

ROE FAMILY PAPERS

2004.21

Date Span: 1887-1968, Bulk dates: 1917-1923, 1964-1965

Collection of Roe Family Papers, one of the early Johnson County families. The papers primarily document the finances of the John Roe family.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Source: Vickie Charlesworth

Size: 0.5 linear foot

Access: Open

Processed by: Denise Hartley as part of the Internship Program at the Johnson County Museum of History; 2009

Supervising Archivists: Russ Czaplewski and Kathy Daniels

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Roe immigrated to the United States from Ireland in 1850, through the port of New Orleans. He married Rosanna Clarke in 1854 and had six children; Isabella, Charles, Katherine C., Margaret, Mary Ellen, and Thomas. Mary Ellen (M.E., Ellen Roe) Bryant married to Harley Bryant. She became administrator for Thomas Roe Estate.

- 1826 John Roe born in County Meath, Ireland¹
- 1830 ca. Rosanna Clarke born in Adams County, Illinois to Thomas Clarke
- 1850 John Roe immigrated to the U.S. through the port of New Orleans²
- 1854 John Roe married Rosanna Clarke³
- 1856 Isabella Roe born to John and Rosanna Roe in Shackelford, MO
(September 10)
- 1858 Mary Ellen Roe born to John and Rosanna Roe in Daviess County, MO⁴
- 1859 Thomas Roe born to Rosanna and John Roe in Shackelford, MO
(March 22)
- 1860 ca. Family moved from Daviess County to Saline County⁵
- 1861 Charles Roe born to John and Rosanna Roe⁶
- 1866 Katherine C. Roe born to John and Rosanna Roe in Saline County, MO
(March 21)
- 1866 John Roe moved family to Saline County, Missouri from Daviess County,
Missouri⁷

¹ Connelly, William Elsey. *The History of Kansas State and People: Kansas at the First Quarter Post of the Century*. The American Historical Society, 1928. p. 2096

² Ibid.

³ Federal census: Mission Township, Johnson County, KS; June 28, 1900.

⁴ Division of Health of Missouri Standard Certificate of Death; #33466

⁵ Obituary of Ellen Bryant states family moved while she was an infant; "Mrs. Ellen Roe Bryant" *Kansas CityTimes* October 8, 1951

⁶

⁷ Connelly.

- 1869 Margaret Roe born to John and Rosanna Roe in Saline County, MO (January 1)⁸
- 1880 John Roe established cattle business in Saline County, Missouri⁹
- 1883-1884 John Roe purchased about 270 acres of land in Johnson County.¹⁰
Purchased part of the Shawnee Mission from Alexander Johnson¹¹
- 1889 John Roe became a resident of Kansas¹²
- 1890 John Roe moved to Johnson County from Saline County, MO. and built up landholdings of about 1600 acres in Johnson County. The land was bounded in the south by 64th St., on the west by Nall Avenue, on the east by Mission Road, and on the north by Johnson County line¹³
- 1891 John Roe built the Roe house. It took a year and a half, had 16-rooms and two-stories. It became home to John Roe, his immediate family, and some extended family (October)¹⁴
- 1893 Rosanna Roe died¹⁵
- 1895 John Roe granted an easement to William Strang to build railroads across the northern part of his farm¹⁶
- 1908-1911 Margaret Roe held an executive position at Spiegel & Co. in Chicago¹⁷
- 1916 Margaret Roe returned to the family home for health reasons¹⁸
- 1920 John Roe died¹⁹
- 1921 Thomas Roe died (March 27)²⁰
- 1926 Mary Ellen Bryant, Margaret Roe, and Isabel Roe deeded 33 acres of land to Notre Dame de Sion between Roe Boulevard and Shawnee Mission²¹
- 1928 U. S. Supreme Court affirmed district court ruling regarding price to be paid Katherine Roe for lands condemned by State of Kansas²²
- 1935 Plat of “Bryantwood” filed for new subdivision in Fairway²³
- 1937 Charles E. Vawter obtained 280 acres of Roe family land to build subdivisions²⁴
- 1938 Charles Roe died in Kansas City, MO.²⁵

⁸ obituary “Miss Margaret Roe, 90” undated newspaper clipping

⁹ Album Vol. 16, No. 1, Winter 2003. <http://www.jocohistory.net/places/architecture/16no1roe.asp>

¹⁰ Album.

¹¹ Connelly.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ “One of the first settlers, cattleman brings change.” The Sun Newspapers. August 21, 1992. p. 8G; obituary of Ellen Roe Bryant states the family settled in Johnson County in March 1890 [“Mrs. Ellen Roe Bryant” *Kansas CityTimes* October 8, 1951]

¹⁴ Album.

¹⁵ Connelly.

¹⁶ <http://www.roelandpark.org/History/RoelingThruTheYearsBook-Chapter1.pdf>

¹⁷ obituary “Miss Margaret Roe, 90” undated newspaper clipping

¹⁸ “One of the first settlers, cattleman brings change.” The Sun Newspapers. August 21, 1992. p. 8G

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Olathe Mirror. June 10, 1926. p. D4

²² “Thirty Years Ago” undated newspaper clipping referring to March 1928 ruling

²³ Bryantwood [Plat Record vol. 8, p. 21; scan of plat available in website search: <https://ims.jocogov.org/plats/>]

²⁴ Suburban News. May 27, 1937.

²⁵ “One of the first settlers, cattleman brings change.” The Sun Newspapers. August 21, 1992. p. 8G

- 1951 Mary Ellen Bryant died (October 7)²⁶
 1952 Katherine C. Roe died (July 12)
 1955 Isabella and Margaret Roe were presented the awards of the “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice,” the highest honor given to laymen, by Pope Pius XII (February 12)²⁷
 1957 4-acre family property, including Roe house, sold to Jones Store for \$100,000²⁸
 1958 Isabella and Margaret Roe left Roe house and moved to a home at 3608 West 53rd Street²⁹
 1958 Roe house razed for development³⁰
 1959 Margaret Roe died at age 90 (December 2)³¹; burial Shackleford, MO
 1961 Isabella Roe given special Mass at her home (September 11)³²
 1962 Isabella died in at 106 (December 8)³³

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Roe family papers primarily document the finances of the John Roe family. The largest series in the collection is the Thomas Roe papers which contain information on the finances and property of Thomas Roe. Smaller series include materials relating to the finances, property, and some personal papers of the other Roe family members. The majority of the materials relate to financial transactions and property held in Missouri—only a small fraction is associated with Johnson County.

Items in this collection were originally kept in a metal file box and were bought by Vicki Charlesworth from an estate sale. It is assumed that documents in box belonged to Ellen Roe MacKenzie. Ellen Roe MacKenzie lived at 5618 Maple Street, Mission. She was the niece of the Roe family and married Edward MacKenzie.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Files for family members include financial information, letters, receipts, and property documents

- Box 1 ROE FAMILY GENERAL
 Contains items belonging to Katherine, Charles, Isabella, and Margaret Roe and items assumed to belong to the Roe family. Most of the papers

²⁶ Division of Health of Missouri Standard Certificate of Death; #33466

²⁷ “Pope Medals to Sisters” Kansas City Star February 13, 1955

²⁸ “Roe Home Is Sold to Jones Store Co.” Kansas City Times July 8, 1957

²⁹ Album; taken in part from “Roe Sisters in Shift from Historic Mansion” undated newspaper clipping

³⁰ “A Johnson County Landmark Disappears” Kansas City Star July 14, 1958; contains photograph of partially demolished house

³¹ Album; taken in part from obituary “Miss Margaret Roe, 90” undated newspaper clipping

³² The Kansas City Star. September 11, 1961.

³³ Album.

are of a financial nature; bank documents, checkbooks, letters, tax documents

JOHN ROE

General and financial papers; bills, receipts, bank documents, contracts

THOMAS ROE

General and financial papers; bank documents, bills, receipts, and property documents

MARY ELLEN BRYANT

Financial papers; bank documents and bills

ELLEN ROE MACKENZIE

General and financial papers; Receipts, mail, bank documents, bills, tax documents

FOLDER TITLE LIST

ROE FAMILY GENERAL, 1892-1953 (bulk dates: 1943-1953)

1892-1953

Financial Papers; 1913-1923

JOHN ROE, 1887-1919 (bulk dates: 1916-1917)

1887-1918

Financial Papers; 1895-1919

THOMAS ROE, 1917-1923 (bulk dates: 1918-1921)

1919-1920

Financial Papers; 1918-1921

Financial Papers; 1917-1923

Financial Papers; Property; 1918-1923

Financial Papers; Receipts; 1919-1920

MARY ELLEN BRYANT, 1921-1934 (bulk dates: 1923-1924)

1921-1934

ELLEN ROE MACKENZIE, 1956-1968 (bulk dates: 1964-1965)

1964-1965

Financial Papers; 1949-1968

PHOTO FILE

1 Portrait of Margaret Roe and unknown woman, circa 1950

ITEM LEVEL INVENTORY

Roe Family; 1892-1953

Charles (Chas.) A. Roe

192?- Property tax receipt

Isabella Roe

1947- Property tax receipt

Katherine C. Roe

1892, 1921: 2 Letters

Union National Bank of KCMO

1948: 2 Checks

1919, 1943, 1944: 5 Receipts

Margaret Roe

Union National Bank of KCMO

1921, 1952: 2 Checks

1952- 1953: 1 Account Balance

Other: 1921 Letter

Other:

1918: Property Tax bill

1919: Letter from Charles W. Neal cousin
Receipt

Financial Papers; 1913-1923

3 checkbooks; 1913, 1915, 1917

14 bank related items; 1915-1920

2 receipts

5 letters; 1920-1921

3 page financial notes- 1 on the back of part of Woodrow Wilson WWI propaganda poster

John Roe; 1887-1918

1887: Postcard to John Roe

1910, 1918: 2 Receipts

1916: Court Summons

1917: Unopened Telephone Bill

John Roe, Financial Papers; 1895-1919

Western Exchange Bank of KCMO

1903-1917: 4 Checks

1917: 3 Account Balances

1917: 2 Deposit Slips

Bank of Mt. Leonard

1916-1919: Check Book

Other:

1895: Promissory Note

1906, 1917: 2 Receipts

1913: Contract with Amos F. Cossairt
1916: Property papers

Thomas Roe; 1919-1920

Letters:

1919, February 22: Advertisement from Bowles Livestock Commission
1920, June 22: Advertisement from Bunting Hardware Co. in KCMO

Other:

Auction poster; Thomas Roe estate

Thomas Roe, Financial Papers; 1918-1921

Bank of Marshall:

1918, March- February 2, 1921: 76 Checks
1920: 3 deposit slips, bill

Bank of Mt. Leonard:

1918, September 21- April 2, 1920; 33 Checks
1921, March 18: Liberty Bond credits

Midwest National Bank:

1919, September 2-September: 2 Checks

Farmers Savings Bank:

1918-1919; 5 Checks

Thomas Roe, Financial Papers; 1917-1923

Commerce Trust Company:

1917, November 1: Check
1918, November 30: Commerce Trust Company, Account Statement
1921, January 27: Commerce Trust Company, Mortgage Record, JoCo
1923, July 26: Commerce Trust Company loan papers
1923, September 9: Commerce Trust Company, Mortgage Record, JoCo

Federal Bank of St. Louis

1921, June: bill
1922, May 27: loan statement

1919, June 20: War Risk insurance receipt

1921, November 18: Promissory Note to Pratt and Thompson Investment Company of
KCMO

Thomas Roe Financial Papers; Property; 1918-1923

Jackson County, MO

1918: Jackson County, MO. Property Tax receipt
1923: Letter from Office of the City Treasurer, KCMO, regarding past due
property taxes

Saline County, MO

1918: Marshall, MO Property Tax receipt
1919, December 27: Saline County, MO Property Tax receipt
1919, March 17: Lease of property in Saline County by Thomas Roe
1919, November 15: Lease of property in Saline County by Thomas Roe

1920, April 1: Check to Saline County
Johnson County, KS
1921, March 1: Lease of farm property in JoCo
1921, March: Lease of farm property in JoCo
1921, April 12: Lease of farm property in JoCo
1921, March 12: Letter of appointment for 8 acres in MO
Letter from Thomas to Mr. Young regarding land sale

Thomas Roe, Financial Papers; Receipts; 1919-1920

1919: Oil and Gas lease
1919, January 8: Westport Contracting Co.
1920, August: Subscription to the Kansas City Star
1920, Missouri Automobile Certificate
Kansas City Saddlery Company

Mary Ellen (M.E., Ellen Roe) Bryant; 1921-1934

Commerce Trust Company of KCMO
1922: Mortgage Notice
Co-Operative Association of Shackleford, MO
1924-1925: 2 Receipts/ 1 Letter
Farmers Savings Bank
1924, March 11: Letter to M.E. Bryant from D.H. Lemen
Federal Land Bank of St. Louis:
Letters:
1923, June 14: Letter to M.E. Bryant
1923, December 14: To M.E. Bryant
First National Bank of Olathe
1921, November 2: Letter from M.E. Bryant
1923-1924: 2 Receipts
Western Exchange Bank of KCMO; 1921-1923
4 Account Balances
8 Checks
4 Deposit Slips
Overland Park State Bank
1921, November: Check
1921: Receipt
1922: Account Balance
Union National Bank of KCMO; 1933-1934
6 Checks
1 Account Balance
Other:
1924, 1927: 2 Saline County Property Tax Bill
Receipt undated
2 Envelopes

MacKenzie, Ellen Roe; 1964-1965

1964-1965: 6 Prescription Receipts
1965: Prescription bags
1965: Television receipt
Letter from the Jones Store Co.
Memorial card; for Mary E. Burke (died 1947)
4 envelopes
3 St. Luke's Hospital Menus

MacKenzie, Ellen Roe, Financial Papers; 1949-1968

Bills:

 1965: KCKS Stone Court Animal Hospital
 1965: KCMO Dickson-Diveley Clinic
 1965: The Sherwin William Company
 1965: St. Luke's Hospital
Centennial State Bank of Mission, KS
 1968: 6 Saving Withdrawal slips
Columbia National Bank of KCMO
 1957: 2 Account Statements
 1956-1958: 24 Checks
Roeland Park State Bank
 1968: 1 Account Statement
 1965: Overdraft
 1965: 3 Checks
 1965: 1 Stop payment
 Checkbook
R.B. Smith Finance and Investment Company
 1964: Receipt
1949: Promissory Note to Greenlease Motor Car Co., Lease
1965: Warrant for property taxes
1966: Book of the month club bill

2004.021.001 Photograph

Portrait of Margaret Roe and unknown woman