privately printed, 1892). 642pp.

Description: Photocopy in two volumes bound in cloth. Includes copy of original inscription by the author to his son, Wesley Woolmer (1858-1937) and his wife, Amelia Ann (nee Beaumont) (1857-1932). Original since lost. With typescript name index by Helen Watt

HUD/6/6

Title: Harry Lindsay [Hudson], *Rhoda Roberts, A Welsh Mining Story* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1895). 439p.

Description: First edition. Inscribed (overwritten) by the author to his daughter, Dorothy

HUD/6/7

Title: Harry Lindsay [Hudson], *Methodist Idylls* (London: James Bowden, 1897). 395pp.

Description: First edition. Inscribed by the author to his brother, John Newton Hudson (1853-1933), and his wife Margaret (nee Birchall) (1852-1927)

HUD/6/8

Title: Harry Lindsay [Hudson], *Mab* (London: Horace Marshall & Son, 1900). 312pp.

Description: Ownership inscription of 'J. N. Hudson', Bacup

HUD/6/9

Title: James T. Hudson, *The Pauline Epistles, Their Meaning And Message* (London: James Clarke & Co. Ltd, 1958). 326pp.

Description: Inscribed by the author to his brother, John Newton Hudson (1897-1969)