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
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/
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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

**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. Correspondence includes letters to Cather.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://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 http://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)

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 original letters to Cather 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

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters to Willa Cather</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Brown, Edward Killoran</td>
<td>1937–1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Cather, Mr. and Mrs. George P.</td>
<td>Regards Cather’s birth. Includes notes by Edward Killoran Brown and Leon Edel on Cather’s birth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Gere family</td>
<td>1896–1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Jones, Will Owen</td>
<td>1896 January 15, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Greenslet, Ferris</td>
<td>Includes letter from Greenslet to Brown and note on the letter by Edel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Hazlewood, Captain</td>
<td>1946 June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Southwick, Helen Louise (Cather)</td>
<td>Extracts of letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 Typed copies of letters and extracts</td>
<td>1922–1941</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letters to Edward Killoran Brown
From various individuals regarding Willa Cather

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 A-P</td>
<td>1947–1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1 R-Z</td>
<td>1947–1950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Series II. Writings

*1.47 linear feet (4 boxes)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b.1</td>
<td>Loose leaf notebook containing Brown's manuscript notes, made during his travels 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</td>
<td>1947–1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.1</td>
<td><em>Willa Cather: A Critical Biography</em> Setting typescript, corrected</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.2</td>
<td>Setting typescript, corrected</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.2</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.2</td>
<td>With a typed note on the text signed by Edel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.2</td>
<td>Galley proofs</td>
<td>1952 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.3</td>
<td>Galley proofs</td>
<td>1952 October 3–1953 January 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.4</td>
<td>Galley proofs</td>
<td>1952–1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.4</td>
<td>File containing the roughly-typed chapters, with Brown’s manuscript notes, miscellaneous manuscript records of his interviews with contemporaries of Willa Cather.</td>
<td>circa 1944–1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.5</td>
<td>File containing the roughly-typed chapters, with Brown’s manuscript notes, miscellaneous manuscript records of his interviews with contemporaries of Willa Cather.</td>
<td>circa 1944–1950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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