

[University of Oklahoma Libraries](#)
[Western History Collections](#)

Sherry Smith Bell Collection

Bell, Sherry Smith (1941-). Printed materials, 2004-2007. 0.1 feet.

Artist. Fine art prints (2004-2007), including “The Oklahoma Suite,” which is based on the artist’s personal remembrances of the culture and history of Oklahoma.

Box 1:

Folder 1: “The Oklahoma Suite,” 2004-2007

Item:

1. “Valentine Greetings,” solar etching, 2005
From the artist: “‘Valentine Greetings’ is a collage of a card my Aunt Roberta Roads Allen received to congratulate her on her graduation from the University of Oklahoma. Cards to celebrate significant occasions were saved in a special place, generally a scrapbook.”
2. “Family Farm,” drypoint, collograph, 2007
From the artist: “‘Family Farm’ is a tribute to my grandmother Ruby Canon Roads’s pioneering spirit. As a young single woman, she homesteaded a 160-acre farm by staking her claim in the Cherokee Strip Run of 1893. Her father, John Morgan Canon, rode on the buckboard wagon with her that day.”
3. “Mail Carriers,” solar etching, 2004
From the artist: “‘Mail Carriers’ is based on a 1905 photograph taken of the first rural route mail carriers and horse drawn wagon commissioned in Waukomis, Oklahoma. The print depicts the dusty main street with two Roads cousins standing in front of my grandfather J.V. Roads’s and Gibb Gosset’s coal and feed store.”
4. “Back in the Saddle Again,” solar etching, 2005
From the artist: “‘Back in the Saddle Again’ is an old time favorite song that plays in my memory. Gene Autry rides one of many Champions, the worlds’ wonder horse. Longhorn cattle, a native breed, “See my Spots” in the collage image, are an icon of the west.”
5. “Pistol Packin’ Mama,” solar etching, 2005
From the artist: “‘Pistol Packin’ Mama” is the first song I learned to sing. My Grandad would ask me to sing it for him and would reward me with praise. In the print, Dale Evans, everyone’s cowgirl, is shown with the lyrics to the song. The little girl is me standing alongside our house in the small town of Waukomis, Oklahoma. I was a cowgirl in the making.”
6. “Approaching Storm,” solar etching, 2007
From the artist: “‘Approaching Storm’ evokes the lightning and thunder storms that crack across the grass plains.”

7. "A Love That's True," solar etching, 2007
From the artist: "'A Love That's True,' a solar etching, is inspired by my Aunt and Uncle's marriage memorabilia. Romantic love and marriage commitments in the 1940s were for life. The hopes and dreams of a post-war generation were fueled by a sense of optimism."
8. "Grain Elevator," solar etching, 2006
From the artist: "'Grain Elevator' is a landmark on the prairie signifying the hopes of the farming community. In Waukomis, Oklahoma, and in many farming towns, the grain elevator is the tallest structure."
9. "Historic Barn," drypoint, etching, and collograph, 2005
From the artist: "'Historic Barn' is based on my memories of playing in the hay loft as a young child and marveling at the strength of the solid wood structure. My grandad and grandmother's barn on Pioneer Road is now gone, replaced by a metal shed."
10. "Northside Café II," solar etching, 2006
From the artist: "'Northside Café II' represents the times my Grandad Roads would take me to the Main Street café. As a special treat, he would buy me a cherry coke with ice and a cherry."
11. "Cowgirl," solar etching, 2007
12. "Lucky Cowgirl," solar etching, 2007.

Folder 2: "My Home Town Suite," etchings and captions, Waukomis, Oklahoma, 2005.

Item:

1. "My Home Town," etching, 2005.
2. "Land Office," etching, 2005.
3. "Main Street," etching, 2005.
4. "Original Buildings," etching, 2005.

Item 3: Family Tree from Ralph Stone Smith side of the family, 1943

Folder 4: "Western Scenes"

1. "Gone But Not Forgotten," drypoint/collagraph print, 2001.
2. "Everyday Window," drypoint/collagraph print, 2001.

Item 5:

“The Girl Graduate’s Journal” made by Roberta Roads Allen, Sherry Smith Bell’s Aunt. Contains news clippings, personal notes, grades from OU, and memorabilia from her first year at William Woods College.

Item 6:

Leather and cloth bound scrapbook with a hand painted depiction of “The Temple” from Carlsbad Cavern, N.M., created by Roberta Roads Allen, Sherry Smith Bell’s Aunt. Contains photos of Roberta’s early married life to James B. Allen. J.B., as he was called, worked for the Happy Belting Company, an oil field supply business.

Box 2:

Folder:

1. Family Correspondence, 1903-1989.
2. Clippings, 1930s-2000s.
3. Roads Family Tree to 1995.
4. Poetry and Short Fiction by Sherry Smith Bell
5. Elizabeth Roads Smith Correspondence to Sherry Smith Bell, 1960-1961.
6. Ralph Stone Smith Correspondence to Sherry Smith Bell, 1942.
7. “Talking Shadows,” by Tibbie Shades, Fairview, Oklahoma, 1995. Chester Shades was a classmate of Roberta Roads Allen’s class of 1931, Waukomis High School. Her graduation program is enclosed. Roberta spoke as the historian of the class.
8. Cherokee Strip Centennial Celebration Materials, September 16-18, 1993. Includes first day of issue for commemorative stamp, postcards, brochures, *Journal of the Cherokee Strip*, September 1995, and Souvenir Program.
9. Obituary for Elizabeth Jean Bell.

Poem entitled “The Dark”.

Oversize Box 1

Item:

1. Neptune Society Certificate presented to Ralph S. Smith from WWII Navy Troop transport ship, the Morton, August 1944.
2. Sue Marie Stone, Bachelor of Arts Diploma from the University of the State of Missouri, 1902.

3. Ralph Stone Smith, Bachelor of Journalism diploma from the University of Missouri, 1932.
4. Elizabeth A. Roads, Bachelor of Arts diploma from the University of Oklahoma, 1928.
5. Ralph Smight, High School Diploma from Columbia, Missouri High School, 1925.