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Guide to the Elinor Castle Nef Papers 1891-1966



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.NEFEC
Title	Nef, Elinor Castle. Papers
Date	1891-1966
Size	63 linear feet (123 boxes)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Elinor Castle Nef (1894-1953) was the first wife of University of Chicago professor John U. Nef, Jr. and the daughter of a prominent Hawaiian family. She was a prolific diarist and letter writer, corresponding with many important artists and intellectuals of the twentieth century. When she was not sharing in her husband's work and travel, she devoted her time to the writing of personal letters, notes, and essays some of which were edited and published posthumously by her husband in a book entitled *Letters and Notes, Volume 1* (Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie Press, 1953). Materials in the collection date between 1891 and 1966, with the bulk of the material dating between 1920 and 1953. The papers primarily document Elinor's extensive correspondence with artists and thinkers throughout the United States and Europe, and her written reflections on life in twentieth-century America.

Information on Use

Access

This collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Nef, Elinor Castle. Papers [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.

Biographical Note

Elinor Henry Castle Nef was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 28, 1894 to Henry Northrup Castle (1892-1895) and Mabel Wing Castle (1864-1950). Her grandfather, Samuel Northrup Castle (1808-1894), co-founded the influential firm Castle and Cooke. Her father was the youngest of nine children and a well-regarded political leader and editor of the Honolulu Pacific Commercial Advertiser and the Hawaiian Gazette. From 1889 to 1890, Henry was married to a German woman, Frida Steckner, with whom he had a daughter, Dorothy. Frida

died in 1890, and Henry married Mabel Wing in 1892. Henry and Dorothy tragically perished in the January 1895 Elbe disaster, and Henry never met his second daughter, Elinor.

Following Henry's death, Mabel Wing Castle moved with her daughter from Hawaii to Europe, returning after 1911 to the United States for Elinor to attend school in Connecticut (Wykeham Rise School for Girls) and Massachusetts. During her early years at school and then at college, she was a prolific writer, corresponding frequently with her mother, friends and relatives back in Hawaii. In 1913, Elinor came to live in Chicago with her aunt, Helen Castle (1860-1929), and uncle, philosopher George Herbert Mead (1863-1931). In 1918, she was awarded the degree of Associate in Philosophy from the University of Chicago and afterwards took up French teaching. By this time her literary talents had already been recognized by people such as Conyers Read, Robert Morss Lovett, and Robert Herrick, all of whom are represented in letters in this collection.

In September 1921, she announced her engagement to John U. Nef, Jr. (1899-1988) who also lived as a member of the Mead household. George Herbert Mead was John's guardian, following the death of his parents in 1915. Elinor and John were married in November of the same year, and immediately left for France where John was to continue his studies. The young couple lived in Europe for five years, and remained devoted Francophiles for the rest of their lives.

In 1927, John was appointed to the Department of Economics at the University of Chicago, and became Professor of Economic History at the University in 1936. From then until her death Chicago was Elinor's home. While her husband was active in the University, especially as the chairman of the Committee on Social Thought from 1945 onwards, Elinor spent much of her time helping him and acting as hostess for their many distinguished guests. She was active in many fields: clubs, play-reading groups, and other organizations including both the University Renaissance Society and the Arts Club of Chicago.

Throughout her life, Elinor was an avid correspondent and writer. The short fiction and diaries of her youth developed in adulthood into autobiographical sketches, detailed recordings of conversations, and discursive essays. Above all, Elinor was an observer. She routinely recorded and reflected upon her conversations, correspondence, and personal reactions to world events and American culture in the twentieth century.

In 1938, she began seriously to compile and edit her letters, notes, and essays, envisioning a multi-volume work titled *Letters and Notes*. For the next fifteen years, she worked with multiple editors including her husband, Walter Ritchie, Edward Shils, Bruce Phemister, and Philipp Fehl in this endeavor. Ever curious and committed to improvement, Elinor continually revisited, reworked, and expanded upon her writings. She published only a few essays during her lifetime, including "Los Angeles Diary," for the book *Essays in Honor of Conyers Read* (University of Chicago Press, 1953). The remainder of her work, including one volume of her magnum opus,

Letters and Notes, was published posthumously by John U. Nef, Jr. (Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie Press, 1953). Selections from this work were later published by John in 1957 under the title *In Search of the American Tradition* (New York: University Publishers) to critical acclaim. Towards the end of both of their lives, Elinor also worked with her mother to record Mabel Wing Castle's memories. The result was an autobiographical booklet, *My Mother's Reminiscences*, privately printed by John in 1954.

Though her published work was relatively small, her unpublished output was enormous and the extent of her social influence cannot be quantified. The Nefs cultivated a wide circle of artistic and intellectual friends in the United States and abroad, many of whom remain important figures of the twentieth century. To name only a few: Nadia Boulanger, the French musician; pianist Artur Schnabel; Marc Chagall, the French painter whom Elinor addressed as Maitre; Professor William E. Dodd, who was the U. S. Ambassador to Germany for the years 1933-1937; the American historical writer Constance McLaughlin Green; Jacques Maritain, the noted Roman Catholic philosopher and Ambassador of France to the Holy See; the philosopher George Herbert Mead; the painter and art teacher Laura van Pappelendam who lived with Elinor's family for a time, and to whom Elinor wrote some of her most intimate letters, particularly during her trips abroad; the distinguished scholar and one-time president of the American Historical Association, Conyers Read; Arnold Schoenberg; Virginia Woolf, whom Elinor admired greatly; and also a host of persons associated with the University of Chicago, many of whose papers are in the University Archives. Correspondence with these individuals is found in Series II.

Elinor Castle Nef died of cancer on February 8, 1953. She is buried alongside her mother in Honolulu, Hawaii at Kawaiaha'o Church.

Scope Note

The Elinor Castle Nef Papers are organized into seven series: Series I: Personal; Series II: Correspondence; Series III: Teaching; Series IV: Writings; Series V: Photographs; Series VI: Memorabilia; and Series VII: Oversize. The collection contains personal documents related to Elinor's education, marriage, travel, and death; clippings and ephemera; address books, appointment books, and diaries; correspondence; fragmentary notes and notebooks; manuscript and typescript drafts, corrections, and proofs for her written work; annotated monographs of her published work; scrapbooks and photo albums; photographs and artwork; and a paperweight souvenir from the 1893 Columbian Exhibition. Materials date between 1891 and 1966, with the bulk of the material dating between 1920 and 1953. The papers primarily document Elinor's extensive correspondence with artists and thinkers throughout the United States and Europe, and her written reflections on life in twentieth-century America.

Detailed series descriptions are found at the beginning of each series.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spl/select.html>

Castle, Henry Northrup. Papers

Castle, Mabel Wing. Papers

Mead, George Herbert. Papers

Nef, Evelyn Stefansson. Papers

Nef, John U., Sr. Papers

Nef, John U., Jr. Papers

Redfield, Robert. Papers

Schütze, Eva Watson. Photographs

A facsimile of the manuscript of Schnabel's First Symphony, presented to Elinor Castle Nef and signed by the composer, was given to the University of Chicago by John Nef and is part of the Rare Book collections [M1001.S357S9 Copy 2].

Subject Headings

- Castle, Henry Northrup, 1862-1895
- Castle, Mabel Wing
- Boulanger, Nadia
- Chagall, Marc, 1887-1985
- Green, Constance McLaughlin, 1897-1975
- Dimock, Marshall Edward, 1903-1991
- Dodd, William Edward, 1869-1940
- Gale, Henry Gordon, 1874-1942
- Hapgood, Norman, 1868-1937
- Maritain, Jacques, 1882-1973
- Moholy-Nagy, László, 1895-1946
- Mead, George Herbert, 1863-1931
- Nef, John U. (John Ulric), 1899-1988
- Nef, Elinor Castle, 1894 or 1895-1953
- Paepcke, Walter Paul, 1896-1960
- Van Pappelendam, Laura
- Park, Robert Ezra, 1864-1944
- Read, Conyers, 1881-1959

- Redfield, Robert, 1897-1958
- Ruml, Beardsley, 1894-1960
- Schnabel, Artur, 1882-1951
- Schoenberg, Arnold, 1874-1951
- Shils, Edward, 1910-1995
- Shortall, Harrington, 1895-1984
- Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941
- University of Chicago - History

INVENTORY

Series I: Personal

This series is divided into four subseries:

Subseries I, General, contains official documents, records related to her engagement and marriage, biographical material, and documents pertaining to her death in 1953. Materials are organized chronologically. Of particular note is an unpublished essay by John U. Nef, Jr. about Elinor and her writing, found in Box 1, Folder 19. This essay provides insight into Elinor's character and her motives for writing.

Subseries II, Education, includes records and ephemera from Elinor's education at Wykeham Rise School for Girls and the University of Chicago.

Subseries III, Address Books, Appointment Books, Diaries, Notebooks, and Sketchbook, records Elinor's daily life from 1906 to 1952. Ephemera and correspondence found within each of these have not been removed on the assumption that a relationship exists. Of particular interest are Elinor's notebooks and related ephemera on the Genoa Conference and the Conference of Lausanne (Boxes 7 and 8). The Nefs attended the 1922 conferences as correspondents for the Des Moines Register and the Des Moines Evening Tribune. Like materials are grouped together in this subseries, and then ordered chronologically.

Subseries IV, Ephemera, mainly contains newspapers, clippings, and postcards gathered by Elinor. Additional Genoa Conference material may be found in Box 8, Folders 8 and 9.

Subseries 1: General

Box 1

Folder 1

Distribution of Castle estate securities, 1917

Box 1

Folder 2

Will, 1920

Box 1

Folder 3

Lists of marriage proposals, undated

Box 1

Folder 4

Engagement to John U. Nef, Jr. - Announcements, gifts, congratulations, notes, 1921

Box 1

Folder 5

Certificates of Registration - Aliens Order - United Kingdom, 1922

Box 1

Folder 6-7

Drawing of Elinor Castle Nef by Walter Tittle, 1923

Box 1

Folder 8

Documents regarding health, 1927-1933

Box 1

Folder 9

British and international driver's licenses - John U. Nef, Jr. and Elinor Castle Nef, 1936

Box 1

Folder 10

Drawing - "Le Petit Bonhomme," 1937

Box 1

Folder 11

Poem by Mabel Wing Castle for wedding anniversary, 1946

Box 1

Folder 12

Death certificate - Photocopy, 1953

Box 1

Folder 13

Eulogies, 1953

Box 1

Folder 14

Memorial exhibition - Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, 1954

Box 1

Folder 15

Estate tax return, 1954

Box 1

Folder 16

Elinor Castle Nef Foundation press release, 1955

Box 1

Folder 17

The Art League News - Publication of correspondence between Elinor Castle Nef and Marc Chagall, 1958

Box 1

Folder 18

Eva Watson Schütze: Chicago Photo-Secessionist by Jean F. Block - Includes images of John U. Nef, Jr. and Elinor Castle Nef, 1985

Box 1

Folder 19

"Elinor Nef and Her World" by John U. Nef, Jr. - Typescript, undated

Subseries 2: Education

Box 1

Folder 20

Education - Wykeham Rise - Tuition, grades, and ephemera, 1911-1913

Box 1

Folder 21

Education - Wykeham Rise - Essays, 1912

Box 1

Folder 22

Education - University of Chicago - Essays and short fiction, 1914

Box 1

Folder 23

Education - University of Chicago - Essays, 1916

Box 1

Folder 24

Education - University of Chicago - Poems from friends, circa 1917

Box 1

Folder 25

Education - University of Chicago - Essays and short fiction, 1918

Box 2

Folder 1

Education - University of Chicago - Essays, 1918 and undated

Box 2

Folder 2

Education - University of Chicago - Transcripts, 1922

Subseries 3: Address Books, Appointment Books, Diaries, Notebooks, and Sketchbook

Box 2

Folder 3

Address books (2), circa 1907-1912

Box 2

Folder 4

Address book, undated

Box 2

Folder 5

Appointment books (3), 1915-1918

Box 2

Folder 6

Appointment books, 1919

Box 2

Folder 7

Appointment books, 1920-1922

Box 2

Folder 8

Appointment books (2), 1923

Box 2

Folder 9

Appointment book, photographs, student card, and clippings, 1924

Box 2

Folder 10

Appointment book, 1925

Box 2

Folder 11

Appointment book and ephemera, 1926

Box 2

Folder 12

Appointment books, 1927-1929

Box 3

Folder 1

Appointment books (3) and calendar, 1930

Box 3

Folder 2

Appointment books, 1931

Box 3

Folder 3

Appointment books (2), 1932

Box 3

Folder 4

Appointment book and ephemera, 1933

Box 3

Folder 5

Appointment book, 1934

Box 3

Folder 6

Appointment book, 1935

Box 3

Folder 7

Appointment book, 1936

Box 3

Folder 8

Appointment book, notes, and ephemera, 1937

Box 3

Folder 9

Appointment book, 1938

Box 3

Folder 10

Appointment book, 1939

Box 3

Folder 11

Appointment book and ephemera, 1940

Box 3

Folder 12

Appointment book and ephemera, 1941

Box 3

Folder 13

Appointment book, 1942

Box 4

Folder 1

Appointment book, notes, and ephemera, 1943

Box 4

Folder 2

Appointment book, 1944

Box 4

Folder 3

Appointment book and ephemera, 1945

Box 4

Folder 4

Appointment book and ephemera, 1947

Box 4

Folder 5

Appointment book, notes, and ephemera, 1948

Box 4

Folder 6

Appointment books (2), ephemera, and itinerary, 1949

Box 4

Folder 7

Appointment books (2) and itinerary, 1950

Box 4

Folder 8

Appointment books (2) and notes, 1951

Box 5

Folder 1

Appointment book, notes, and ephemera, 1952

Box 5

Folder 2

Autograph album, 1908

Box 5

Folder 3

Travel diary/scrapbook, 1906

Box 5

Folder 4

Travel diary/scrapbook - Egypt, 1907

Box 5

Folder 5

Travel diary/scrapbook, correspondence, and 3 notebooks of short stories, 1907-1911

Box 5

Folder 6

Diary, 1909

Box 5

Folder 7

Diaries containing stories, poems, and ephemera (3), 1911

Box 5

Folder 8

Diary/scrapbook, 1911-1912

Box 6

Folder 1

Diary, ephemera, and photographs - Wykeham Rise, 1912-1913

Box 6

Folder 2

Diary, 1914

Box 6

Folder 3

Diary, 1916

Box 6

Folder 4

Diary, 1918-1919

Box 6

Folder 5

Diary, 1920

Box 6

Folder 6

Diary - Paris, photograph, and ephemera, 1923-1926

Box 6

Folder 7

Diaries (4), 1930

Box 7

Folder 1

Diary and ephemera, 1932

Box 7

Folder 2

Diary and notes, 1946

Box 7

Folder 3

Notebook of short stories, 1910

Box 7

Folder 4

Notebook and notes, 1917

Box 7

Folder 5

Notebook - Essays and short fiction, circa 1918

Box 7

Folder 6

Notebook - Thoughts on Fred Wichman, 1920

Box 7

Folder 7

Notebook - Essays and short fiction, circa 1920

Box 7

Folder 8

Notebooks (2) - Genoa Conference, 1922

Box 8

Folder 1

Notebooks (2), correspondence, press passes, and business cards - Lausanne Conference, 1922-1923

Box 8

Folder 2

Notebook and enclosed loose notes, 1923

Box 8

Folder 3

"Commonplace Book," photograph, and ephemera, 1923

Box 8

Folder 4

Notebooks (2), 1930

Box 8

Folder 5

Notebook, French, 1949

Box 8

Folder 6

Sketchbook and sketches, 1929

Subseries 4: Ephemera

Box 8

Folder 7

Ephemera - Clippings, map, poem, and receipts, 1918-1923 and undated

Box 8

Folder 8

Ephemera and photographs - Genoa Conference, 1922

Box 8

Folder 9

Newspaper clippings - Genoa Conference, 1922

Box 8

Folder 10

Ephemera - Fédération Archéologique et Historique de Belgique, Congrès de Liège, 1932

Box 8

Folder 11

Clippings, 1938

Box 9

Folder 1

Clippings, 1938-1939

Box 9

Folder 2

Clippings and ephemera, 1944

Box 9

Folder 3

Battle of Provence map and note, 1944

Box 9

Folder 4

The Art Digest and Free France Issues, 1945

Box 9

Folder 5

Newspapers, 1945

Box 9

Folder 6

Newspapers and notes, 1945

Box 9

Folder 7

Newspapers, 1945

Box 9

Folder 8

Newspapers, 1945

Box 9

Folder 9

Ephemera, 1945

Box 9

Folder 10

Ephemera and notes, 1946

Box 10

Folder 1

Committee on Social Thought "Works of the Mind" Lecture Series - Correspondence, programs, clippings, notes, February-March 1946

Box 10

Folder 2

Quarterly Review of Literature - Paul Valery issues, 1947

Box 10

Folder 3

Pressed roses, 1947-1949

Box 10

Folder 4

Postcards - French Riviera, 1949

Box 10

Folder 5

Ephemera and Itinerary, Summer 1951

Box 10

Folder 6

Ephemera, 1954

Box 10**Folder 7**

Printing block - Delacroix's "Battle of Poitiers," undated

Series II: Correspondence

This series contains outgoing and incoming mail, retained in its original alphabetical order by correspondent. Elinor appears to have maintained her letters in general files organized alphabetically, until correspondence grew large enough to merit individual files. Researchers are advised to consult both the general correspondence files at the beginning of the series, and the alphabetical listing of individual correspondents.

The letters are predominantly personal; Elinor's main concern was for the private life of the individual, and to this end she writes extensively of domestic and social activities. She preferred to use her letters as vehicles of expression for her thoughts and opinions in the search for self-knowledge and human understanding. In so doing, she sheds light on the life of contemporary American society. Her intimate knowledge of French and English cultures was an invaluable aid in her criticism of the American way of life, which she loved and yet condemned for its materialism and conventions. She admired the individual who acted according to certain codes of behavior. Above all she wanted to make people think. A discriminating book lover, she used letter-writing as a medium for literary criticism. Her deep convictions did not prevent her from approaching subjects with an inquiring mind, and in her letters she sought to broaden her outlook through contact with the opinions of others.

A large number of letters between Elinor and her mother in this series reveal their mutual affection. From Elinor's early letters to her mother one can follow the developing character of a popular schoolgirl; their mutual love is openly expressed, as indeed in all their letters, and particularly those of late 1921 and 1922 immediately after Elinor's marriage.

Box 10**Folder 8**

General - A, 1918-1952

Box 10**Folder 9**

General - B, 1936-1952

Box 10**Folder 10**

General - B, 1921-1952

Box 11**Folder 1**

General - C, 1899-1952

Box 11**Folder 2**

General - C, 1918-1952

Box 11**Folder 3**

General - C, 1921-1952

Box 11
Folder 4
General - C, 1922-1952
Box 11
Folder 5
General - D, 1911-1953
Box 11
Folder 6
General - E, 1926-1951
Box 11
Folder 7
General - F, 1937-1952
Box 11
Folder 8
General - F, 1912-1953
Box 11
Folder 9
General - G, 1901-1953
Box 11
Folder 10
General - H, 1918-1952
Box 12
Folder 1
General - H, 1912-1950
Box 12
Folder 2
General - H, 1931-1952
Box 12
Folder 3
General - I, 1924-1950
Box 12
Folder 4
General - J, 1927-1952
Box 12
Folder 5
General - K, 1907-1954
Box 12
Folder 6
General - L, 1918-1951
Box 12
Folder 7
General - M, 1925-1952
Box 12
Folder 8
General - M, 1903-1946
Box 12

Folder 9

General - M, 1926-1952

Box 12

Folder 10

General - N, 1927-1952

Box 12

Folder 11

General - O, 1924-1951

Box 12

Folder 12

General - P, 1923-1953

Box 12

Folder 13

General - P, 1926-1952

Box 13

Folder 1

General - R, 1907-1952

Box 13

Folder 2

General - R, 1907-1953

Box 13

Folder 3

General - S, 1926-1950

Box 13

Folder 4

General - S, 1913-1953

Box 13

Folder 5

General - S, 1907-1955

Box 13

Folder 6

General - S, 1916-1952

Box 13

Folder 7

General - T, 1912-1952

Box 13

Folder 8

General - U-V, 1934-1950

Box 13

Folder 9

General - W-Z, 1900-1952

Box 13

Folder 10

Unidentified, 1907-1952 and undated

Box 14

Folder 1

Christmas cards, 1938

Box 14

Folder 2

Christmas cards, 1949

Box 14

Folder 3

Christmas cards, 1950

Box 14

Folder 4

Christmas cards about Mabel Wing Castle, 1951

Box 14

Folder 5

Silver wedding anniversary, 1946

Box 14

Folder 6

Allen, Mary, 1918-1952

Box 14

Folder 7

Ames, Van Meter and Betty, 1921-1953

Box 14

Folder 8

Arensburg, Walter and Lou, 1937-1952

Box 14

Folder 9

Arts Club of Chicago, 1930-1945

Box 14

Folder 10

Beal, John and Mary Phemister. Includes photographs and negatives of Roaring Brook, Michigan, 1943-1947

Box 14

Folder 11

"Beaux," 1915-1921

Box 14

Folder 12

Biesel, Fred and Frances, 1945-1952

Box 15

Folder 1

Boorstin, Daniel and Ruth, 1944-1951

Box 15

Folder 2

Boulanger, Nadia, 1941-1953

Box 15

Folder 3

Bourgin, Georges and M. E., 1935-1952

Box 15

Folder 4

Breed, Donald and Ecy, 1941-1952

Box 15

Folder 5

Brewster, Walter and Kate, 1938-1947

Box 15

Folder 6

Case, Mary E., 1923

Box 15

Folder 7

Castle, Alfred and Linda, 1930-1951

Box 15

Folder 8

Castle, George, 1912-1927

Box 15

Folder 9

Castle, Harold and Alice, 1938-1952

Box 15

Folder 10

Castle, Henry and Irene, 1931-1952

Box 15

Folder 11

Castle, Mabel Wing, undated

Box 15

Folder 12

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1898-1911

Box 15

Folder 13

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1912

Box 15

Folder 14

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1912

Box 15

Folder 15

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1912

Box 16

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1912

Box 16

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1913

Box 16

Folder 3

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1913

Box 16

Folder 4

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1914

Box 16

Folder 5

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1915

Box 16

Folder 6

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1916-1917

Box 16

Folder 7

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1918-1920

Box 16

Folder 8

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1921

Box 16

Folder 9

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1922

Box 17

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1922

Box 17

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing - Regarding Genoa Conference, including 2 photographs, 1922

Box 17

Folder 3

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1923

Box 17

Folder 4

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1924

Box 17

Folder 5

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1924

Box 17

Folder 6

Correspondence from Vienna, mainly to Mabel Wing Castle, Autumn 1924

Box 17

Folder 7

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1925

Box 17

Folder 8

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1926

Box 17

Folder 9

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1926

Box 17

Folder 10

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1927

Box 18

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1928

Box 18

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1928

Box 18

Folder 3

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1929

Box 18

Folder 4

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1930

Box 18

Folder 5

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1930

Box 18

Folder 6

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1931

Box 18

Folder 7

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1932

Box 18

Folder 8

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1933

Box 18

Folder 9

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1934

Box 18

Folder 10

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1935

Box 18

Folder 11

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1936

Box 19

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1937

Box 19

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1937

Box 19

Folder 3

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1938

Box 19

Folder 4

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1939

Box 19

Folder 5

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1940

Box 19

Folder 6

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1942

Box 19

Folder 7

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1943

Box 19

Folder 8

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1944-1947

Box 19

Folder 9

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1948

Box 19

Folder 10

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1948

Box 20

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1948

Box 20

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1948

Box 20

Folder 3

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1949

Box 20

Folder 4

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1949

Box 20

Folder 5

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1949

Box 20

Folder 6

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1949

Box 20

Folder 7

Castle, Mabel Wing and Pappelendam, Laura van, 1949

Box 21

Folder 1

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1950

Box 21

Folder 2

Castle, Mabel Wing, 1950

Box 21

Folder 3

Castle, William and Ida, 1909-1938

Box 21
Folder 4
Chagall, Marc, 1946

Box 21
Folder 5
Chagall, Marc, 1946-1952

Box 21
Folder 6
Champion, Edouard, 1924-1934

Box 21
Folder 7
Clark, Allen and Lois Green, 1937-1952

Box 21
Folder 8
Clark, Henry and Geraldine Putnam, 1948-1952

Box 21
Folder 9
Cole, Florence, 1907-1920

Box 21
Folder 10
Coleman, Harriet Castle. Includes photographs, 1904-1924

Box 21
Folder 11
Coleman, Harriet Castle, 1911-1924

Box 21
Folder 12
Consumers' Research, Inc. 1935-1941

Box 21
Folder 13
Cooke, Richard and Dagmar, 1934-1952

Box 22
Folder 1
Cope, Erwin and Gene Mead, 1917-1923 and undated

Box 22
Folder 2
Cope, Erwin and Gene Mead, 1924-1934

Box 22
Folder 3
Cope, Erwin and Gene Mead, 1935-1941

Box 22
Folder 4
Cowles, John and Betty, 1922-1952

Box 22
Folder 5
Cowley, Malcolm and Peggy, 1922-1947

Box 22

Folder 6

Crockett, Grace, 1907-1929

Box 22

Folder 7

Crockett, Harold and Louise, 1936-1952

Box 22

Folder 8

Cross, Ermine, 1916-1938

Box 23

Folder 1

Damon, Cyril and Daphne, 1937-1948 and undated

Box 23

Folder 2

Dimock, Marshall and Lucy, 1936-1938

Box 23

Folder 3

Dodd, William and Martha, 1926-1938

Box 23

Folder 4

Eddy, Alfred K., 1917-1919

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Series IV: Writings

This series is divided into three subseries:

Subseries I, Notes, contains fragmentary notes that straddle the border between her personal diaries and notebooks, and writing ultimately intended for a larger audience in Letters and Notes. Apart from a record of her life, the notes as a whole illustrate the growth of Elinor's love of writing. She endeavors to record every incident, conversation, experience and impression of her life. The notes capture the atmosphere of the moment and the intensity of her feelings. Her purpose in writing was to express her own immediate thoughts and to retain in writing their original spontaneity. The notes also provide an account of activities and people connected with the University of Chicago. This subseries is arranged chronologically.

Had it not been for her untimely death, she would have continued to revise and organize this material. Notes specifically earmarked by Elinor or her editors for Letters and Notes will be found in Subseries III for ease of description and access. However, researchers should review Subseries I and III with the understanding that all of Elinor's writing – correspondence, notes, essays, and drafts intended for publication – is intimately interrelated.

Subseries II, Poetry, Essays, and Short Fiction, includes Elinor's creative writing as a young girl, and later essays written by Elinor as an adult for *La République Française* and for *The Chicago Review*.

Subseries III, Books, contains material related to Letters and Notes, Los Angeles Diary, and *My Mother's Reminiscences*. This includes notes, manuscripts and typescripts, proofs, published monographs, and correspondence. The manuscripts and typescripts range from fragments to complete drafts. Because Elinor continually revisited and reworked her writings, researchers will

find a high volume of manuscript and typescript "inserts" written by Elinor that function as corrections or addenda. The subseries is further subdivided by work:

Sub-subseries 1: Letters and Notes, Volume 1 and *In Search of the American Tradition*, contains reference material, notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and inserts, proofs, correspondence, and reviews related to the development and publication of these two related books. Draft materials for Letters and Notes, Volume 1 come first, and are roughly organized according to the book's final table of contents. (The manuscripts are such that frequently a single sheet will show several headings). General materials pertaining to the book's publication and distribution follow this, and are ordered chronologically. The majority of Elinor's writing about Virginia Woolf is found in this sub-subseries, although researchers should note that Elinor revisited and reworked her essays on Virginia Woolf beyond Volume 1. Elinor had written an extended essay about her in the late 1930s, but then on the advice of Edward Shils she began a new approach to the subject in 1946, and wrote an almost completely new series of essays, some of which are represented here. Elinor's delineation between her Virginia Woolf essays for Volume 1 and those for later volumes was unclear, and they have therefore been grouped together. Material for *In Search of the American Tradition* follows, and is ordered chronologically.

Sub-subseries 2: Letters and Notes, Volume 2, contains reference material, notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and inserts, proofs, and correspondence related to the development of the second volume of Elinor's major work. The material is arranged according to the table of contents of the book's typescript in Box 80, Folder 9, with the assumption that this was as close to a final order as Elinor ever got for this volume. Boxes 83-94 contain material considered and rejected by editor Bruce Phemister for Letters and Notes, Volume 2. This material is arranged chronologically.

Sub-subseries 3: Letters and Notes, Volume 3, contains mainly correspondence for the third volume, arranged chronologically.

Sub-subseries 4: Letters and Notes, General, contains reference material, notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and inserts, and correspondence for Letters and Notes, arranged chronologically. This material was not clearly marked by Elinor or by her editors for a particular volume of the book, and is therefore arranged separately.

Sub-subseries 5: Letters and Notes, Material considered by Bruce Phemister and Philipp Fehl for inclusion in later volumes, contains reference material, notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and inserts, and correspondence for Letters and Notes reviewed by two of Elinor's editors after her death. This material is arranged chronologically.

Sub-subseries 6: Los Angeles Diary, contains a proof, reprints, and correspondence for Elinor's published essay in the book *Essays in Honor of Conyers Read* (1953). Reprints were sent out by John and Elinor Nef as their Christmas card in 1952.

Sub-subseries 7: *My Mother's Reminiscences*, contains notes, manuscript and typescript drafts and inserts, correspondence, and the published monograph of Mabel Wing Castle's

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Folder 14

"City Living" - Note and handkerchief, undated

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Folder 15

Henry James reading notes, undated

Box 107

Folder 16

"Henry James" - Notes, undated

Box 107

Folder 17

Massignon lecture notes, undated

Box 108

Folder 1

"Treadwell" - Manuscript inserts, undated

Box 108

Folder 2

"Freud" - Typescript, undated

Sub-subseries 5: Letters and Notes, Material considered by Bruce Phemister and Philipp Fehl for inclusion in later volumes

Box 108

Folder 3

Correspondence, notes, ephemera - Mainly about travel in France, Summer 1932

Box 108

Folder 4

Notes and correspondence, 1933-1936

Box 108

Folder 5

"Notes from my Diary" - Typescripts, March-May 1935

Box 108

Folder 6

Notes, correspondence, and ephemera from France, 1936-1937

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Folder 7

Correspondence and notes, 1938-1939, and undated

Box 108

Folder 8

Notes and correspondence, mainly on art, December 1942

Box 108

Folder 9

Notes and manuscript, 1943

Box 108

Folder 10

Notes, July 1944

Box 108

Folder 11

Correspondence and notes, August-September 1944

Box 108

Folder 12

Notes and clipping, November 1944

Box 108

Folder 13

Correspondence, Harbor Springs, Michigan, 1944

Box 109

Folder 1

Writings at Harbor Springs, Michigan, 1944

Box 109

Folder 2

Notes and correspondence, November 1944-March 1945

Box 109

Folder 3

Notes, January 1945

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Folder 4

Notes, including notes on "Judgment" and "Method-Motive," February 1945

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Folder 5

Notes and correspondence, April-May 1945

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Folder 6

Notes, April-May 1945

Box 109

Folder 7

Notes, ephemera, and correspondence, April-May 1945

Box 110

Folder 1

Notes, May 1945

Box 110

Folder 2

Notes and ephemera, May-June 1945

Box 110

Folder 3

Notes, May-July 1945

Box 110

Folder 4

Notes and correspondence, July 1945

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Folder 5

Notes, manuscript, and correspondence, August 1945

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Folder 6

Notes, November 1945

Box 110

Folder 7

Correspondence, Harbor Springs, Michigan 1943-1945

Box 110

Folder 8

Notes, Roaring Brook, 1945

Box 111

Folder 1

Notes and correspondence, 1945-1946

Box 111

Folder 2

Notes, January and March 1946

Box 111

Folder 3

Notes, March 1946

Box 111

Folder 4

Notes, March 1946 and undated

Box 111

Folder 5

Notes and ephemera, May 1946

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Folder 6

Notes, June-July 1946

Box 111

Folder 7

Notes, September 1946

Box 112

Folder 1

Notes and program, including notes on Henry James, October 1946

Box 112

Folder 2

Notes, October-December 1946

Box 112

Folder 3

Notes, October-December 1946

Box 112

Folder 4

Clippings, 1944-1946

Box 112

Folder 5

Notes, 1946

Box 112

Folder 6

Notes and ephemera, 1946

Box 112

Folder 7

Outline, notes, 1946

Box 112

Folder 8

Notes and correspondence, Harbor Springs, 1946

Box 112

Folder 9

Notes from Punta Gorda, Florida, January-February 1947

Box 113

Folder 1

Notes, correspondence, and ephemera, May-June 1947

Box 113

Folder 2

Notes, June-August, 1947

Box 113

Folder 3

Notes, November 1947

Box 113

Folder 4

Newspaper clippings and notes, 1947

Box 113

Folder 5

Letter to Mabel Wing Castle on board the "Matsonia," March 15, 1948

Box 113

Folder 6

Correspondence, March-April 1948

Box 113

Folder 7

Correspondence, April-May 1948

Box 113

Folder 8

Notes and ephemera, August 1948

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Folder 9

Notes, September 1948

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Folder 10

Notes and clipping, October 1948

Box 114

Folder 1

Notes, November-December 1948

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Folder 2

Notes, November-December 1948

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Folder 3

Notes, 1943-November 1948

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Folder 4

Notes and correspondence, 1945-1948

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Folder 5

Chicago Daily News clipping, 1948

Box 114

Folder 6

Notes, mainly from Germany, July-November 1949

Box 114

Folder 7

Notes, mainly to John U. Nef, Jr., September 1949-March 1950

Box 114

Folder 8

Correspondence and ephemera, 1933-1949

Box 114

Folder 9

Correspondence from Florida, 1948-1949

Box 115

Folder 1

Correspondence, Punta Gorda, Florida, 1949

Box 115

Folder 2

Notes from England and letter to Fernandez, 1949

Box 115

Folder 3

Notes, Punta Gorda, Florida, January 1950

Box 115

Folder 4

Notes, including inserts for Koehler, Thorndike, and Donahue, January 1950

Box 115

Folder 5

Notes, February-May 1950

Box 115
Folder 6
Notes, November 1950

Box 115
Folder 7
Notes and correspondence, 1945-1950

Box 115
Folder 8
Copy of "Letter to Linda," 1950

Box 115
Folder 9
Notes and notebooks, April 1950-March 1951

Box 115
Folder 10
Notes, March 1951

Box 116
Folder 1
Notes and correspondence, May 1951

Box 116
Folder 2
Notes and correspondence, May-September 1951

Box 116
Folder 3
Correspondence, October-November 1951

Box 116
Folder 4
Notes, November-December 1951

Box 116
Folder 5
Notes and lists made abroad, 1932-1951

Box 116
Folder 6
Notes and correspondence, 1947-1951

Box 116
Folder 7
Correspondence from Florida and notes, 1948-1951

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Folder 8
Correspondence, 1951

Box 117
Folder 1
Notes written aboard the "Queen Mary," 1951

Box 117
Folder 2
Correspondence, January 1952

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Folder 3

Notes, April-November 1952

Box 117

Folder 4

Notes, 1952

Box 117

Folder 5

Notes and ephemera, undated

Box 117

Folder 6

Notes, undated

Box 117

Folder 7

Notes, undated

Sub-subseries 6: Los Angeles Diary

Box 117

Folder 8

Proof, 1952

Box 117

Folder 9

Reprint and letter, 1952

Box 117

Folder 10

Reprints (3), 1952

Box 117

Folder 11

Correspondence, mostly acknowledgements, A-K, 1952-1953

Box 117

Folder 12

Correspondence, mainly acknowledgements, L-Z, 1953

Box 118

Folder 1

Correspondence, mainly acknowledgements, L-Z, 1953

Sub-subseries 7: My Mother's Reminiscences

Box 118

Folder 2

Notes, 1949-1950

Box 118

Folder 3

Corrected typescript of complete work ready for printing, 1949-1950

Box 118

Folder 4

"Leander Wing's Inventions" section – Typescript and notes, 1950

Box 118

Folder 5

"Philadelphia" section – Typescript notes and correspondence, 1950

Box 118

Folder 6

"Callers at Punahou" section – Typescript and manuscript notes, 1950

Box 118

Folder 7

Autobiographical essays by Mabel Wing Castle, correspondence, and obituary clipping, 1945-1951

Box 118

Folder 8

"Robert Louis Stevenson" section – Typescript notes and copy of Mabel wing Castle's newspaper article on Stevenson in Hawaii, 1949-1951

Box 118

Folder 9

Notes and inserts, 1949-1951

Box 118

Folder 10

Notes and correspondence regarding photographs of Mabel Wing Castle, 1949-1952

Box 118

Folder 11

Notes, inserts, correspondence, 1949-1952

Box 118

Folder 12

"Women's Suffrage" section – Notes, inserts, correspondence, 1950-1952

Box 118

Folder 13

French typescript, undated

Box 118

Folder 14

Published monograph, 1954

Box 118

Folder 15

English and French mailing lists, circa 1955

Box 118

Folder 16

Letters of acknowledgement for the booklet, A-L, 1954-1955

Box 119

Folder 1

Letters of acknowledgement for the booklet, M-Z, 1954-1955

Box 119

Folder 2

Library mailing list and letters of acknowledgement, 1954-1965

Box 119

Folder 3

Correspondence, 1954-1965

Series V: Photographs

This series contains photographs, negatives, and photograph albums arranged chronologically. Of particular interest are images of the Castle family home in Hawaii in Box 119, Folder 6.

Box 119

Folder 4

Elinor Castle Nef, circa 1897-1922

Box 119

Folder 5

Elinor Castle Nef, 1902

Box 119

Folder 6

Castle home, Castle and Mead family in Hawaii, 1903

Box 119

Folder 7

Photo album – Hawaii, circa 1903

Box 119

Folder 8

Elinor Castle Nef, 1909

Box 119

Folder 9

Unidentified portrait, 1910

Box 119

Folder 10

Elinor Castle Nef, reprints of Eva Watson-Schutze photographs, circa 1910

Box 119

Folder 11

Elinor Castle Nef, graduation from University of Chicago, June 1918

Box 119

Folder 12

Elinor Castle Nef – Portraits, circa 1920-1922

Box 119

Folder 13

Elinor Castle Nef, 1921

Box 119

Folder 14

Elinor Castle Nef, 1922

Box 119

Folder 15

Elinor Castle Nef and John U. Nef, Jr. at Cap d'Antibes, 1922

Box 119

Folder 16

Unidentified, 1922

Box 119

Folder 17

Passport photographs, 1922-1936

Box 119

Folder 18

"Unveiling of the 'Pioneers' group. Elmwood, Illinois," 1928

Box 119

Folder 19

Photographs and negatives – Mabel Wing Castle, 1929

Box 119

Folder 20

Madame Katsenbalis, 1933

Box 119

Folder 21

Elinor and John U. Nef, Jr., Madame and Monsieur André Siegfried, 1934

Box 119

Folder 22

Elinor Castle Nef and John U. Nef, Jr. in Europe, 1935

Box 119

Folder 23

Unidentified, circa 1920-1935

Box 119

Folder 24

Photographs and postcards – Los Angeles, home of Mabel Wing Castle, 1936

Box 119

Folder 25

Elinor Castle Nef, John U. Nef, Jr., Constance MacLaughlin Green, and Mabel Wing Castle in Hawaii, 1938

Box 119

Folder 26

Clippings from Honolulu Advertiser containing photographs of Elinor Castle Nef, John U. Nef, Jr., Constance MacLaughlin Green, and Mabel Wing Castle in Hawaii, 1938

Box 119

Folder 27

Elinor Castle Nef, John U. Nef, Jr., and Mabel Wing Castle in home at 5650 Dorchester, Chicago, 1940

Box 119

Folder 28

Edward Hopper's Nighthawks and Hotel Lobby, circa 1945

Box 119

Folder 29

Hotel du Cap d'Antibes, 1949

Box 120

Folder 1

Frankfurt – Wartime destruction, 1949

Box 120

Folder 2

Apartment at 5550 Dorchester, Chicago, circa 1950

Box 120

Folder 3

Elinor Castle Nef and John U. Nef, Jr. in Hawaii, 1952

Box 120

Folder 4

Photograph album, 1952

Box 120

Folder 5

Elinor Castle Nef, circa 1950-1954

Box 120

Folder 6

Elinor Castle Nef and John U. Nef, Jr. in unidentified location, circa 1950-1954

Box 120

Folder 7

William and Margaret Castle, 1963

Series VI: Memorabilia

This series contains a paperweight that was found among Elinor's correspondence. Paperweights such as this were produced in celebration of the 1893 Columbian Exhibition in Chicago, Illinois. This paperweight was manufactured in 1891 by the World's Fair Souvenir Company, located on LaSalle Street in Chicago.

Box 121

Columbian Exhibition paperweight, circa 1891-1893

Series VII: Oversize

This series contains oversize material, including a scrapbook, Elinor's diploma, artwork by Elinor and by artist Walter Tittle, and photographs.

Box 122

Photographs (11) of paintings and drawings of Nef home, undated

Box 122

Photograph – Unidentified woman, possible relative of Frida Steckner, undated

Box 122

Photograph – Portrait of Mary Castle, undated

Box 122

Photograph – Carrie Castle Westervelt and Andrew Westervelt, undated

Box 122

Photograph – Elinor Castle Nef and cat, undated

Box 122

Photograph – Henry Northrup Castle and Dorothy Castle, circa 1894-1895

Box 123

Folder 1

Scrapbook of London theater, 1910

Box 123

Folder 2

University of Chicago diploma, 1916

Box 123

Folder 3

Fernand Léger exhibit catalogs and galleries, 1944

Box 123

Folder 4

Drawings by Elinor Castle Nef, circa 1903-1910

Box 123

Folder 5

Drawing of Elinor Castle Nef by Walter Tittle, 1923

Box 123

Folder 6

Photograph of George Herbert Mead, circa 1920-1930

Box 123

Folder 7

Photographs – Julia J. Swanzy and Francis Swanzy Morgan, circa 1918-1919

Box 123

Folder 8

Photograph of Elinor Castle Nef, Lucerne, 1910

Box 123

Folder 9

Photograph of Elinor Castle Nef, circa 1921-1922

Box 123

Folder 10

Photographs of Elinor Castle Nef at 5650 Dorchester Avenue, Chicago, 1940

Box 123

Folder 11

Elinor Castle Nef, John U. Nef, Jr., and Mabel Wing Castle at 5650 Dorchester Avenue, Chicago, 1940