Charles Francis Colcord was born in Bourbon City, Kentucky, on August 18, 1859. His father was a large landowner in Kentucky before the Civil War, and later settled in the Southwest. In his youth, Colcord was a cowboy in Texas and Kansas. When he was thirty, Colcord made the Land Run of 1889 in central Oklahoma and settled in Oklahoma City. He became the first chief of police of Oklahoma City and the first sheriff of Oklahoma County. He participated in the opening of the Cherokee Strip in 1893 and claimed a homestead in Noble County, near Perry. Colcord served for four years as the Chief Deputy US Marshal of the Fourth Judicial District of the Territory. In 1903, Colcord drilled his first oil well and discovered the Glenn Pool which helped establish Oklahoma as one of the major oil-producing states. In 1910, he built the 12-story Colcord building in downtown Oklahoma City and founded the North American Oil and Refining Company in 1918. He was one of the principals in the construction of the Commerce Exchange Building and the Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel. In addition, he organized and was president of the Commercial National Bank of Oklahoma City, and was a lifetime member of the Oklahoma Historical Society. He was married to Harriet Scoresby Colcord and had six children. He died at his country home at Colcord, Oklahoma on December 10, 1934.

This collection contains material from about 1904 to about 1938, with the majority of the material being from 1910-1934. Personal and business letters and legal and business records make up most of this collection. Colcord's original secretary's filing system has been largely maintained. Thus, under "B" Miscellaneous Correspondence can be found correspondence to and from individuals whose names begin with "B," businesses whose names begin with "B," and information on products and services which begin with "B" (such as booksellers, etc.). Unless otherwise indicated, materials within all folders are sorted by date. Most of the collection (Boxes 1-42) is organized in alphabetical order. Boxes 43-45 contain various miscellaneous material, mostly of historical interest or relating to Colcord's death.

**Box 1--"A"**

Folder:

1. Alaska Mine Pool-correspondence with other members, copies of legal agreements, etc., 1925-1929.
3. Arizona Ranch (Yavapai Co.)-legal papers related to purchase, 1926.

**Box 2--"B" Correspondence, 1906-1920**
Folder:

2. "B" correspondence, mainly Bartholf, 1909.
4. "B" correspondence-Bartholf, Bedford and miscellaneous individuals and businesses, 1911.
5. "B" correspondence-Bartholf, Bedford and miscellaneous individuals and businesses, 1912.
6. "B" correspondence-Bartholf and Bedford, mainly on Montana mine, 1913.

**Box 3--Miscellaneous "B" correspondence, 1920-1932; Bids-E.W. Branch**
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "B" correspondence, 1921-1923.
5. J.L. Baldwin—correspondence concerning purchase of yacht, 1924.
8. E.W. Branch (tax adviser) v. Oklahoma City Excise Board, 1933.

**Box 4**—E.W. Branch and Miscellaneous "C" Correspondence, 1907-1911.
Folder:
2. E.W. Branch v. Excise Board—correspondence, court records, etc, 1934.
8. Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, 1911.

**Box 5**—Miscellaneous "C" Correspondence, 1912-1925
Folder:
1. Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, 1912-1913.
5. Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, 1923.
6. "C" correspondence; L.D. Callahan and miscellaneous, 1924.
7. Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, including Samuel Colcord concerning Harding-Coolidge World Court Proposal, 1925.

**Box 6**—Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, 1926-1930-Citizens Protective League
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "C" correspondence, 1926.
7. Cement, OK Oil Well, 1926-1930.
8. Oklahoma Citizens Protective League-correspondence, acts, memorials, etc, 1912.

Box 7--Clay, Topsy-Personal Correspondence, 1925-1926
Folder:

1. Topsy Clay-records concerning her inheritance from Lizzie Clay, Colcord's relative, 1927-1929.
2. Coffey Lease-statements, etc, 1923-1928.
3. Coffey Lease-statements, etc, 1929-1930.
4. Coffey Lease-statements, etc, 1931.
5. Colcord personal papers and correspondence, 1913-1918 and undated miscellaneous.
7. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1922.

Box 8--Personal Correspondence, 1926-1933
Folder:

1. Correspondence received by Colcord at Florida address, December 1926-May 1927.
2. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1927.
3. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1928.
5. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1930.
10. Colcord's run for Mayor, 1933.

**Box 9--Personal Correspondence, 1933-1934, Ray Colcord Correspondence and Sidney Colcord Correspondence**

Folder:

1. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1933.
2. Colcord miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1934.
4. Correspondence on Colcord's estate, 1934-1939.
5. Harriet Colcord correspondence, bills, etc, 1922-1924.
6. Ray Colcord correspondence, 1918-1921.
10. Sidney Colcord correspondence, 1920-1922.
12. Sidney Colcord invoices and payments, etc, 1922.

**Box 10**--Sidney Colcord Correspondence, 1923-1929; W.C. Colcord Correspondence; Papers from Colcord's Business Partnerships, 1923-1937

**Folder:**

1. Sidney Colcord miscellaneous correspondence, 1923.
2. Sidney Colcord invoices, payments and miscellaneous, 1924-1925.
5. Sidney Colcord legal matters, mostly relating to his divorce, 1927.
8. Colcord, Callahan, Conkling and Johnston, 1923-1926; Colcord, Callahan and Conkling, 1927.

**Box 11**--Colcord Investment Co.-Colquitt, O.B. Correspondence

**Folder:**

2. Colcord, Maney and Colcord, 1919-1921.
4. Colcord and Maney legal agreements with various parties, 1921.
8. O.B. Colquitt correspondence with Colcord and Seaboard Oil and Gas Company, December, 1920-June, 1921.
9. O.B. Colquitt correspondence with Colcord and Seaboard Oil and Gas Company, July, 1921-December, 1921.

**Box 12--Commercial Trust Co.-Miscellaneous "D" Correspondence, 1915**

Folder:


**Box 13--Miscellaneous "D" Correspondence-Delaware Co. Bank**

Folder:

3. Miscellaneous "D" correspondence, 1924-1926.
5. Deep Well Oil Pump Corp. (Colcord and Callahan) legal agreements, minutes of meetings, some correspondence, etc, 1924, 1929.

8. Delaware Co. Bank (Jay, OK) correspondence, deposit slips, statements, etc, 19281-1930.

**Box 14**--Delaware Co. Land Holding-Evans, J.L. Correspondence Folder:

1. Delaware Co. Land Holding correspondence, 1930-1934.


3. Doors in Colcord Building brochures, etc, 1915.


7. Chas M. Dunning Construction Co. invoices, etc, 1924.


**Box 15**--Miscellaneous "F" Correspondence-Florida Properties Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "F" correspondence, 1904-1914.


3. Miscellaneous "F" correspondence, 1922-1924.

5. Finnel System, Inc. (scrubbing and polishing machines) correspondence and brochures, 1928-1930.

6. First and Broadway Property, 1930.

7. First National Bank, Graham, TX, 1919-1923.


10. Florida Properties, 1925.


**Box 16--**Foster, William A.-Grand Avenue White Way Project

Folder:


5. Miscellaneous "G" correspondence, 1912-1917.

6. Miscellaneous "G" correspondence, 1918-1922.

7. Miscellaneous "G" correspondence, 1923-1925.


10. F. Godber, President of Roxana Petroleum Co, correspondence, 1922.


Box 17--Graves, J.N.-Miscellaneous "H" Correspondence, 1924
Folder:


2. Guaranty State Bank (Graham, TX) correspondence concerning Colcord, Maney and Colcord and J.C. Wofford, trucker, 1921-1922.

3. Gum Brothers Co. (Real Estate Mortgage Loans) correspondence concerning insurance, 1922-1925.

4. Miscellaneous "H" correspondence, 1907-1912.

5. Miscellaneous "H" correspondence, 1913-1914.


9. Miscellaneous "H" correspondence, 1924.

Box 18--Miscellaneous "H" Correspondence-Hosfeld, Jack (includes correspondence with Governor C.N. Haskell)
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "H" correspondence, 1925-1926.


4. Hamon and Colcord-Coffey Lease, 1913-1922.


7. Governor C.N. Haskell correspondence concerning South Bend and Laney Leases, 1921-1923.

8. M.M. Head (First National Bank, Jefferson, IA) concerning installation of electricity, 1922.


Box 19--Miscellaneous "I" Correspondence-Keaton, Wells and Johnston
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "I" correspondence, 1911-1913.


3. Indian Leases—correspondence with US Indian Services concerning Austin, Buck, Daniel, Davis, Harjo and Heald Leases, also includes miscellaneous related correspondence, 1913-1915.


5. Miscellaneous "J" correspondence, 1908-1915.


Box 20--Keaton, Wells and Johnston-Laney Lease Correspondence, 1928
Folder:

1. Mary and Karl Krieger concerning guardianship of their Lease, 1913-1915.

2. Keaton, Wells and Johnston (Colcord's lawyers)—various litigations and invoices, etc, 1921-1927.


8. Laney Lease correspondence, 1925-1927.


**Box 21**--Laney Lease-Log Cabin (Colcord's Summer Home) Correspondence, 1929

Folder:

1. Laney Lease correspondence, 1929-1932.

2. Laney Lease correspondence, 1932.

3. Lease data (various Leases up to 1922), approx 1922.

4. Lease transfers and assignments, 1919-1923.

5. Liberty Central Trust Co., St. Louis, 1923.


7. Logs of various wells, 1921-1925.

8. "Log Cabin" (Colcord's summer home near Row, Oklahoma) correspondence between L.D. Callahan and W.D. Callum concerning construction, etc. (Row, Oklahoma was then renamed Colcord, Oklahoma), 1928-1929.

9. "Log Cabin" correspondence between L.D. Callahan and W.D. Callum concerning construction, etc, 1929.


**Box 22**--Log Cabin-Love, Judge Thomas B.

Folder:
1. Log cabin blueprints, maps, etc, also miscellaneous related items, 1928-1929.
2. Log cabin-correspondence with William Callum and others, 1928-1929.
3. Log cabin invoices, etc, 1928-1929.
4. Log cabin bills and receipts, 1930.
5. Log cabin correspondence concerning bluegrass seed, 1930.
6. Log cabin correspondence with Charles Burbage concerning land purchases and changing of town name from Row, OK to Colcord, OK, 1930.
8. Log cabin-itemized account of checks written from Colcord ranch account, 1928-1930.
10. Log cabin correspondence concerning the hiring of a manager for Colcord Ranch, mainly with Oklahoma A& M College (OSU) faculty, 1930.
11. Log cabin miscellaneous material including photos, also a farm record book, 1930, 1938.

Box 23--Miscellaneous "M" Correspondence, 1905-1927
Folder:
1. Miscellaneous "M" correspondence, 1905-1912.
5. Miscellaneous "M" correspondence, 1921.
7. Miscellaneous "M" correspondence, 1924-1925.

Box 24--miscellaneous "M" Correspondence-Manuscript of Colcord Autobiography
Folder:

3. Maney Settlement statements, etc, 1922-1924.
4. Maney Settlement statements, etc, 1925-1930.
7. Manuscript-draft copy and various notes, about 1933.
8. Miscellaneous notes and portions of the manuscript, about 1933.
9. Miscellaneous notes and portions of the manuscript, about 1933.

Box 25--Draft Copy of Manuscript-Miscellaneous "Mc" Correspondence Folder:

1. Draft copy of manuscript, 1 of 2, about 1933.
2. Draft copy of manuscript, 2 of 2, about 1933.
3. Final draft of manuscript, chapters 1-27, about 1933.
4. Older portions of drafts of manuscript, about 1933.
5. Colcord's handwritten notes for manuscript, also stenographer's notes, about 1933.
7. Marsh and Marlin, attorneys, 1925-1926.

Box 26--McMurray, T.C.-Miscellaneous "N" Correspondence, 1924-1927 Folder:

3. Alex Merrill (Merrill-Stevens Dry Dock Co.) correspondence concerning yacht, 1924.

4. R.B. Metcalfe correspondence, 1925-1926.

5. Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, 1921-1927.

6. Miller Brewing Co. correspondence concerning insurance purchased from Colcord and load made to E.G. Miller by Colcord, 1909-1913.

7. Miscellaneous includes building and real-estate buying information, oil rig supplies, various statistics and surveys, etc, 1924-1928.

8. Miscellaneous includes National Geographic fliers, Cherokee Strip Cow Purchasers Association, letters of recommendation, various advertisements and brochures, 1924-1928.


Box 28--Nance, A.H.-Nevill Process Corp.
Folder:

1. A.H. Nance (South Bend, TX) correspondence, 1924-1926.


5. Nevill's Deep Well Oil Pump legal papers concerning patent grant and sale of patent, 1924.

6. Nevill Process Corp. (later Deep Well Oil Pump Corp) articles of incorporation, blueprints and correspondence concerning the corporation, patent, etc, 1924.


**Box 28--Nevins, Thomas- North American and Refining Corp.**

**Folder:**

1. Thomas Nevins and Son, 1923.


**Box 29--North American Oil & Refining Corp-Miscellaneous "O" Correspondence, 1922**

**Folder:**


6. Miscellaneous "O" correspondence, 1903-1912.

7. Miscellaneous "O" correspondence, 1913-1918.

8. Miscellaneous "O" correspondence, 1919-1922.

**Box 30**--Miscellaneous "O" Correspondence, 1923-Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "O" correspondence, 1923-1926.

2. Miscellaneous "O" correspondence, 1927 and undated.

3. Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel correspondence, legal papers, etc. concerning construction, 1928-1929.

4. Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel correspondence, legal papers, etc. concerning construction, 1930.

5. Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel correspondence, legal papers, etc. concerning construction, 1931.

6. Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel-miscellaneous undated, mostly lists of stockholders, approx 1931.


**Box 31**--Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel-Oklahoma Historical Society
Folder:

1. Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel correspondence, April-December 1932.

2. Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, 1922-1926.

3. Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, 1927-1930.

4. Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, 1931-1933.

5. Oklahoma Corporation Commission concerning well record, 1921, 1924.

6. Oklahoma Historical Society (C.F. Colcord, President) general correspondence and reports, 1924-1929.
7. Oklahoma Historical Society general correspondence and reports, 1930-1931.

**Box 32**—Oklahoma Historical Society-Miscellaneous "P" Correspondence
Folder:


5. Miscellaneous "P" correspondence, 1908-1913.


**Box 33**—Packard Motor Car Co.-Quotations: Drilling Material
Folder:


5. Ransom Payne correspondence, 1929-1937.


7. Joseph M. Perkins correspondence concerning Eddleman, Hunter and Roberton
Leases, 1921-1923.


12. Puritan Petroleum Co. (Oklahoma City office run by Colcord, Maney & Colcord), 1922-1926.


**Box 34**--Miscellaneous "R" Correspondence-Ruff, Edwin C.

Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "R" correspondence, 1907-1913.
4. Ranch related material (various), 1926.
5. Red Seal Refining Co. invoices, 1924-1926.
7. Rental increase in Colcord Building correspondence, 1923.
9. Royalties Inc. correspondence with Okoboji Oil Co., 1924.

**Box 35**--Miscellaneous "S" Correspondence, 1907-1923

Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "S" correspondence, 1907-1912.
5. Miscellaneous "S" correspondence, 1922.
Box 36--Miscellaneous "S" Correspondence-Settlements with Bank of America
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous "S" correspondence, 1924.
2. Miscellaneous "S" correspondence, 1925.
4. P.D. Saklatvala (President of Middle States Oil Co.) correspondence concerning dispute over Young Co. Lease, 1923-1924.
5. Seaboard Oil & Gas Co. correspondence and legal papers concerning Riverbed Lease, 1920-1926.
6. Seaboard Oil & Gas Co. correspondence, mostly with George Sterling concerning Riverbed Lease, 1921.
7. Seattle Property (C.P. Stone home) correspondence, 1924-1928.
10. Settlements with Bank of America-division and transfer orders, 1926.

Box 37--Settlements-Miscellaneous "T" Correspondence
Folder:

4. Sinclair Crude Oil correspondence, 1924-1926.
5. W.B. Skirvin correspondence, 1927.
6. Spirit Lake, IA-correspondence, mostly concerning Spirit Lake property, also statements from local businesses, 1921-1926.
7. Spirit Lake, IA—correspondence, mostly concerning Spirit Lake property, 1927.
9. Stenographers (applications from), March 1923.
12. Miscellaneous "T" correspondence, 1921-1924.

**Box 38—Tams & King-Travelers Insurance Co.**
Folder:

1. Tams & King Yacht & Ship Brokers correspondence concerning purchase of yacht, also photos, blueprint of yacht and navigational guide, 1922-1924.
2. Tax contract (Brown & Durham), also other tax related matters, 1927-1936.
4. Taxpayers' Efficiency League, also Tax Economy Association, 1933.
6. Telegrams and copies (handwritten), 1909-1912.
7. Telegrams, miscellaneous, 1923, 1925.
11. The Travelers Insurance Co, mostly statements and receipts, 1930.

**Box 39—Tucker, Jack-Miscellaneous "W" Correspondence, 1925**
Folder:

3. Union Station, 1925-1928.

4. Urschel Kidnapping correspondence concerning reward offered and claims made, includes correspondence with J. Edgar Hoover; also newspaper clippings, 1933.

5. Urschel Kidnapping claims for reward, including correspondence with J. Edgar Hoover, 1933.

6. Urschel Kidnapping correspondence and clippings, mostly concerning Geraldine Arnold, 1933, 1936.

7. Miscellaneous "W" correspondence, 1911-1914.


Box 40--Thomas & Warren-Williams, J.H., 1927

Folder:


2. Thomas & Warren account at Liberty National Bank, duplicate checks, statements, etc. (see also: North American Oil Corp, Nevill Process Corp.), 1924.


7. C.J. Webster correspondence, mostly concerning yacht Miramar, 1924-1925.


10. J.H. Williams, 1925.

11. J.H Williams, 1926.
12. J.H. Williams, 1927.

**Box 41--Williams, J.H. (1928-1929)-Ziegler, F.B.**
Folder:

2. J.H. Williams correspondence, 1930-1931.
3. Woodford, OK correspondence concerning the sale of school lands, 1926.
4. Woodpick Oil Co. correspondence and well records, 1921.
5. Miscellaneous "Y" correspondence and miscellaneous "Z" correspondence, alphabetically by sender, 1911-1923.
6. Yacht Miramar, mostly receipts and statements, December 1923-January 1924; log of Brooklyn to Miami trip, December 1923-January 1924.
7. Yacht Miramar, mostly receipts and statements, February-May 1924.
8. Yacht Oklahoma (formerly Dux II) bill of sale and correspondence, 1927.
9. Young County Abstract Co. and miscellaneous Young correspondence, 1911-1926.

**Box 42--Miscellaneous**
Folder:

1. Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, 1921-1939.
2. Newspaper clippings concerning various oil wells, especially Smackover Well in El Dorado, Arkansas, 1921.
3. "The Clay Family" genealogical publication copyright 1899, about the Clay family of Kentucky (Colcord's maternal relatives); includes a few pages of an 1812 Bible placed inside front cover, 1899.
4. Colcord's scrapbook of newspaper clippings; includes clippings on his death, 1943-1935.
5. Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, mainly concerning Colcord's death, December 1934.
**Box 43--Miscellaneous**

Folder:

1. Certificates awarded to Colcord, 1912, 1922.

2. Oklahoma City-historical and city planning information and Chamber of Commerce newsletters (featuring articles by Colcord), 1923-1930.


5. Correspondence concerning Old West history: New Mexico range wars and John Middleton, 1932; also typed copies of letters from 1879.

6. Correspondence concerning Colcord Memorial, 1935.

**Box 44--Miscellaneous**

Folder:

1. Biographical information on Colcord, 1920s-1930s?

2. Colcord's last will and testament, copy, March 1934.

3. Lists of telegrams sent, callers received after Colcord's death; also lists of visitors who visited his body while at the Oklahoma State Historical Building, December 1934.

4. Resolutions and eulogies on Colcord's death, from Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma City Board of Education, Rotary Club, etc, December 1934-January 1935.


7. Citizen's Capital Expense Co. treasurer's report, 1911.

**Box 45--Newspaper Clippings, 1909-1935**

Folder:


4. Newspaper clippings concerning Colcord's death, from various newspapers, December 1934.