

Guide to the Carita Gertrude Smith Papers, 1912-1942

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Manuscript Collection 002, MtLPH, US
Lone Pine Historical Society Archives
PO Box 225
Lone Pine, MT 59921

Finding aid prepared by Jodi Allison-Bunnell, 2002

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National Historical Publications and Records Commission

Overview of the Collection

Smith, Carita Gertrude, 1912-2003
Carita Gertrude Smith Papers, 1912-1942
1 linear foot

Language

The collection is in English.

Summary

Carita Gertrude Smith was a resident of Big Sandy, Montana, and taught in small schools in north and south central Montana. The collection contains her personal papers.

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Biographical Note

Carita Gertrude Smith was born in Bottineau County, North Dakota, on December 7, 1912 to Thomas and Bertha Smith. She was followed by a brother, Samuel, in 1913. The Smiths relocated to Big Sandy, Montana, in 1917, where they homesteaded. He ran a barber shop in town; she was a midwife. Carita attended Big Sandy schools, graduating in 1930 from Big Sandy High School. She earned a teaching certificate from the normal school in Havre in 1931 and went on to teach in a variety of Montana schools, including Toston and Whitefish. Between 1942 and 1943, she married Arden William "Bunny" Bunnell of North Platte, Nebraska. They lived in a number of locations in the eastern United States before setting in Pocatello, Idaho. They had two sons, Roy and Jon. Mr. Bunnell died in 1978; Mrs. Bunnell died in 2003.

Content Description of Collection

The collection consists of Smith's personal and professional papers. They document her high school career in Big Sandy and time teaching in one-room schools in Montana.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in three series:
Series I: Personal Papers
Series II: School Papers
Series III: Photographs

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Roy Bunnell, 2003.

Processing Information

The collection was processed for the first time in 2003.

Separated Material

Two Big Sandy High School yearbooks were removed to the library collection.

Subjects

Smith, Carita Gertrude, 1912-2003 – Archives.

Big Sandy (Mont.)

Schoolteachers – Montana.

Midwives – Montana.

Container List

Series I: Personal Papers, 1912-1930

This series includes musical programs from Big Sandy High School, a brief daily diary, and a few items related to her Bertha Smith's midwifery practice in Big Sandy.

Box/Folder

- 1/1 Musical programs, Big Sandy High School, 1926-1930
- 1/2 Diary, 1912-1930
- 1/3 Midwifery work, Bertha Smith, 1920-1930

Series II: School Papers, 1930-1942

This series includes school records from Toston and Whitefish that show the names of pupils, examples of writing and history exercises, and miscellaneous printed materials distributed by the Montana State Board of Education.

Box/Folder

- 1/4 Toston school, 1940-1942
- 1/5 Whitefish school, 1935-1936
- 1/6 Miscellaneous, undated

Series III: Photographs, 1913-1940

This series contains photographs of Smith, her brother, and her pupils in Toston and Whitefish.

Box/Folder

1/7

Items

- 002(III): 1 High school graduation portrait, 1930
- 002(III): 2 Toston School, 1940
- 002(III): 3 Whitefish School, 1935
- 002(III): 4 Smith and brother, 1931