

# Guide to the Robert Sewall Browne and Alice Gray Browne Correspondence

WA MSS S-4422



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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-4422

**CREATOR:** Browne, Robert Sewall, 1866-1904

**TITLE:** Robert Sewall Browne and Alice Gray Browne correspondence

**DATES:** circa 1894-1951

**BULK DATES:** 1894-1908

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** Letters by or relating to Robert Sewall Browne and wife Alice Gray Browne, circa 1894-1908. Circa 170 letters document Robert Browne's efforts mining gold in Alaska and Yukon Territory--142 of these letters were exchanged between Robert Browne and Alice Gray Browne. 28 letters concern Robert Browne's death in Alaska. Included are 80 letters addressed to Alice Browne and son Carl Gray Browne.

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

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## 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.brownecorre>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Wayfarer's Bookshop on the William Robertson Coe Fund No. 3, 2018.

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Robert Sewall Browne and Alice Gray Browne Correspondence 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Robert Sewall Browne and Alice Gray Browne Correspondence. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Letters have been retained in the groupings prepared by dealer.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robert Sewall Browne (1866-1904) was married to Alice Gray Browne (1869-1965). Robert Browne mined gold in Alaska and Yukon Territory during the Klondike Gold Rush while Alice Browne remained in Old Town, Maine. He drowned in the Tanana River, a tributary of the Yukon River, in 1904. The couple had a son, Carl Gray Browne (1891-1972).

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## Scope and Contents

Letters by or relating to Robert Sewall Browne and wife Alice Gray Browne, circa 1894-1908. Circa 170 letters document Robert Browne's efforts mining gold in Alaska and Yukon Territory--142 of these letters were exchanged between Robert Browne and Alice Gray Browne. 28 letters concern Robert Browne's death in Alaska. Included are 80 letters exchanged between members of the Browne family.

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## Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-6	Browne family letters (6 folders)	1884-1908
b. 2, f. 7-16b. 3, f. 17-19	Browne, Robert Sewall to Alice Gray Browne (13 folders)	1894-1904
b. 3, f. 20-22	Letters related to Robert Sewall Browne's life on the West Coast and in Alaska (3 folders)	1902-1904
b. 3, f. 23-25	Browne, Alice to Robert Sewall Browne (3 folders)	1903-1904
b. 4, f. 26-29	Letters related to Robert Sewall Browne's death (4 folders)	1904-1906
b. 4, f. 30	Letter fragments	undated
b. 4, f. 31-32	Other papers (2 folders)	1901-1951, undated

## **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.

### **Occupations**

Gold miners -- Alaska  
Gold miners -- Yukon

### **Subjects**

Gold mines and mining -- Alaska  
Gold mines and mining -- Yukon  
Mines and mineral resources -- Alaska  
Mines and mineral resources -- Yukon  
Women -- Maine

### **Geographic Names**

Alaska -- Gold discoveries  
Yukon Territory -- Gold discoveries

### **Contributors**

Browne, Robert Sewall, 1866-1904  
Browne, Alice Gray, 1869-1965

### **Acquired From**

Wayfarer's Bookshop , bookseller