

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
Handley Regional Library & Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society
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John Blake Bergers Collection
Collection Number: 764 THL

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Processed by Buffy Knappenberger. Last updated January 2025.

EXTENT: 7 items.

CREATOR: Bergers, John Blake, 1931-2011

DATE: 1980-2000

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The John Blake Bergers Collection contains seven prints depicting scenes from novels by author Willa Cather. The originals, painted in oil, were part of a visual narratives series inspired by Cather's novels.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: John Blake Bergers was born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1931 and died in Lindsborg, Kansas in 2011. He was a professional artist who focused on painting historical and landscape scenes of the Midwest. He was particularly inspired by the depictions of landscapes in Willa Cather's novels.

Author Willa Cather (1873-1947) was born in Back Creek Valley, Frederick County, Virginia. Her family moved to Nebraska when she was nine years old. Her novels and short stories spanned numerous settings including the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Acquired as a purchase.

CONTAINER LIST:

FOLDER 1

*Items marked with an asterisk are on display in the Library building.

“On Lovely Creek” inspired by Willa Cather’s *One of Ours**

“Mahailey and the Dandelions” inspired by Willa Cather’s *One of Ours**

“Moonlit Roads” inspired by Willa Cather’s *Two Friends*.

“Painted Windows” inspired by Willa Cather’s *My Ántonia*

“Summer, Beautiful Summer” inspired by Willa Cather’s *The Song of the Lark**

“Out to the Gayhearts” inspired by Willa Cather’s *Lucy Gayheart*

“Beside the Red Brick Wall” inspired by Willa Cather’s *Two Friends*

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 26