Dedication

The Board of Trustees of the Dwight Foster Public Library, with appreciation, admiration, respect and love, dedicate this biography to Jane Shaw Knox, the author of Lorine Niedecker’s first biography.

In 1971, Jane became intrigued with the exceptional talent of Lorine Niedecker and began intensive and extensive research into the life of this now internationally-acclaimed poet. Her biography was first presented to a study group, The Tuesday Club, in Fort Atkinson in April 1971. Since then, subsequent biographers, here and abroad, have drawn on this original paper as the foundation of their expanded works.

Mrs. Knox gave of her talents to our Dwight Foster Library over a span of 19 years. As a trustee and officer of the Board, she provided leadership in the design, funding, and building of the major addition to our library in 1983. Her effective leadership was vital to the formation of the Jefferson County Planning Committee in 1978 and then the Jefferson County Library Service in 1980. Her colleagues, admiring her devotion to excellent library services, elected her chairman of each. She then led the county into the Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System. She was elected vice-president, then president of the Federated Board. Later, in 1983, she was named to the Wisconsin Library Trustees Board.

In all these years, Jane’s intelligence, diplomacy and dedication have been exemplary in quiet, but highly effective, leadership. The citizens of our city, county, region and state have been... are... and will be... the beneficiaries of her unselfish devotion and service.

Dwight Foster Public Library Board of Trustees

Mary Gates, Director  Maxine B. Meyer, Vice-President
Poet of place... Lorine Niedecker beside her beloved Rock River on Blackhawk Island, summer of 1967. The lines on facing page are from the long poem “Wintergreen Ridge,” which she considered her best, according to a letter to Cid Corman.
Nobody, nothing
ever gave me
greater thing

than time
unless light
and silence

which if intense
makes sound
The only child . . . of Henry and Theresa (Daisy) Kunz Niedecker, Lorine had identified this photo with "LN — Born 1903."