

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Trout, Ruth (1914-2004)** **MC 2005.1**

Material: Family Papers (1860-2003)

Volume: 2.75 linear feet (Document boxes 1-5, 1 Artifact box, 6 Oversized folders, 64 Photograph folders, and 2 Oversized photograph folders)

Donation: Gift of the Ruth Trout Estate, 2005

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Ruth Agnes Trout was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on May 25, 1914 to Brook and Mary Agnes Cook Trout. Her father was a partner with Johnston, Keffer & Trout, a Harrisburg area paper distributor, and her mother was a teacher. She had an older sister, Helen Elizabeth Trout, born on August 30, 1912.

Ruth Trout graduated from William Penn High School in Harrisburg in 1932. She enrolled at Wilson College, her sister's alma mater, and then transferred to Dickinson College in the fall of 1933, where she joined Pi Beta Phi and graduated with the class of 1936.

After college, Trout worked as a teacher and librarian within the Harrisburg School District. She held several offices as a member of the Harrisburg-Carlisle Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club and was a cofounder of the Harrisburg City Panhellenic Council. Trout was also a member of the American Association of University Women Board, the Civic Club of Harrisburg, the Cumberland County Historical Society, the Cumberland Crossings Auxiliary, the Dickinson College Friends of the Library, the Friends of the State Museum, Lakeside Lutheran Church, and the Mary Dickinson Club.

In 1983, Trout and her sister, Helen, established the Trout Gallery at Dickinson College in honor of their parents. Trout was also a charter member of the board of advisors for the Friends of the Trout Gallery and regularly attended exhibit openings.

Trout died on Friday, November 19, 2004 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Ruth Trout collection is housed in five document boxes, one artifact box, six oversized folders, 64 photograph folders, and two oversized photograph folders. It has been organized into four series: Dickinson College, Family, Photographs, and Artifacts. The collection documents Trout's

interactions with the college, particularly her role in establishing the Trout Gallery. It also includes records of her family's history back to approximately the Civil War period. The collection was donated by Trout's estate in 2005.

The Dickinson College series contains materials that date from 1933 to 2003 and document Trout's relationship with the college, primarily as an alumna. The materials in this series have been broken down further according to the following campus offices or organizations: Gift Office, Campus Events, Pi Beta Phi, President's Office, Trout Gallery, and Miscellaneous. Items filed under each campus office or organization are arranged in alphabetical order according to activity and then in chronological order. The number of letters in each correspondence file is indicated in parenthesis. The majority of the materials in this series consist of correspondence with college officials and financial documents related to Trout's monetary contributions to the college and her role in establishing and supporting the Trout Gallery. It includes publicity materials from the gallery's dedication, as well as a scrapbook of photographs and news clippings from the period of the gallery's opening that was created for Trout and her sister, Helen. This series also includes correspondence and programs from Trout's college reunions, Pi Beta Phi membership materials, and membership certificates from the Dickinson College Alumni Association and the Mary Dickinson Club.

The Family series is organized according to the following categories: Correspondence, Funerals and Weddings, Legal and Financial, and Miscellaneous. Correspondence includes letters exchanged between members of the Brindle, Cook, Dale(s), McCall, Ritter, Stringer, and Trout families. The letters date from 1863 to 2000, with the majority consisting of letters sent to or from Trout, her sister, and her parents between 1930 and 1970. Much of Trout's correspondence contains accounts of her travel and camp experiences as a young woman, while the majority of the other correspondents address family matters. These letters are organized alphabetically according to the last name (maiden name for women) of the family member who sent or received them and then arranged in chronological order. For folders containing more than one letter, the number of letters is listed in parenthesis.

The Funeral and Weddings category contains obituaries, sympathy cards, and funeral service materials for all members of Trout's immediate family and a number of other relatives. It also contains a marriage certificate and other memorabilia from the wedding of Brook and Mary Agnes Cook Trout. These materials date from 1881 to 2004 and are organized alphabetically according to last name (maiden name for women).

The Financial and Legal category includes items such as deeds, invoices, receipts, wills, and other documents pertaining to the financial estates of members of the Cook and Trout families. The materials date from 1865 to 1990 and are organized alphabetically according to last name (maiden name for women).

The Miscellaneous portion of the Family series contains newspaper clippings, genealogy materials, and memorabilia dating from 1864 to 1964. It includes documents from John W. Cook's Civil War service, materials from Mary Agnes Cook Trout's school days, and clippings about members of the Trout family and the paper distributor Johnston, Keffer, and Trout. These materials are organized alphabetically according to last name (maiden name for women).

Six oversized folders, designated OC 2005.1, contain materials that have been separated from the rest of the collection due to their size. Materials related to Dickinson College include newspaper clippings from Trout Gallery exhibits and events. Family materials include marriage and teaching certificates, diplomas, newspaper clippings, and certificates from school and Sunday school activities. Most of these items document Trout's educational and Sunday School experiences. These materials are organized alphabetically according to last name (maiden name for women).

The Photographs series includes approximately 250 photos dating from the 1880s to the 1990s. Many of the photographs portray Trout, her parents, and her sister, Helen. The remaining images depict other members of the Cook, Dale(s), and Trout families. These photographs are organized

according to last name (maiden name for women) and then filed in chronological order. As many of these photos are undated, approximate dates have been used in most cases.

The Artifacts portion of the collection contains keepsakes from Ruth and Helen Trout's high school and college days. Helen's items include class rings from William Penn High School and Wilson College. Ruth's items include a class ring from William Penn, college reunion buttons and nametags, and some Pi Beta Phi memorabilia. These items, designated AC 2001.1, have been removed from the collection and are housed in one artifact box.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2005.1

DICKINSON COLLEGE

Campus Events

- Folder 01) 175th anniversary celebration – Apr. 1948
Weiss Center dedication – May 21, 1983
- Folder 02) Reunion materials and correspondence – 1986-1988
- Folder 03) Reunion materials and correspondence – 1990-1996

Gift Office

- Folder 04) Correspondence – June 15, 1973 (1)
- Folder 05) Correspondence – 1981-1984 (13)
- Folder 06) Correspondence – 1986-1989 (10)
- Folder 07) Correspondence – 1990-1992 (12)
- Folder 08) Pledges and agreements – 1975-1988
- Folder 09) Receipts – 1982-1991

Pi Beta Phi

- Folder 10) Membership materials – 1934-1994

President's Office

- Folder 11) Correspondence – 1982-1984 (13)
- Folder 12) Correspondence – 1985-1988 (8)
- Folder 13) Correspondence – 1990-1993 (7)
- Folder 14) Correspondence – 1996-2003 (3)
- Folder 15) Invitations – 1948-1994

Trout Gallery

- Folder 16) Correspondence – undated (5)
- Folder 17) Correspondence – 1983 (11)
- Folder 18) Correspondence – 1984 (7)
- Folder 19) Correspondence – 1985 (2)
- Folder 20) Correspondence – 1986 (1)
- Folder 21) Correspondence – 1987 (17)
- Folder 22) Correspondence – 1988 (7)
- Folder 23) Correspondence – 1989 (6)
- Folder 24) Correspondence – 1990 (12)
- Folder 25) Correspondence – 1991 (11)
- Folder 26) Correspondence – 1992 (4)
- Folder 27) Correspondence – 1995 (3)
- Folder 28) Correspondence – 1997 (1)

BOX 1 - MC 2005.1 (cont.)

DICKINSON COLLEGE (cont.)

Trout Gallery (cont.)

- Folder 29) Correspondence – 2000 (1)
- Folder 30) Correspondence – 2001 (2)
- Folder 31) Friends of the Trout Gallery – 1997-1998
- Folder 32) Gallery dedication packet – 1983

BOX 2 - MC 2005.1

DICKINSON COLLEGE (cont.)

Trout Gallery (cont.)

- Folder 01) Program dedicated to Ruth and Helen Trout – Sep. 27, 1993
- Folder 02) Weiss Center dedication scrapbook – Aug. 3, 1983

Miscellaneous

- Folder 03) Alumnae Association Life Membership Certificate – June 2, 1951
Mary Dickinson Membership Cards – 1953, 1955
Student Handbook – 1933-34

FAMILY

Correspondence

Brindle, Ruth

- Folder 04) Letter to Brook Trout – Dec. 15, 1970
Letter to “Dear Cousins” [Trout family?] – Feb. 14, 1972

Cook, Arleen

- Folder 05) Letter to Mary A. Cook (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Dec. 15, 1962
Letters to Helen and Ruth Trout – 1963-69 (2)

Cook, Edward Dale & family

- Folder 06) Letter to Mary A. Cook (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Mar. 25, 1961
Letters to Helen and Ruth Trout – 1954-1963[?] (4)
Letters to Trout family – 1955-57 (2)

Cook, Edward Daron

- Folder 07) Letters to Trout family – 1954-1961 (4)

Cook, Elizabeth (Mrs. William G. Helsel, Jr.) & family

- Folder 08) Letters to Brook and Mary A. Cook Trout – 1959 (2)
Letters to Ruth and Helen Trout – 1963-64 (5)
Letters to Trout family – 1964
Letters to unknown – undated (2)

Cook, James McClure

- Folder 09) Letter to Miss Dales [Elizabeth Bryson Dales Cook?] –
Oct. 14, 1883

- Folder 10) Letters received – 1916 (2)

Cook, Janet Mary

- Folder 11) Letters to Helen and Ruth Trout – 1961-65 (2)
Letters to Trout family – 1961-63 (6)
Letter to unknown – undated

BOX 2 - MC 2005.1 (cont.)

FAMILY (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

Cook, John and Margaret

Folder 12) Letters to Ruth Trout – 1999-2000 (3)

Cook, John Dale

Folder 13) Letter to “My parents and all” – Oct. 9, 1907

Cook, Jr., John Dale

Folder 14) Letter to Brook and Mary A. Cook Trout – [1959]

Letter to Helen and Ruth Trout – Feb. 15, 1965

Letter to Trout family – undated

Cook, John W.

Folder 15) Letter to “My Dear Son” [James McClure Cook?] – Sep. 7, 1903

Letters to John M. Cook – 1903 (2)

Letters to Mary A. Cook (Mrs. Brook Trout) – 1904-1906 (4)

Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout)

Folder 16) Letters to Samuel Burkhaedy – 1962 (2)

Letters to Ruth Trout – 1933-1934 (2)

Folder 17) Letters Received – 1903-1962 (11)

Cook, Rachel (aka Belle Hamilton)

Folder 18) Letter to “My Own Dear Brother” [William Cook?] –
Feb. 12, 1864

Folder 19) Letters received – 1863-1909 (5)

Dales, Elizabeth Bryson (Mrs. James McClure Cook)

Folder 20) Letter to Auditor General – May 18, 1916

Folder 21) Letters received – 1916-1931 (4)

Knight, Edythe (Mrs. Harry Knight)

Folder 22) Letters to Mary A. Cook (Mrs. Brook Trout) – 1932-1937 (4)

McCall, Nita (Mrs. John Dale Cook)

Folder 23) Letter to Brook and Mary A. Cook Trout – 1959

Letter to Mary A. Cook (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Oct. 18, 1938

Letter to Helen and Ruth Trout – Dec. 22, 1963

Ritter, Agnes (Mrs. John D. Trout)

Folder 24) Letter to Ruth Trout – undated

Folder 25) Letters received – 1869-1915 (5)

Stringer, Rozella (Mrs. Edward Daron Cook)

Folder 26) Letter to Helen and Ruth Trout – Dec. 24, [1963?]

Letters to Trout family – [1963?] (2)

Trout, Brook

Folder 27) Letter to Agnes Ritter (Mrs. John D. Trout) – March 29, 190[4?]

Letter to Helen Trout – Apr. 13, 1921

Folder 28) Letters received – 1947 (4)

Trout, Brook and Mary Agnes Cook

Folder 29) Letter received – 1912

Trout, Helen

Folder 30) Letter to Brook and Mary A. Cook Trout – undated (3)

Folder 31) Letters received – 1990 (3)

BOX 2 - MC 2005.1 (cont.)

FAMILY (cont.)

Correspondence (cont.)

Trout, Ruth

- Folder 32) Letter to Janet Mary Cook – Mar. 30, 200[0?]
Letter to Mrs. Dick Thornburgh – Apr. 1986
- Folder 33) Letters to Brook & Mary A. Cook Trout – undated (11)
- Folder 34) Letters to Brook & Mary A. Cook Trout – 1933-48 (8)
- Folder 35) Letters to Helen Trout – 1933-1948 (4)
- Folder 36) Letters received – 1986-2003 (8)

BOX 3 - MC 2005.1

FAMILY (cont.)

Funerals and Weddings

Funerals

- Folder 01) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Apr. 8, 1963
- Folder 02) Trout, Brook – Jan. 1975
- Folder 03) Trout, Helen – Nov. 30, 1990
- Folder 04) Trout, Ruth – Nov. 29, 2004
- Folder 05) Miscellaneous family – 1881-1999

Weddings

- Folder 06) Trout, Brook and Mary Agnes Cook – Oct. 21, 1909

BOX 4 - MC 2005.1

FAMILY (cont.)

Legal and Financial

- Folder 01) Cook, James McClure, receipt, will and estate – 1927-1961
- Folder 02) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), deed, will and estate –
1920-1964
- Folder 03) Cook, Rachel (aka Belle Hamilton), will and estate – 1865-1930
- Folder 04) Trout, Brook, deeds – 1887-1924
- Folder 05) Trout, Brook, invoices and receipts – 1906-1927
- Folder 06) Trout, Brook, will and estate – 1932-1975
- Folder 07) Trout, Helen, will and estate – 1977- 1988
Trout, Ruth, living will – July 5, 1990
- Folder 08) Miscellaneous family, wills and estates – 1860-1937

Miscellaneous

- Folder 09) Cook family genealogy
- Folder 10) Cook, James McClure, Independent Order of Odd Fellows – 1882-1927
- Folder 11) Cook, John W., Civil War Service – 1864, 1891
- Folder 12) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), autograph albums – 1883-1891
- Folder 13) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), Harrisburg High Class of 1904 –
1904-1964

BOX 4 - MC 2005.1

FAMILY (cont.)

Miscellaneous (cont.)

- Folder 14) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), newspaper clippings – 1947-c1960
- Folder 15) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), teacher certification – 1904-1909
- Folder 16) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout), ephemera – 1891-1960
- Folder 17) Johnston, Keffer, and Trout, newspaper clippings & ephemera – 1911-1956
- Folder 18) Kettering, Henry and Mary, newspaper clippings, etc. – 1917-1955
- Folder 19) Trout family genealogy

BOX 5 - MC 2005.1

FAMILY (cont.)

Miscellaneous (cont.)

- Folder 01) Trout, Brook, fraternal organizations – 1924-72
- Folder 02) Trout, Brook, newspaper clippings – 1941-1948
- Folder 03) Trout, Brook, ephemera – 1934-71
- Folder 04) Trout, Helen, birthday and Christmas – 1912-1914
- Folder 05) Trout, Helen, newspaper clippings – 1916-1955
- Folder 06) Trout, Helen, ephemera – 1912-1960
- Folder 07) Trout, John F., Civil War Service – 1863
- Folder 08) Trout, Ruth, birthday and Christmas – 1914-1921
- Folder 09) Trout, Ruth, datebook - 1983
- Folder 10) Trout, Ruth, dream journal – 1972-1989
- Folder 11) Trout, Ruth, newspaper clippings – 1949-60
- Folder 12) Trout, Ruth, ephemera – 1928-79
- Folder 13) Trout, Helen and Ruth, automobile materials – 1944-1998
- Folder 14) Trout, Helen and Ruth, postcards
- Folder 15) Miscellaneous family, newspaper clippings – 1919-1961
- Folder 16) Miscellaneous family, ephemera – 1878-1935

OVERSIZED - OC 2005.1

DICKINSON COLLEGE

- Folder 01) Trout Gallery newspaper clippings – 1981-1997 (36)

FAMILY

Folder 02)

- Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout)
Teaching certificate – July 2, 1909
- Kettering, Henry and Mary Belle
Marriage certificate – June 4, 1912

OVERSIZED - OC 2005.1 (cont.)

FAMILY (cont.)

Folder 03)

Trout, John F. and Agnes Ritter

Marriage certificate – Sep. 6, 1880

Folder 04)

Trout, Ruth

Messiah Sunday School Cradle Roll certificate – May 25, 1914

St. Matthews's Sunday School certificate – Oct. 2, 1921

Burrowes Course of Music Study diploma – June 5, 1926

Messiah Lutheran Sunday School certificate – Sept. 26, 1926

Folder 05)

Trout, Ruth

Camp Curtin Junior High, High Honor Certificate – June 16, 1927

William Penn High School diploma – Jan. 25, 1932

Dickinson College diploma – June 6, 1936

Folder 06)

Trout, Ruth

Women's Home and Foreign Missionary certificate – undated

Newspaper clipping – Mar. 9, 1934

PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 2005.1

- Folder 01) Cook, Arleen – 1959-67 (8)
- Folder 02) Cook, Arleen and Jeanette – 1962-70 (12)
- Folder 03) Cook, Edward Dale – undated (3)
- Folder 04) Cook, Edward Daron – undated (2)
- Folder 05) Cook, Elizabeth "Betty" (Mrs. William Helsel) – 1920 (1)
Cook, Elizabeth "Betty" and William Helsel – June 25, 1972 (1)
- Folder 06) Cook family group photos – June 25, 1972 (6)
- Folder 07) Cook family tombstones – undated (2)
- Folder 08) Cook, Grace (Mrs. William H. H. Knight) – Dec. 15, 1933 (2)
- Folder 09) Cook, James McClure – undated (3)
- Folder 10) Cook, Janet Mary – 1960-69 (6)
- Folder 11) Cook, Jeanette – 1966-67 (3)
- Folder 12) Cook, John Dale – undated (2)
- Folder 13) Cook, John W. – undated (4)
- Folder 14) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – c1885-89 (1)
- Folder 15) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – c1900-09 (5)
- Folder 16) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – c1900-09 (6)
- Folder 17) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – c1910-19 (2)
- Folder 18) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Oct. 6, 1956 (1)
- Folder 19) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – Harrisburg H. S. Class of 1904 –
1904-1959 (10)
- Folder 20) Cook, Rachel (2)
- Folder 21) Dale(s), Agness B. – undated (3)

PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 2005.1 (cont.)

- Folder 22) Dale(s) Bakery (with 3 negatives) – undated (2)
- Folder 23) Dale(s), Elizabeth Bryson (Mrs. James McClure Cook) – undated (2)
- Folder 24) Dale(s) Family group photos – undated (2)
- Folder 25) Dale(s) Family Tombstones – undated (2)
- Folder 26) Dale(s), John – undated (2)
- Folder 27) Helsel, Richard Cook – 1947-58 (7)
- Folder 28) Hillegass, “Auntie” – Dec. 1, 1899 (1)
- Folder 29) Johnston, Keffer, and Trout building, Harrisburg, PA – undated (1)
- Folder 30) Knight, Edith [Edythe?], Harry, and Desmond – undated (3)
- Folder 31) Knight, William H. H. and Grace Cook – undated, 1926-29 (11)
- Folder 32) Longsdorff, Mary Ann (Mrs. John W. Cook) – undated (2)
Mentzer, Mrs. – undated (1)
- Folder 33) Ritter, Agnes (Mrs. John D. Trout) – undated (3)
- Folder 34) Stringer, Rozella (Mrs. Edward Daron Cook) – Nov. 1969 (1)
- Folder 35) Trout, Brook – c1882-89 (1)
- Folder 36) Trout, Brook – c1910-19 (1)
- Folder 37) Trout, Brook – c1920-29 (4)
- Folder 38) Trout, Brook – c1930-39 (4)
- Folder 39) Trout, Brook – c1950-59 (8)
- Folder 40) Trout, Brook – c1960-69 (2)
- Folder 41) Trout, Brook – May 1971 (1)
- Folder 42) Trout, Brook and Mary Agnes Cook – undated, July 30, 1908 (3)
- Folder 43) Trout family group photos – 1924-95 (21)
- Folder 44) Trout family home – undated (6)
- Folder 45) Trout family tombstone – Oct. 4, 1963 (1)
- Folder 46) Trout, Helen – c1912-19 (4)
- Folder 47) Trout, Helen – 1924 (2)
- Folder 48) Trout, Helen – c1930-39 (10)
- Folder 49) Trout, Helen – c1940-49 (4)
- Folder 50) Trout, Helen and Ruth – c1912-1919 (5)
- Folder 51) Trout, Helen and Ruth – c1920-29 (2)
- Folder 52) Trout, Helen and Ruth – c1940-49 (2)
- Folder 53) Trout, Helen and Ruth – 1985-89 (4)
- Folder 54) Trout, Helen and Ruth – Sep. 1990 (1)
- Folder 55) Trout, Ruth – c1914-19 (1)
- Folder 56) Trout, Ruth – c1920-29 (5)
- Folder 57) Trout, Ruth – c1930-39 (3)
- Folder 58) Trout, Ruth – c1940-49 (1)
- Folder 59) Trout, Ruth – c1950-59 (1)
- Folder 60) Trout, Ruth – c1960-69 (1)
- Folder 61) Trout, Ruth – c1970-79 (1)
- Folder 62) Trout, Ruth – c1980-89 (5)
- Folder 63) Trout, Ruth – 1991-95 (4)
- Folder 64) Worthey, Ella Ball – 1933 (7)

OVERSIZED PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 2005.1

- Folder 01) Cook, Mary Agnes (Mrs. Brook Trout) – 1908 (2)
Folder 02) Trout, Helen (1)

ARTIFACT BOX 1 - AC 2005.1

Trout, Helen

- Item 01) William Penn High School class ring – 1930
Item 02) Wilson College class ring – 1934

Trout, Ruth

- Item 03) Dickinson class of 1936 pin – undated
Item 04) Dickinson pin, “55 for '36 in '91” – 1991
Item 05) Dickinson reunion nametags – c1986 (2)
Item 06) Pi Beta Phi black key wallet – undated
Item 07) Pi Beta Phi anniversary charm (silver) in drawstring bag – 2003
Item 08) Pi Beta Phi pin (wood) containing sorority letters – undated
Item 09) William Penn High School class ring – 1932