

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Edward Killoran Brown Collection of Willa Cather

YCAL MSS 490



by Molly Wheeler

July 2011

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 490

CREATOR: Brown, E. K. (Edward Killoran), 1905-1951

TITLE: Edward Killoran Brown collection of Willa Cather

DATES: 1874-1953

BULK DATES: 1944-1953

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.89 linear feet (5 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection documents Edward Killoran Brown's research and writing of Willa Cather, *Willa Cather: A Critical Biography*. The collection contains correspondence, writings, and research notes.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.browncather>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.browncather>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Margaret Killoran, 1953.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Edward Killoran Brown Collection of Willa Cather is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Edward Killoran Brown Collection of Willa Cather. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

This collection includes materials previously identified by the following call number: Za Cather (Brown). Photocopies of catalog cards are filed in Box 1.

Contents of the file in Box 4 and 5 were removed and foldered.

Existence and Location of Copies

Microfilm service copies are available for: Series I. Correspondence (film number 1044).

Edward Killoran Brown (1905-1951)

Edward Killoran Brown, Canadian professor and literary critic. He published under the name E. K. Brown. Brown wrote several non-fiction books, including his posthumously published biography *Willa Cather: A Critical Biography* (1953). After Brown's death, Leon Edel, American literary critic and biographer, assisted in publishing the biography.

Willa Cather (1873-1847)

Willa Seibert Cather, American author. Her novels include *O Pioneers!*, *My Ántonia*, and *The Song of the Lark*. In 1923 she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *One of Ours*.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents Edward Killoran Brown's research and writing of the biography of American author Willa Cather, *Willa Cather: A Critical Biography*. The collection contains correspondence, writings, and research notes. Correspondence includes typescripts and copies of letters from Cather to various individuals, and letters to Brown from various individuals. The material was compiled by Brown in the course of his work on Cather.

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence, 1874-1950. II. Writings, 1947-1953.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1874-1950, undated

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

Letters from Willa Cather		
b.1	Brown, Edward Killoran	1937-1947
b.1	Gere family	1896-1905
b.1	Greenslet, Ferris Includes letter from Greenslet to Brown and note on the letter by Edel	1945 October 30
b.1	Hazlewood, Captain	1946 June 1
b.1	Jones, Will Owen	1896 January 15, undated
b.1	Southwick, Helen Louise (Cather) Extracts of letters	1939-1946
b.1	Typed copies of letters and extracts	1922-1941
Letters from Charles Cather		
b.1	Cather, Mr. and Mrs. George P. Regards Cather's birth. Includes notes by Edward Killoran Brown and Leon Edel on Cather's birth.	1874 January 22
Letters to Edward Killoran Brown From various individuals regarding Willa Cather		
b.1	A-P	1947-1950
b.1	R-Z	1947-1950

Series II: Writings, 1947-1953, undated

1.47 linear feet (4 boxes)

b.1	Loose leaf notebook containing Brown's manuscript notes, made during his travels 1947-1950 in Virginia and Nebraska, relating to Cather genealogy, together with notes on Willa Cather letters seen by him, and records of his interviews with Cather friends and relatives	
<i>Willa Cather: A Critical Biography</i>		
b.1	Setting typescript, corrected 2 Folders	undated
b.2	Setting typescript, corrected 2 Folders	undated
b.2	Carbon copy of setting typescript prepared by Leon Edel after Mr. Brown's death, indicating the portions written by Brown, and the insertions and alterations made by Edel 2 folders With a typed note on the text signed by Edel.	undated
b.2	Galley proofs 2 folders	1952 September
b.3	Galley proofs 6 Folders	1952 October 3-1953 January 1
b.4	Galley proofs 2 folders	1952-1953
b.4	File containing the roughly-typed chapters, with Brown's manuscript notes, miscellaneous manuscript records of his interviews with contemporaries of Willa Cather. 8 folders	circa 1944-1950
b.5	File containing the roughly-typed chapters, with Brown's manuscript notes, miscellaneous manuscript records of his interviews with contemporaries of Willa Cather. 7 folders	circa 1944-1950

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- United States

Occupations

Biographers -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Brown, E. K. (Edward Killoran), 1905-1951
Brown, E. K. (Edward Killoran), 1905-1951 (Willa Cather)
Cather, Willa, 1873-1947
Edel, Leon, 1907-1997