

National Willa Cather Center

Finding aid for
Brockway Paper Collection

Date range: 1893-1987

Bulk dates: 1895-1938

Finding Aid created by Tracy Tucker, 2015

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Extent: 1 box

Abstract: Assorted photos, notes, clippings belonging to the Roscoe and Meta Schaper Cather family, through daughter Virginia Cather Brockway.

Language: The material is in English

Acquisition Information: This collection came to the WCF in 2012, through Marsha Brockway, who was related by marriage to Virginia.

Access Restrictions: The record group is open to research.

Copyright: Copyright remains with the Willa Cather Foundation.

Cite as: The Brockway Paper Collection of the Willa Cather Foundation.

Scope and Content: The collection contains photos from Roscoe Cather's days at Red Cloud High School and during his time as a country school teacher in Webster County; photos of Meta Schaper's high school years, and other family photos. Clippings, brochures, and sketches related to Roscoe's business life in Wyoming and his obituary and associated clippings indicate that Roscoe was a well-loved figure in the community. Family correspondence also includes photos of Elsie Cather, baby picture of Roscoe, Charles Cather, Mary Virginia Cather, Jessica Cather, Douglass Cather, and Roscoe's children, as well as some unidentified people. Diplomas and teaching certificates, commencement program for Roscoe and Meta Cather. Later pieces include First Day of Issue Willa Cather stamp, Cather 100th Birthday newspaper, WCPM newsletter (1987), and letters and documents surrounding Willa Cather last will and testament.

Subjects:

- Roscoe Cather
- Meta Schaper Cather
- Virginia Cather Brockway
- Red Cloud

Related Materials: Researchers interested in this archive may also wish to consult the following:

- Betty Kort Collection
- Southwick Collection

BOX 1

- PHO-62-001 Photo of Roscoe and Douglass Cather, taken by J.A. Bulkley, photographer, Red Cloud undated
- PHO-62-002 Photo of Jessica Cather Auld, undated
- PHO-62-003 Photo of Charles, Willa, Virginia, and Douglass Cather, undated
- PHO-62-004 Photo of Elsie Cather, undated, Anderson Studio, Lincoln, NE
- OBJ-62-005 Sketch of Roscoe Cather
- OBJ-62-005A Handwritten note, included with sketch, from Earl E. Hanway, Casper WY, April 11, 1938
- PHO-62-006 Photo, Red Cloud High School Commencement, Class of 1893
Roscoe Cather front row middle
- PHO-62-007 Photo of Roscoe Cather, teacher, Webster County Country School, 1894
- PHO-62-008 Photo of Roscoe Cather, teacher, 8th grade class, South Ward School, Red Cloud, NE, 1897, back row with bow tie (tallest)
- TX-62-009 Newspaper clippings; District Judge Robert Schaper presiding over bond hearing; relative of Meta
- TX-62-010 In Memoriam, Robert H. Schaper
- TX-62-010A Newspaper clipping, Robert H. Schaper being sworn in to office, undated
- OBJ-62-011 Certificate, State Teachers, University of Nebraska, Meta Elizabeth Schaper, October 8, 1906
- OBJ-62-012 Commencement exercises program, Roscoe Cather, May 31, 1895
- PHO-62-013
A – I Photos: Garber Bank Building; Childhood Home; Second Cather Home; Meta Cather & Carrie Miner Sherwood; Carrie Sherwood, Jennie Reiher, Margaret Cather, Mildred Bennett, Meta Cather; 4 photos of unknown people in Central City, Colorado?
- PHO-62-014 Handwritten note from Meta Cather transmitting photo of Roscoe taken before leaving Virginia; photo thought to be Roscoe
- OBJ-62-015 Envelope addressed to Mrs. John Brockway (Virginia, Roscoe's daughter) dated 1965, from Mrs. R.C. Cather (Meta). Handwritten note, picture of Elsie Cather and engagement announcement of Meta's grandson's engagement (Richard Stoll Shannon)
- PHO-62-015 Photo of Elsie Cather, enclosed in note
- PHO-62-016 Photo of Roscoe Cather
- PHO-62-017
A-C 3 photos, one of Roscoe's daughters, undated. Taken in Lander, WY
Thought to be Virginia Cather (Brockway)

- PHO-62-018 Photo of Charles Cather
- PHO-62-019 Photos of Mary Virginia Cather with 2 granddaughters
- PHO-62-020 Photo, Havelock, Nebraska basketball team 1903; one of the girls is Meta Schaper
- PHO-62-021 Photo of unknown woman
- PHO-62-022 Photo of group of unknown women
- OBJ-62-023 Diploma, Bachelor of Arts, University of Nebraska, Meta Elizabeth Schaper, June 11, 1903
- OBJ-62-024 Diploma, Red Cloud High School, Roscoe C. Cather, May 31, 1895
- OBJ-62-025 Card & Envelope, First Day of Issue, Willa Cather Stamp, September 20, 1973, Red Cloud, NE; program of ceremonies, First Day of Issue
- OBJ-62-026 Newspaper, *Red Cloud Chief*, September 20, 1973. Article about Willa Cather 100th birthday commemorative stamp plus 3 copies of supplement to *Chief*
- TX-62-027 Obituary & death notice, R.C. Cather. Obit from Wyoming newspaper and death notice from Board of Directors of 1st Savings Bank of Colusa; numerous newspaper articles re: Roscoe Cather's death
- TX-62-028 Page out of Casper, Wyoming newspaper; May 30, 1926 – kept for unknown reasons
- TX-62-029 Six letters to Mrs. John Brockway (Virginia Cather, daughter of Roscoe) from attorneys and banks regarding the distribution of funds per Willa Cather's will. One letter to Edith Lewis from City Bank, 10/21/57 re: distribution amounts from Willa Cather's will
- OBJ-62-030 Newsletter WCPM, Summer 1987, 1 copy
- OBJ-62-031 Brown envelope containing various newsletter and newspaper clippings re: Willa Cather, Red Cloud buildings, book reviews, Little Red Schoolhouse postcards (4) and news article
- OBJ-62-032 Brochure, Central Trust Co., Lander Wyoming. R.C. Cather Sec-Mgr, undated
- OBJ-62-033 Brochure, Webster County Historical Museum, undated
- TX-62-034 Large brown envelope addressed to Mrs. John Brockway from Breed, Abbott & Morgan postmarked May 8, 1941 with note on outside dated 8/1/1980, containing:
- Last Will & Testament of Willa Sibert Cather dated April 29, 1943; 1 copy typewritten and one printed
 - Receipt and release of \$8,250 from Willa Cather's will distribution, undated
 - Summary of principal account – assets managed by City Bank Farmers Trust Co. belonging to Willa Cather, by Edith Lewis
 - Estate of Willa Cather, supplemental account for period 1/13/50 – 4/27/50 showing further distributions to Cather heirs
- TX-62-035 Transmittal note, accompanying Brockway Paper Collection, from Marsha Brockway, niece of Virginia (by marriage), daughter of Roscoe, brother of Willa Cather