

Title:	Joyce Aster fonds, 1976-1984, n.d.		
Creator:	Joyce Aster		
Dates of Material:	1976-1984, n.d.	Record Group Number:	RG 70
Summary of Contents:	<p>Fonds contains material about Estelle Cuffe Hawley acquired by Joyce Aster, who assisted Estelle with her memoir. The material includes manuscripts and papers, news clippings, a citation, correspondence and a convocation program.</p> <p>1.1 List of Estelle Cuffe Hawley Papers, 1976. Categories include career in education; home service training schools (St. Catharines); aldermanic material; mayoralty contest; Ontario Recreation Association; CBC broadcasts; Mental Health Association; Voice of Women; Freedom from Hunger campaign; honorary doctorate; speeches and notes; newspaper articles; and short stories and published pieces.</p> <p>1.2 Manuscript, n.d. Contains typewritten, rough drafts of Estelle Cuffe Hawley's memoir.</p> <p>1.3 Manuscript, n.d. Contains typewritten, rough drafts of Estelle Cuffe Hawley's memoir.</p> <p>1.4 Newspaper clippings, 1976-1984. Contains news clippings about Estelle Cuffe Hawley from the St. Catharines Standard, Orillia Daily Packet and Times and the Mississauga News. Also includes a citation for Estelle Cuffe Hawley, presented by Professor S.E. Wilson, Brock University Convocation, and a Convocation Program for Brock University, June 4, 1976.</p> <p>1.5 Correspondence, 1983-1984, n.d. Contains correspondence written by Estelle Cuffe Hawley, including a letter of reference for Joyce Aster, a letter to Sidney Aster, and a letter to Joyce Aster. Also includes a letter by Joyce Aster about her relationship with Estelle and Estelle's accomplishments.</p>		
Physical Description / Condition:	7 cm of textual material		

Administrative/ Biographical Sketch:	<p>Estelle Cuffe Hawley (1894-1995) was an educator, businesswoman and politician, who became the first woman alderman on the St. Catharines City Council. She began her career as a teacher in Peterborough in 1913, and later taught in St. Catharines at Connaught School and St. Paul's Ward School, where she served as Principal for six years. This would be Estelle's last year in the teaching profession. She moved back to St. Catharines in 1930 and began a career in business, as an employee of Sun Life Assurance Co. She remained in this profession until around 1952. It was during this period that she became very active in the community and local politics. In 1934 she was elected to the St. Catharines Board of Education and the following year she became the first woman elected to the St. Catharines City Council. She established comprehensive health services (including medical, dental and nursing), in the public, separate and secondary schools of St. Catharines, the first program of its kind in Canada.</p> <p>She remained a member of City Council until 1943. The following year she campaigned unsuccessfully for the mayoralty. In 1953 she married Hubert Hawley and moved to Orillia. She continued to remain active in the community, serving as President of the Ontario Recreation Association from 1950-1953, and editor of their Bulletin from 1955-1961. During the 1960s, she worked with various groups, including the Voice of Women, the Mental Health Association and the Freedom from Hunger Campaign.</p> <p>In 1976, Brock University conferred an honorary Doctor of Law degree to Estelle for her leadership as an educator, businesswoman and a stateswoman. Her husband Hubert died that same year, and Estelle subsequently moved to Mississauga. With the assistance of an Ontario Heritage Foundation grant, she began work on her memoir. She later moved back to Orillia and died there in 1995, at the age of 101.</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		
Source Information:	Material was donated by Joyce Aster in 2004. Additional material was donated in 2020.		
Described by:	Chantal Cameron	Date:	March 2022