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Guide to the Harrison of Paris Records

YCAL MSS 148



by Timothy G. Young

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 148

CREATOR: Harrison of Paris

TITLE: Harrison of Paris records

DATES: 1930–1979

BULK DATES: 1930–1934

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.05 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Harrison of Paris records document the output of the short-lived fine press and include drafts of texts, setting copy, correspondence, advertisements, catalogs, and clippings. The records described here were culled from the papers of Monroe Wheeler, co-founder of the press. These are presumed to be the most complete group of records with direct provenance from the original press.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.hop>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.hop>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Received with the Glenway Wescott Papers and the Monroe Wheeler Papers, purchase from Monroe Wheeler, 1988, with later purchase and gift from Anatole Pohorilenko, 1998.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Harrison of Paris Records are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Harrison of Paris Records. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Associated Materials

Other manuscript materials relating to writings by Glenway Wescott published by Harrison of Paris can be found in the [Glenway Wescott Papers \[YCAL MSS 134\]](#).

HARRISON OF PARIS

Harrison of Paris was a fine press run by Barbara Harrison [later Wescott] and Monroe Wheeler. Established in Paris in 1930, it took as its goal the production of limited editions of belle-lettres texts, principally contemporary. (Monroe Wheeler had previously done very small editions in the 1920s, under the imprint "Manikin".) Over five years, the press produced 13 titles, including two by Glenway Wescott.

In 1934, shortly before the marriage of Barbara Harrison to Glenway Wescott's younger brother, Lloyd, the press was relocated to New York, where it brought out a final title, Katherine Anne Porter's *Hacienda*.

Though the production stopped in 1934, Harrison of Paris continued to influence other fine presses which followed its style. A complete listing of its output follows: 1930 *Venus and Adonis* by William Shakespeare *The Wild West* by Bret Harte, with illustrations by Pierre Falké *A Sketch of my Life* by Thomas Mann *The Babe's Bed* by Glenway Wescott 1931 *Fables of Aesop* translated by Sir Roger L'Estrange, with illustrations by Alexander Calder *Carmen and Letters from Spain* by Prosper Merimée, with illustrations by Maurice Barraud *The Death of Madame* by the Comtesse de Lafayette, translated by Monroe Wheeler *A Gentle Spirit* by Fyodor Dostoevsky, translated by C. Garnett, with illustrations by Christian Bérard *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* by Lord Byron, with illustrations by Sir Francis Rose *A Calendar of Saints for Unbelievers* by Glenway Wescott, with illustrations by Pavel Tchelitchew 1932 *A Typographical Commonplace Book* 1933 *Katherine Anne Porter's French Song-Book* 1934 *Hacienda* by Katherine Anne Porter, 1934

Scope and Contents

The Harrison of Paris records document the output of the short-lived fine press and include drafts of texts, setting copy, correspondence, advertisements, catalogs, and clippings. The material covers the years 1930-1979, with the bulk of items dating from the period the press was active, 1930-34. The records described here were culled from the papers of Monroe Wheeler, co-founder of the press. These are presumed to be the most complete group of records with direct provenance from the original press.

The records are housed in 3 boxes and are organized into three series: I. *Publications*; II. *Correspondence*; and III. *Other Material*. Box 9 contains oversize material from Series III.

[Series I, *Publications*](#), contains 1930s period material relating to eight publications. Most titles are represented by sketches of title pages, specimen pages and prospectuses. The most complete records are for *Death of Madame* (the text of Monroe Wheeler's translation) and *A Typographical Commonplace Book* (a set of proof page variants with original texts). Other titles are represented by later records attesting to their reprinting, including an unauthorized copy of *Venus and Adonis*.

Also present are preparatory materials for two volumes which were never completed by the press (or at least publicly presented): "For My Father", a memoir by Barbara Harrison Wescott and an unidentified book of aphorisms which may have been intended as a second commonplace book.

[Series II, *Correspondence*](#), contains mostly letters from printers about agreements and the status of projects. There are also letters from Maurice Barraud, who illustrated *Carmen and Letters from Spain*. The series concludes with a group of general financial and legal correspondence concerning the dissolution of the company and a group of bills for typesetting, printing, and binding. [Related correspondence can be found in the Monroe Wheeler Papers (YCAL MSS 136)]

[Series III, *Other Material*](#), consists principally of items from the workings of the press itself (advertisements, catalogs, clippings and scrapbooks) and subsequent documentation of the history of the press (auction and booksellers' catalogs and exhibition material). Among the other items here are a setting copy of an invitation to an exhibition of photographs by George Platt Lynes, a typescript of a poem by Elizabeth Madox Roberts, and two copies of the 1932 Harrison of Paris catalog with ink sketches by an unidentified artist.

Collection Contents

Series I: Publications, 1930-1979

0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

	<i>The Babe's Bed</i> by Glenway Wescott	
b. 1, f. 1	Photocopy of printed text	1930
	<i>A Calendar of Saints for Unbelievers</i> by Glenway Wescott	
b. 1, f. 2	Title page: sketches and setting page	n.d.
b. 1, f. 3	Specimen pages	1978 Sep 23
	<i>Carmen and Letters from Spain</i> by Prosper Merimée	
b. 1, f. 4	Page proof, corrected - title page only	n.d.
	<i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i> by Lord Byron	
b. 1, f. 5	Page proof - title page only	n.d.
b. 1, f. 6	Specimen pages	n.d.
	<i>Death of Madame</i> by the Comtesse de Lafayette	
b. 1, f. 7	Translation by Monroe Wheeler, holograph and typescript, corrected	n.d.
	<i>Fables of Aesop</i>	
b. 1, f. 8	Sketch of title page	n.d.
b. 1, f. 9	Paper knives	n.d.
b. 1, f. 10	Clippings re: Dover reprint	1967-68
b. 1, f. 11	Citation of book in unidentified article	n.d.
	"For My Father" by Barbara Harrison Wescott	
b. 1, f. 12	Setting copy	n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	Sketches and page proofs	ca. 1934
b. 1, f. 14	List of names (of recipients?)	n.d.
	<i>Hacienda</i> by Katherine Anne Porter	
b. 1, f. 15	Prospectus	1934
b. 1, f. 16	Sample printed page	n.d.
b. 1, f. 17	Certificate of copyright registration	1934 Dec
b. 1, f. 18	United States distributor's purchase order	1939 Oct 10
	<i>Katherine Anne Porter's French Song-Book</i>	

Katherine Anne Porter's French Song-Book (continued)

b. 1, f. 19	Prospectus	n.d.
b. 1, f. 20	Sketch of title page	n.d.
<i>A Typographical Commonplace Book</i>		
b. 1, f. 21-22	Setting pages	n.d.
b. 2, f. 23-56	Proof page variants with original texts	1932
b. 2, f. 57	Advertisement draft, typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 2, f. 58	Specimen list	n.d.
b. 2, f. 59	Specimen pages	n.d.
<i>Venus and Adonis</i> by William Shakespeare		
b. 2, f. 60	Copy of unauthorized reprint	n.d.
b. 2, f. 61	Article by Horace Hart on unauthorized reprint	1979
Unidentified book of aphorisms (Second Commonplace Book?)		
b. 2, f. 62	Sketches and proofs	n.d.

Series II: Correspondence, 1930-1951*0.21 linear feet (.5 box)*

b. 3, f. 63	Barraud, Maurice	1931-32
b. 3, f. 64	Cassel & Company	1930 Mar 20
b. 3, f. 65	Editiones Officina Bodoni [Hans Mardersteig]	1932 Sep 15
b. 3, f. 66	The Haddon Craftsmen	1934 Dec 18
b. 3, f. 67	"Jack" from Frank A. Munsey Company	1935 Sep 30
b. 3, f. 68	Kunstverlag Wolfrum	1933 Apr 22
b. 3, f. 69	W. Collins Sons & Co.	1935 Jun 27
b. 3, f. 70	Westwood Bookstore	1948, 1951
b. 3, f. 71	General financial and legal correspondence	1939-41
b. 3, f. 72	Bills for typesetting, printing and binding	1930-34

Series III: Other Material, 1930-1978

0.21 linear feet (.5 box)

b. 3, f. 73	Address labels	n.d.
b. 3, f. 74-77	Advertisement drafts and proofs	ca. 1931-33
b. 3, f. 78	Auction and booksellers' listings of Harrison of Paris books	1969-78
b. 3, f. 79	Book Club of California announcement of exhibition	1978
b. 3, f. 80	Catalog	1930
b. 3, f. 81	Catalog	1931
b. 3, f. 82	Catalog, galley proof, corrected	1932
b. 3, f. 83	Catalog	1932
b. 3, f. 84	Catalog with sketches by unidentified artist	1932
b. 3, f. 85	Catalog	ca. 1934
b. 3, f. 86-88	Clippings	1930-35, n.d.
b. 3, f. 89	Display label	n.d.
b. 3, f. 90	Exhibition at the American Library in Paris, booklet and clipping	1931
b. 3, f. 91	Invitation to exhibition of photographs by George Platt Lynes, setting copy	1932 Mar
b. 3, f. 92	List of abbreviations of sized of books	n.d.
b. 3, f. 93	List of Harrison of Paris publications	n.d.
b. 3, f. 94	List of possible titles for projects	n.d.
b. 3, f. 95	Modern bookbinding exhibition at Columbia University, invitation and catalog	1935
b. 3, f. 96	Notebook of aphorisms copied by Barbara Harrison Wescott	n.d.
b. 3, f. 97	Order slip	n.d.
b. 3, f. 98	Issue of <i>Philobiblon</i> containing supplement advertising Harrison of Paris publications	1931
b. 3, f. 99	Projected costs and returns for <i>A Typographical Commonplace Book</i> and <i>A Calendar of Saints for Unbelievers</i>	n.d.
b. 3, f. 100	Revised book price list	1948 Oct
	Scrapbooks Stored in: Oversize	1930-35
b. 3, f. 101	Specimen of Glaslan paper	n.d.
b. 3, f. 102	Specimen page from American Book-Stratford Press	n.d.
b. 3, f. 103	Stationery	n.d.

b. 3, f. 104 "Summer is Ended" by Elizabeth Madox Roberts, typescript carbon n.d.

Oversize, 1930-1935

1 linear foot (1 box)

b. 4, f. 105-106 Scrapbooks (in Series III)

1930-35

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Small presses -- United States

Names

Wescott, Barbara Harrison
Wheeler, Monroe, 1899-1988

Corporate Body

Harrison of Paris