

## Baseball team in Westmoreland, Kansas

The Westmoreland, Kansas baseball team is shown in these two postcards from 1910. The postcards are identical, except that one was used and the other was not. Only two of the players are identified. Standing on the far right in the photo is George Hart, the team's catcher. Next to him is his brother William Bert Hart, the team's pitcher. The inscribed postcard was sent by a family member to another of the Hart brothers, Harry, who was living in Washington, D.C. at the time. Bert Hart was a well-known semi-professional baseball player in northern Kansas during the 1910s and early 1920s. Both a pitcher and infielder, he played not only for the Westmoreland town team, but also for semi-pro teams in Green, Clay Center, and Beloit. In 1920, with Hart as its regular shortstop and occasional pitcher, the Beloit Leaguers salaried team claimed the "independent state championship of Kansas." Bert Hart spent most of his work career employed at the post office in Westmoreland; he and his wife Margaret also operated a hotel and restaurant there for several years during the 1940s.

Date: 1910

Callnumber: 2016-157

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 315091

Item Identifier: 315091

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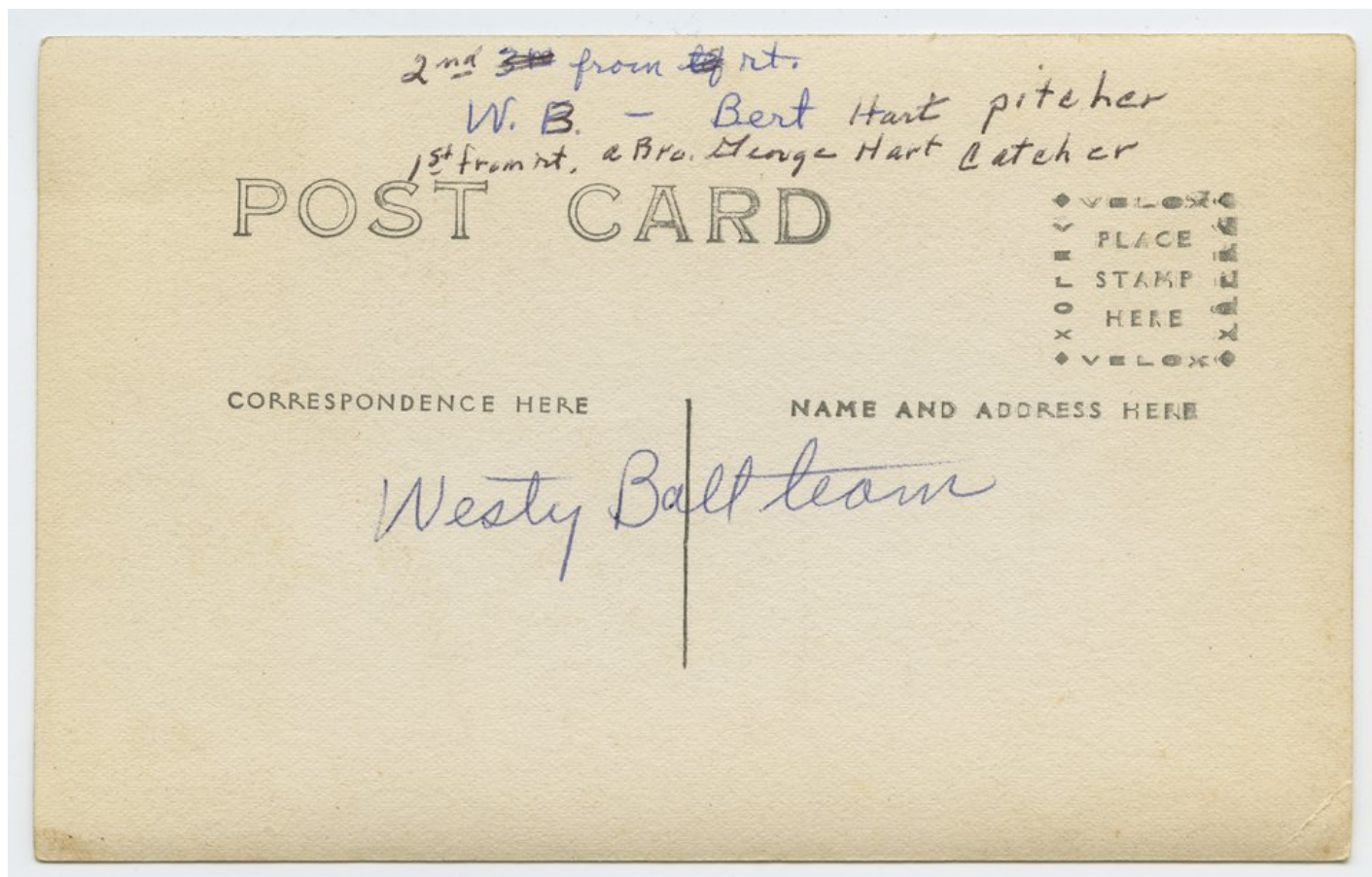
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