Guide to the Marilynne Robinson Papers

YCAL MSS 609

by Beinecke staff

September 2012

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 609

CREATOR: Robinson, Marilynne

TITLE: Marilynne Robinson papers

DATES: 1960–2008

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 14.46 linear feet (16 boxes) + 1 roll

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of writings, correspondence, other papers, and audiovisual materials. Writings include published works including Housekeeping, Connie Bronson, Mother Country, The Death of Adam, Gilead, and Home, as well as unpublished fiction and student writings. Correspondence includes family, personal, and professional correspondence, and fan mail. Notable correspondents include Robinson’s agent, Ellen Levine, and her editor Pat Strachan. Both writings and correspondence include born digital components. Other papers consist of printed material, clippings, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Audiovisual materials consist of an interview with Marilynne Robinson.

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

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.robinsonm.

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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 13 (audiovisual material): Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Box 14 (computer disks): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Box 17: Restricted until the death of Marilynne Robinson or January 1, 2050, whichever comes first. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Use

The Marilynne Robinson Papers is 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

Marilynne Robinson Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Marilynne Robinson (1943- )

Marilynne Robinson (born November 26, 1943) is an American novelist and essayist.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of writings, correspondence, other papers, and audiovisual materials. Writings include published works including Housekeeping, Connie Bronson, Mother Country, The Death of Adam, Gilead, and Home, as well as unpublished fiction and student writings. Correspondence includes family, personal, and professional correspondence, and fan mail. Notable correspondents include Robinson's agent, Ellen Levine, and her editor Pat Strachan. Both writings and correspondence include born digital
components. Other papers consist of printed material, clippings, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Audiovisual materials consist of an interview with Marilynne Robinson.

Arrangement

## Collection Contents
### October 2011 Acquisition

14.46 linear feet (16 boxes) + 1 roll

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Writings</th>
<th>Call Number: Series I</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Published works</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Housekeeping</strong></td>
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<td>Housekeeping - 11 - partial drafts</td>
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<td>Housekeeping - 12 - drafts</td>
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</tr>
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<td>b. 1</td>
<td>Housekeeping - partial interview</td>
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<td>Housekeeping - 1 - draft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 1</td>
<td>Housekeeping - 59 - partial drafts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 1</td>
<td>Housekeeping - 6 - annotated material</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1</td>
<td>Housekeeping - printed material</td>
<td>circa 1981</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Contains negatives, newspapers, and ephemera.</td>
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<td>Contains a poem regarding <em>Housekeeping</em>.</td>
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<td>Housekeeping - notebooks 5 and 6</td>
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<td>Housekeeping - notebook 86</td>
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Page 6 of 17
### Series I. Writings > Published works > Connie Bronson (continued)

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<td>Notes</td>
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| b. 3 | Mother Country - Extra copies of manuscript |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |
| b. 3 | Contains annotated drafts. |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - Sellafield - annotated drafts and clippings |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date |
| Notes |
| 1986 |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - Queries - notebook |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - correspondence, lawsuit |
| Container | 1989–1991 |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - Setting copy - annotated |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - Women on War - notebook |
| Container | 3 folders |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - short galleys |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date | 1989 February 15 |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - long galleys, annotated |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date | 1989 January 5 |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - design pages for front matter |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - short galleys |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date | 1989 February 15 |
| Notes |

| b. 3 | Mother Country - short galleys, annotated |
| Container | 2 folders |
| Date | 1989 February 15 |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | “The De-moralization of Society” - annotated draft |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | “Surrendering wilderness” - draft and notes |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | “Hearing Silence” - Northern Lights - annotated draft |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | “Heresies and Real Presences” - drafts |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | [Essay on Sandpoint - annotated draft |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Review |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | “Second Errand into the Wilderness” - drafts and rejection letter |
| Container | 1996 May 12 |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Miscellaneous nonfiction 1 - drafts |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Miscellaneous nonfiction 2 - drafts |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Published articles - photocopies |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Notebook - essay draft on Calvinism |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Notebook - notes on religion |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Marilynne Robinson - nonfiction: drafts, fragments, notes |
| Container |
| Date |
| Notes |

| b. 4 | Research - articles and correspondence |
| Container | circa 1988–2006 |
| Date |
| Notes |
Series I. Writings > Published works (continued)

### The Death of Adam  
**circa 1998**  

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<td>The Death of Adam - annotated draft</td>
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<td>The Death of Adam, “Facing reality”</td>
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<td>“McGuffey and the Abolitionists” - 78 - draft</td>
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**circa 2004**  

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Series I. Writings > Published works > Home (continued)

| b. 6 | Home - annotated draft |
|      | 2 folders |
| b. 7 | Home |
| b. 7 | Home - annotated draft |
| b. 7 | Home - edited draft |
| b. 7 | Home - annotated draft |
|      | 2 folders |
| b. 7 | Robinson to Levine email |
|      | 2007 September 28 |
| b. 7 | Home - additional |
| b. 16 (Roll) | Home - “Winner of the Orange Prize for Fiction” large poster |

**Unpublished fiction**

Material relating to unpublished works by Marilynne Robinson.

| b. 7 | Fiction - 92, 93 - drafts, fragments, notes |
| b. 7 | Fiction? - 46 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 57 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 53 - notebooks |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 30 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 32 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 17 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 66 |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 50 |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 52 |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 68 |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 33 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 18 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 20 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 25 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 29 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 40 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 43 - notebook |
| b. 7 | Unpublished fiction - 82 - removed from black 2-ring binder |
### Series I. Writings > Unpublished fiction (continued)

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### Student writings

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### College writings

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Material concerning Marilynne Robinson’s undergraduate work at Pembroke College in Brown University.

Circa 1960s–1978

Circa 1960s–1966

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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
American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Women authors

Genres / Formats
Audiovisual materials
Born digital
Photographs

Names
Levine, Ellen
Robinson, Marilynne
Strachan, Patricia