BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Born in 1912, Sarah L. Rowe graduated from Dickinson College in 1934. Throughout her life she held teaching jobs at various schools, instructing primarily in English. She taught at Taylor School in Philadelphia, a high school in Paoli, and was professor at West Chester State College until 1977. One of her earliest jobs was a position with the Philadelphia Association for Retarded Children. It was through this job that she came to love and admire the work and person of writer Pearl S. Buck, who spoke on a number of occasions for the association. Upon Buck’s invitation in 1952, Rowe went to live with Buck and her husband. Pearl wanted a talkative companion, and she was also very interested in helping Sarah with her writing. This arrangement lasted two years. In 1958, Buck appears to have ended her relationship with Rowe, though the circumstances surrounding this break are unclear. Rowe continued to teach and to write short stories and poems throughout the remainder of her life. In 1970 her collection of short children’s poems, entitled *Jungle Jingles*, was published. It appears to have been a great hope of Sarah’s to write a biography of Pearl S. Buck, but this was never fully accomplished. Sarah L. Rowe died Oct. 3, 1992.

Pearl Sydenstricker, born in 1892 in West Virginia, was raised in China, the child of Presbyterian American missionaries. She returned to America to attend Randolph Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, VA, graduating in 1914. In 1917, she married John Buck. Though she later divorced Buck and married Robert Walsh, she continued to keep her first married name professionally. Pearl S. Buck wrote numerous books, mostly works of fiction. (She also published a few works under the pseudonym John Sedges.) Her love for China and the compassion she felt for people was evident in her works. *The Good Earth* is her most famous novel, winning the Pulitzer Prize in 1932. In 1938, she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Following World War II, she established the Pearl S. Buck Foundation, an adoption agency to aid the illegitimate Asian children of U. S. soldiers. Pearl S. Buck died in 1973.
COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Sarah L. Rowe Collection is composed of books authored by Pearl S. Buck, as well as correspondence. This collection was acquired through a bequest of Sarah Rowe. The books are individually cataloged and accessible through the online library catalog; a list of these books is also included as an appendix at the end of this collection register. A number of these books have been signed by Pearl Buck, and some include marginal notes penned by Sarah Rowe.

The correspondence are housed in one document box and are arranged into categories for Sarah Rowe and Pearl Buck based on authorship or receipt. Within these two categories, the correspondence are identified as “letters sent” and “letters received,” and then arranged chronologically. A portion of the correspondence are indicative of the friendship between Rowe and Buck in the 1950s. Their letters involve discussion of writing, vocation, the Philadelphia Association for Retarded Children, and visiting plans. Also included in the collection are numerous letters from Rowe to other friends and acquaintances. In these, Sarah often discusses Pearl S. Buck and their friendship. A great deal of the later correspondence has to do with research that Rowe was involved in while preparing her biography of Pearl S. Buck, a work which was never completed.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2000.4

CORRESPONDENCE

Buck, Pearl S.

Folder 01) Letters Sent
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Aug. 11, 1954
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Sep. 27, 1954
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Sep. 27, 1954
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - May 2, 1955
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Aug. 1956
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Apr. 18, 1957
  Letter to Brentano’s Inc. - June 21, 1957
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - July 6, 1958
  Telegram to Sarah Rowe - July 7, 1958
  Letter to Dr. Arthur H. Compton - July [12], 1958
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - July 30, 1958
  Letter to Sarah Rowe - Aug. 22, 1958
  Letter (Welcome House) to Mrs. Shilcock - May 28, 1959
  Letter (Welcome House) to Mrs. Shilcock - June 15, 1960

Folder 02) Letters Received
  Letter from Grace S. Yaukey - Apr. 27, 1957
  Letter from R. M. O’Clair (Harvard University) - May 3, 1957
  Letter from Carmen Phillips - Aug. 16, 1957
  Letter from Gertrude Macy - Nov. 8, 1957
  Letter from Dr. Arthur H. Compton - May 13, 1958
CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

Rowe, Sarah L.

Folder 03) Letters Sent

- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 17, 1953
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Apr. 7, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Apr. 14, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Apr. 29, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - May 7, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - May 28, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 3, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 16, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 16, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 18, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 24, 1954
- Letter to Clark’s Flower Shop - June 24, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 14, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 24, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 26, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 19, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 26, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 28, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Oct. 22, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Nov. 3, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 20, 1954
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 30, 1954

Folder 04) Letters Sent

- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Jan. 13, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Jan. 22, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 2, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 8, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 14, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 18, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 25, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Mar. 4, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Mar. 29, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Apr. 5, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Apr. 30, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 6, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 1, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 18, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck – July 20, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 27, 1955
- Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 8, 1955
- Letter to the John Day Co. - Aug. 8, 1955
- Letter to Dr. Walter Jacob (Vineland Training School) - Aug. 10, 1955
- Letter to Dr. Walter Jacob (Vineland Training School) - Aug. 12, 1955
BOX 1 - MC 2000.4 (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 04) Letters Sent (cont.)
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 14, 1955
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Oct. 24, 1955
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 1, 1955
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 13, 1955
Letter to Mrs. Eltz - Dec. 27, 1955
Letter to Florence - Dec. 27, 1955
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Dec. 31, 1955

Folder 05) Letters Sent
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Jan. 4, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 2, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Mar. 21, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - May 16, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - May 20, 1955
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - May 27, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 25, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 27, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 29, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 29, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 2, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 6, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 9, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 13, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 20, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Aug. 29, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 10, 1956
Letter to Ann Roberts - Sep. 13, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Sep. 23, 1956
Letter to Mr. Ralph H. Rice (Prudential Insurance Co.) - Sept. 25, 1956
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Oct. 8, 1956
Letter to Ann Roberts - Oct. 17, 1956
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Oct. 21, 1956
Letter to Mr. Griffin Hammer - Dec. 21, 1956

Folder 06) Letters Sent
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Jan. 7, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Jan. 17, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Feb. 3, 1957
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Feb. 4, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Mar. 10, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Mar. 22, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Apr. 16, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Apr. 19, 1957
BOX 1 - MC 2000.4 (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 06) Letters Sent (cont.)
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - June 28, 1957
Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Dudbridge - July 18, 1957
Letter to Sally - July 19, 1957
Letter to Pearlman’s Music Store - July 20, 1957
Letter to Elsie - July 27, 1957
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - July 30, 1957
Letter to Elsie – Aug. 1, 1957
Letter to Elsie - Summer 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Aug. 13, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Sep. 15, 1957
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Apr. 23, 1958
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - May 21, 1958
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - June 5, 1958
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - June 26, 1958
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Sep. 3, 1958
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Sep. 11, 1958
Letter to Mary McClintic Hench - Sep. 27, 1958
Letter to Pearl S. Buck - Oct. 28, 1958
Folder 07) Letters Sent
Letter to “Friends” (Hench’s?) - Jan. 12, 1975
Letter to Dr. David McKenty (West Chester State College) - June 2, 1975
Letter to National Broadcasting Co. - Oct. 27, 1975
Letter to Dramatists Play Service - Oct. 28, 1975
Letter to Vera Mayer (National Broadcasting Co.) - Jan. 22, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Feb. 3, 1976
Letter to John Martin (Library of Congress) - Feb. 11, 1976
Letter to Randolph Macon College - Feb. 11, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Feb. 24, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 17, 1976
Letter to Patricia Powell (Harold Ober Assoc.) - Mar. 22, 1976
Letter to Mrs. Howard Meadows - Mar. 22, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 23, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - June 16, 1976
Letter to Grace S. Yaukey - June 18, 1976
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - June 21, 1976
Letter to Pete Wallace (West Virginia Hillbilly) - July 5, 1976
Letter to Miss Heffert - Aug. 12, 1976
Letter to Betsy Edgar - Aug. 16, 1976
Letter to Mrs. Kenneth B. Welliver - Aug. 27, 1976
Letter to Mrs. Thomas Edgar - Aug. 27, 1976
Letter to Nora Sterling - Nov. 22, 1976
CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 08) Letters Sent
Letter to Registrar, Washington and Lee Univ. - Nov. 22, 1976
Letter to Royal Swedish Information Service - Jan. 5, 1977
Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Hench - Jan. 6, 1977
Letter to George Hench - Jan. 19, 1977
Letter to Stella Kayoko Honguchi - Jan. 31, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Feb. 10, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 10, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 28, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Apr. 21, 1977
Letter to Mrs. Stirling - April 21, 1977
Letter to Mrs. Elizabeth Luce Moore - April 25, 1977
Letter to Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia - June 4, 1977
Letter to Doris Howell - Aug. 29, 1977
Letter to Jane Meadows - Sep. 4, 1977
Letter to Mae Hall - Sep. 5, 1977
Letter to Dr. Ashley Montague - Sep. 5, 1977
Letter to Mrs. Pauline Johnson - Sep. 1977
Letter to West Virginia Medical Society - Sep. 28, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Oct. 3, 1977
Letter to P. S. Buck Birthplace - Oct. 25, 1977
Letter to Dr. Louise McNeill - Oct. 25, 1977
Letter to Mrs. Ewers - Oct. 23, 1979
Letter to Bob - June 28, 1980
Letter to Pepper O'Brian (NEA) - July 22, 1980
Letter to Mr. Mosel - Jan. 26, 1982
Folder 09) Letters Received
Letter from Welcome House - May 4, 1955
Letter from Helen Shaddinger - July 21, 1955
Letter from Walter Jacob (Vineland Training School) - Aug. 9, 1955
Letter from Walter Jacob (Vineland Training School) - Aug. 15, 1955
Letter from Mary Hench - Dec. 9, 1956
Letter from John Henry - Dec. 30, 1956
Letter from Helen Shaddinger - Nov. 17, 1958
Letter from Anne Wood - Jan. 10, 1973
Letter from Helen Shaddinger - Mar. 22, 1973
Letter from Helen Shaddinger - Feb. 13, 1974
Letter from Muriel Mead (National Broadcasting Co.) - Dec. 30, 1975
CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 09) Letters Received (cont.)
  Letter from Vera Mayer (National Broadcasting Co.) - Jan. 27, 1976
  Letter from John Martin (Library of Congress) - Feb. 3, 1976
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Feb. 16, 1976
  Letter from Laura Bliss (Randolph Macon Woman’s College) - Feb. 24, 1976
  Letter from Louise McNeill - Mar. 3, 1976
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 5, 1976
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 16, 1976
  Letter from Patricia Powell (Harold Ober Assoc.) - Mar. 19, 1976
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - May 23, 1976
  Letter from West Virginia *Hillbilly* - June 17, 1976
  Letter from Grace Yaukey - July 6, 1976
  Letter from Grace Yaukey - July 24, 1976
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Aug. 8, 1976
  Letter from Betsy Edgar - Aug. 19, 1976
  Letter from Nora Stirling - Nov. 15, 1976
  Letter from Registrar, Washington and Lee Univ. - Nov. 16, 1976
  Letter from Swedish Consulate General - Nov. 29, 1976
  Letter from Helen Shaddinger - Dec. 29, 1976
Folder 10) Letters Received
  Letter from George O. Hench - Jan. 15, 1977
  Letter from Stella Kayoko Honguchi - Feb. 10, 1977
  Letter from Stella Kayoko Honguchi - Feb. 13, 1977
  Letter from Susan Hefner (P. S. Buck Birthplace) - Feb. 22, 1977
  Letter from David Hyer (P. S. Buck Birthplace) - Feb. 22, 1977
  Letter from David Hyer (P. S. Buck Birthplace) - Mar. 7, 1977
  Letter from David Hyer (P. S. Buck Birthplace) - Mar. 31, 1977
  Letter from Nora Stirling - Apr. 2, 1977
  Letter from Ruth Bowis - Apr. 7, 1977
  Letter from Mary Nehlig - Apr. 14, 1977
  Letter from Vera Mayer - May 2, 1977
  Letter from Maurice T. Moore - May 4, 1977
  Letter from United Board of Christian Higher Education in Asia
    - May 24, 1977
  Letter from Betsy Edgar - June 1, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - June 13, 1977
  Letter from Unknown - July 16, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - July 19, 1977
  Letter from Stella Kayoko Honguchi - Aug. 25, 1977
  Letter from Vera Mayer - Sept. 1, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Sept. 7, 1977
  Letter from Mae Hall - Sept. 22, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Sept. 29, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Oct. 18, 1977
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Dec. 14, 1977
CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 11) Letters Received
  Letter from Nora Stirling - Jan. 6, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Jan. 19, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Feb. 22, 1978
  Letter from Pauline Johnson - Feb. 27, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Mar. 10, 1978
  Letter from Alice Moore - Mar. 14, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Apr. 10, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Apr. 17, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Apr. 17, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Apr. 18, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - May, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - May 28, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - June 9, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - June 20, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - July 13, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - July 19, 1978
  Letter from Dorothy Lowe - July 23, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - July 23, 1978
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Aug. 7, 1978
  Letter from Betsy Edgar - Aug. 12, 1978
  Letter from Dorothy Lowe (with enclosure) - Oct. 28, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Nov. 4, 1978
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Dec. 10, 1978
Folder 12) Letters Received
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Apr. 2, 1979
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - June 21, 1979
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - July 12, 1979
  Letter from United Presbyterian Church Program Agency - Sep. 26, 1979
  Letter from United Presbyterian Church Program Agency - Oct. 4, 1979
  Letter from Ruth Ewers - Oct. 9, 1979
  Letter from Ruth Spangler (with enclosure) - Oct. 15, 1979
  Letter from Ruth Ewers - Nov. 5, 1979
  Letter from Ruth Spangler - Nov. 18, 1979
  Letter from Ruth Ewers - Dec. 7, 1979
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Jan. 1980
  Letter from Doris M. Coyne - May 8, 1980
  Letter from P. S. Buck Foundation - Apr. 10, 1981
  Letter from Jane Cohen - May 8, 1981
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Summer, 1981
CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)
Rowe, Sarah L. (cont.)
Folder 12) Letters Received (cont.)
  Letter from Harriet - Aug. 15, 1981
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Aug. 20, 1981
  Letter from Harriet - Aug. 31, 1981
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Jan. 31, 1982
  Letter from Betsy Edgar (with enclosure) - Nov. 2, 1982
  Letter from Jane Cohen - Dec. 17, 1982
  Letter from Dorothy Lowe (P. S. Buck Foundation) - Oct. 11, 1983
  Letter from Tad Mosel - Oct. 12, 1983
  Letter from Ed and Priscilla P. - Mar. 2, 1984
  Letter from P. S. Buck Birthplace - Aug. 3, 1984
  Letter from Dorothy Lowe (P. S. Buck Foundation) - Dec. 1, 1984
  Letter from Betsy Edgar - Dec. 24, 1984
  Letter from Grace Sum (P. S. Buck Foundation) - Sep. 1, 1992

This collection register was prepared by Amy McKinzie, May 2000.
APPENDIX – Bibliography of Books by Pearl S. Buck in Sarah L. Rowe Collection

The following is a list of the books which formed a part of the bequest of Sarah L. Rowe to Dickinson College. The bibliographic entry for each book is followed by the call number indicating the physical location of the book within Special Collections, as well as a note for those cases in which the book has been signed by the author.

Buck, Pearl S. *All Men Are Brothers*. (2 vols.) New York: John Day Co., 1933. 
[SC-Rowe 895.13 S562sT2]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922a]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922am] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922an]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922b]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922bi]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922B3]

[SC-Rowe 362.33 B922B]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922ch]

[SC-Rowe 951 B922c]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922chi]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922c] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922co]


Buck, Pearl S. *East Wind, West Wind*. New York: John Day Co., 1930. [SC-Rowe 813 B922e]

Buck, Pearl S. *The Exile: Portrait of an American Mother*. New York: John Day Co., 1936. [SC-Rowe 920 S982B] [2 copies, 1 signed]

Buck, Pearl S. *Fighting Angel*. New York: John Day Co., 1936. [SC-Rowe 920 S9821B] [signed copy]


Buck, Pearl S. *The Good Earth*. New York: Pocket Books, 1931. [SC-Rowe 813 B922go] [signed copy]


Buck, Pearl S. *Imperial Woman*. New York: John Day Co., 1956. [SC-Rowe 813 B922i] [signed copy]


Buck, Pearl S. *Kinfolk*. New York: Pocket Books, 1948. [SC-Rowe 813 B922k] [signed copy]

Buck, Pearl S. *Letter From Peking*. New York: John Day Co., 1957. [SC-Rowe 813 B922l] [signed copy]
[SC-Rowe 813 B922lon]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922lo]

[SC-Rowe 951.041 S957B] [2 copies]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922ma]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922my] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922b] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 173 B922] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922once]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922on]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922o]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922p]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922pa]

Buck, Pearl S. *Pearl Buck's America*. Bartholomew House Ltd., 1971.  
[SC-Rowe 917.3 B922p]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922pe]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922po] [signed copy]

[SC-Rowe 813 B922r]
[SC-Rowe 813 B922sa]  

[SC-Rowe 813 B922st]  

[SC-Rowe 220.95 B922s]  

[SC-Rowe 813 B922th]  

[SC-Rowe 811 B922w]  

[SC-Rowe 813 B922y] [signed copy]