

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Henry James Collection

YCAL MSS 830



by Beinecke staff

2009-06-30

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 830

CREATOR: James, Henry, 1843-1916

TITLE: Henry James collection

DATES: 1867-1983

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.13 linear feet (9 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Henry James Collection is comprised of correspondence, writings, personal papers, and printed material by and about the American author Henry James. The majority of correspondence consists of letters sent from James to recipients, most notably his literary agent James B. Pinker, author William Edward Norris, and publishers. The collection also includes correspondence between James B. Pinker and James' nephew, Henry James, and sister-in-law, Alice Howe Gibbens James. Autograph manuscripts for "The Pension Beaurepas," "The Europeans," and "New England: An Autumn Impression," can be found in the collection. Personal papers include a photograph of James with Mrs. Humphry Ward and a cancelled check received by James from Ticknor and Fields.

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

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 <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.jamesh>.

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

Acquired from various sources. For more information see notes for each acquisition.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Henry James Collection 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

Henry James Collection. 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 in 2014, including rehousing and minimal organization. Various acquisitions associated with the collection have not been merged and organized as a whole. Each acquisition is described separately in the contents list below, identified by a unique call number and titled according to month and year of acquisition.

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.

Former call numbers: Za James, Uncat ZA MS 24, Uncat ZA MS 262, and Za J233 +1.

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

Henry James (1843-1916)

Henry James (1843-1916), American writer.

Scope and Contents

The Henry James Collection is comprised of correspondence, writings, personal papers, and printed material by and about the American author Henry James.

The majority of correspondence consists of outgoing letters sent from James to recipients, most notably his literary agent James B. Pinker, author William Edward Norris, and publishers. The collection also includes correspondence between James B. Pinker and James' nephew, Henry James, and sister-in-law, Alice Howe Gibbens James.

Autograph manuscripts and proofs provide insight into James' creative process. James' autograph manuscript, corrected, for "The Pension Beaurepas" can be found in the collection; the Beinecke Library acquired pages 1-13 in 1951 and pages 14-169 in 1982. Pages 1-13 of "The Pension Beaurepas" were bound with an autograph manuscript of *The Europeans* before they arrived at the Beinecke Library and they have not been separated. James' work on "New England: An Autumn Impression" can be traced from autograph manuscript drafts and corrected galley proofs to the final printed version. Printed material includes the published versions of James' writings, including "New England: An Autumn Impression," as well as scholarship about James.

Personal papers include a photograph of James with Mrs. Humphry Ward and a cancelled check received by James from Ticknor and Fields.

Arrangement

Organized into four groupings: 1910-1959 Acquisitions, 1982 Acquisition, 1992 Acquisition, and Printed Material.

Collection Contents

1: 1910-1959 Acquisitions

Contains correspondence and writings. Correspondence is largely comprised of James' outgoing letters, most notably to James B. Pinker, William Edward Norris, and incoming letters from publishers. Letters between James' relatives and James B. Pinker can also be found in the Correspondence series. The Writings series includes autograph manuscripts, typescripts, and proofs, which provide insight into James' creative process, particularly at the end of his career. The first thirteen pages of James' "The Pension Beaurepas," which have been bound with *The Europeans*, is located in the Writings series. The remaining pages of "The Pension Beaurepas" can be found in the 1982 Acquisition.

Former call number: Za James.

Acquired by gift and purchase, 1910-1959. For more information see catalog cards filed in the collection.

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence, 1867-1934. II. Writings, 1896-1914.

Correspondence

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

Henry James Correspondence

1874-1934

b. 1	Alden, Henry Mills, typed letter, signed, from James	1908 November 30
b. 1	Aldrich, Thomas Bailey, autograph letter, signed, from James	1886 April 21
b. 1	Alger, Abby, autograph letter, signed, from James	1880 November 21
b. 1	Barnes, Henry B., autograph note, signed, from James	1879 May 31
b. 1	Black, William, autograph letter, signed	1889 February 7
b. 1	Brooke, S. A., autograph letter, signed, from James	undated
b. 1	Broughton, Rhoda, autograph letter, signed, with autograph note, signed, by James	1883 March 5
b. 1	Charles Scribner's Sons	1899 September 28-1922 April 7
b. 1	Chatto & Windus (Firm), autograph letter, signed, from James	1880 February 26
b. 1	Colles, W. M., typed letter, signed, from James	1908 September 22
b. 1	Colvin, Sir Sidney, autograph letters, signed from James	1895-1913
b. 1	Davey, Lady, autograph note, signed, from James	undated
b. 1	Dixon, Miss Hepworth, autography and typed letters, signed, from James	1895 July 21, 1914 January 21
b. 1	Duneka, F. A., autograph letters, signed, from James	1905-1906

Correspondence > Henry James Correspondence (continued)

b. 1	Earle, Mrs., autograph note, signed, from James	1885 July 10
b. 1	Flower, Mrs., autograph letter, signed, from James	undated
b. 1	Ford, Ford Madox, autograph letter, signed, from James	1908 October 17
b. 1	Forrest, A. H., autograph letters, signed, from James	1904
b. 1	French, Mrs., autograph note, from James	undated
b. 1	Gosse, Edmund, autograph letter, signed, from James	1903 July 31
b. 1	Henschel, Mrs. George, autograph note, signed, from James	1895 May 26
b. 1	The Independent, autograph letter, signed, from James	1874 March 1
b. 1	James R. Osgood and Company, autograph letters, signed, from James Removed from various copies of James' books.	1875-1890
b. 1	John Wilson and Son, autograph note, signed, from James	1883 February 21
b. 1	Jordan, Elizabeth, Harper's Bazar, typed letter, signed, with note added in James' handwriting	1907 March 1
b. 1	Macmillan, Mrs., autograph letter, signed, from James	undated
b. 1	Methuen & Co., typed letters, signed	1900 January 22 - 1912 October 5
b. 1	Munro, David Alexander, autograph and typescript letters, signed, from James	
b. 1	Norris, William Edward, autograph and typed letters, signed, from James <i>4 Folders</i>	1893-1915
b. 2	Pinker, James B., two bound volumes of autograph letters, notes, and typed letters, signed, from James <i>2 Folders</i>	1898-1915
b. 3	---, one bound volume of autograph letters, notes, and typed letters, signed, from James	
b. 3	---, autograph and typed letters, signed, from James	1898 October 23 - 1914 October 27
b. 3	---, 41 telegrams	1900 August 24 - 1912 September 12
b. 3	Secker, Martin, autograph and typed letters, signed, from James	1915
b. 3	Smalley, George Washburn, autograph letter, signed, from James	1883 February 21
b. 3	Stillman, Miss, autograph letter, signed, from James	
b. 3	Ticknor, B., autograph letters, signed, from James Removed from various copies of James' books.	1883-1885

Correspondence > Henry James Correspondence (continued)

b. 3	Various publishers and editors	1899 July 5 - 1929 September 5
b. 3	Wheeler, Christopher, typed letter, signed, from James	1914 August 2
b. 3	Wilmon, Mrs., autograph note, signed, from James	undated
b. 3	---, Laird, autograph note, signed, from James	undated
b. 3	Unidentified	1908, undated
Third Party Correspondence		
b. 4	Pinker, James B., letters, signed, from Henry James, Alice Howe Gibbens James, and Percy Lubbock Contains letters to James B. Pinker and Eric Pinker regarding James' publications.	1910-1934
b. 4	---, letters, signed, from Percy Lubbock	1916-1929
Writings		1896-1914
b. 5	"The American Volunteer Motor-Ambulance Corps in France," proof, corrected (London: Macmillan and Company)	1914
b. 5	<i>The Europeans</i> , autograph manuscript, incomplete, leaves numbered 14-95, bound with 13 leaves of "The Pension Beaurepas"	undated
b. 5	"Glasses," <i>Embarrassments</i> , proofs, corrected For related correspondence with Martin Secker, see Secker, Martin in the Correspondence Series.	1896
b. 5	"New England: An Autumn Impression," drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, corrected, and galley proofs, corrected Includes three autograph letters, signed, to Mr. Munro from James all dated from 1905.	1905-1907
b. 5	"The Pension Beaurepas," autograph manuscript, leaves 1-13, bound with leaves 14-95 of <i>The Europeans</i>	undated
b. 5	"The Present Literary Situation in France," draft, typescript, corrected	undated
b. 5	Untitled note, typescript, incomplete, on James Russell Lowell, removed from <i>Hawthorne</i> (London, 1879)	undated

2: 1982 Acquisition

The acquisition consists of autograph manuscript pages 14-169 of James' "The Pension Beaurepas." The first thirteen pages are located in the 1910-1959 Acquisitions.

Former call number: Uncat ZA MS 24.

Gift of Richard L. Purdy (Yale, 1925), 1982 and purchased from John Howell on the Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize Fund, John Ewing Durand Memorial Fund, Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund, and Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 1982.

- b. 6 "The Pension Beaurepas," draft, revised, autograph manuscript, pages numbered before 1879
14-169, with autograph envelope addressed to "Messrs. H. O. Houghton and
Company, Riverside Press"
-

3: 1992 Acquisition

Contains correspondence and personal papers of Henry James. The correspondence is largely comprised of James' outgoing correspondence, with a few exceptions, such as a postcard sent to James from Edith Wharton. The acquisition also includes a photograph of James and Mrs. Humphry Ward and a cancelled check.

Former call number: Uncat ZA MS 262.

Gift of Mrs. Donald G. Wing, 1992.

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence, 1898-1914. II. Personal Papers, 1867.

	Correspondence	1898-1913
	Contains outgoing letters, with the exception of a postcard from Edith Wharton.	
	Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.	
b. 7	Collier, John, Nahant, Massachusetts, autograph letter, signed	1911 June 10
b. 7	Cross, Mr. and Mrs., autograph letters, signed	1901, undated
b. 7	Gordon, Mrs., autograph letter, signed	undated
b. 7	Hepworth-Dixon, Miss, autograph letter, signed	1898 October 27
b. 7	Mitchell, Dr. Weir, typed letter, signed	1904 December 30
b. 7	Procter, Mrs., autograph letter, signed	undated
b. 7	Reid, Wemyss, autograph letter, signed	undated
b. 7	Sayle, Charles, autograph letters, signed	1909 June 7 and 16
b. 7	Thompson, Mrs. Yates, autograph and typed letters, signed	1906-1914
b. 7	Vidler, Miss, autograph letter, signed	1898 October 26
b. 7	Wharton, Edith, autograph postcard, signed Postcard sent to James.	1913 July 26
b. 7	Woollett, Mr.	undated
	Personal Papers	1867
b. 7	Cancelled check made out to Henry James, in the amount of twenty dollars, from Ticknor and Fields, endorsed by Henry James	1867 August 21
b. 7	Photograph of Henry James and Mrs. Humphry Ward	undated

4: Printed Material

Contains printed material by and about James.

Former call number: Za J233 +1.

Organized into two series: I. Printed Material By James, 1905-1953. II. Printed Material About James, 1934-1983.

By James

b. 8	"A Henry James Centenary Exhibition." <i>Colby Library Quarterly</i> , Series I, no. 3	1943 June
	Collection of letters by James.	
b. 8	Harrier, Richard C., ed. "Letters of Henry James: Transcribed from the original manuscripts in the Colby College Library and edited by Richard C. Harrier." <i>Colby Library Quarterly</i> , Series III, no. 10	1953 May
b. 8	"New England: An Autumn Impression," In Three Parts: Part First and Second. <i>North American Review</i>	1905 April-May
	4 Folders	
b. 8	"The Younger Generation." <i>The Times</i> , no. 635	1914 March 19
b. 8	"Three Unpublished Letters and a Monologue by Henry James." <i>The London Mercury</i> , vol. VI, no. 35	1922 September
b. 8	Playbills for performances of James' works	1948-1950

About James

b. 8	Buitenhuis, Peter. "Comic Pastoral: Henry James's <i>The Europeans</i> ." <i>University of Toronto Quarterly</i> , vol. XXXI, no. 2	1962 January
b. 8	Cargill, Oscar. "The Turn of the Screw and Alice James." <i>Publications of the Modern Language Association of America</i> , vol. LXXVIII, no. 3	1963 June
b. 8	Core, George. "Henry, Leon, and Other Jamesians." <i>The Michigan Quarterly Review</i>	
b. 8	Edel, Leon. "The Architecture of Henry James's 'New York Edition.'" Reprinted from <i>The New England Quarterly</i> , vol. XXIV, no. 2	1951 June
b. 8	Flower, Dean. "Henry James in Northampton: Visions and Revisions" (Friends of Smith College Library)	1971
b. 8	<i>The Grolier Club</i>	1946 November
	An invitation to attend the Club meeting. The meeting included an exhibition of first editions, manuscripts and memorabilia by and relating to James.	21
b. 8	Hoffman, Frederick J. "William James and the Modern Literary Consciousness." Reprinted from <i>Criticism, a Quarterly for Literature and the Arts</i> , Vol. IV, No. 1	1962 Winter
b. 8	Holly, Carol. "Henry James's Autobiographical Fragment: 'The Turning Point of My Life.'" <i>Harvard Library Bulletin</i> , vol. XXXI, no. 1	1983 Winter

About James (continued)

b. 8	<i>Hound & Horn</i> Special issue dedicated to James.	1934 April-June
b. 9	<i>In Memoriam: Henry James</i>	
b. 9	<i>The Kenyon Review</i> Special issue dedicated to James.	1943 Autumn
b. 9	Kramer, Hilton. Review of "Henry James: The Master," by Leon Edel. <i>The New York Times Book Review</i>	1972 February 6
b. 9	Lehmann-Haupt, Christopher. "James (and Biography) Rescued." <i>New York Times</i>	1972 February 14
b. 9	<i>Microcard Editions introduces a valuable new aid to the study of Henry James</i> Mailed advertisement from Microcard Editions Books: An Indian Head Company: A Division of Information Handling Services.	
b. 9	<i>Modern Fiction Studies</i> , vol. 3, no. 1 Special issue dedicated to James.	1957 Spring
b. 9	Nakai, Noriaki. "Lambert Strether's Liberation: A Theme of Henry James's <i>The Ambassadors</i> ." <i>Studies of Sonoda Gakuen Women's College</i> , VI	1971
b. 9	Parker, Hershel. "Henry James 'In the Wood': Sequence and Significances of his Literary Labors, 1905-1907," draft, typescript	1983 November 19
b. 9	Patterson, David. "James and Jewett." <i>Colby Library Quarterly</i> , Series III, no. 9	1953 February
b. 9	Sandeen, Ernest. "The Wings of the Dove and the Portrait of a Lady: A Study of Henry James's Later Phase." <i>PMLA</i> , LXIX, no. 5 Also includes Gibson, Priscilla. "The Use of James's Imagery: Drama Through Metaphor."	1954 December
b. 9	Stone, Albert E. "Henry James and Childhood: 'The Turn of the Screw.'" <i>Stetson University Bulletin</i>	1961 April
b. 9	Vidan, Ivo. "'The Princess Casamassima': Between Balzac and Conrad." <i>Facultas Philosophica Universitatis Studiorum Zagrabiensis</i>	1966
b. 9	Vincec, Sister Stephanie. "A Significant Revision in <i>The Wings of the Dove</i> ." <i>The Review of English Studies</i> , vol. XXIII, no. 89	1972 February
b. 9	Wegelin, Christof. "Henry James: The Expatriate as American." Extract from <i>Symposium</i> , vol. IX, no. 1	1955 Spring
b. 9	Clippings and other ephemera 3 Folders	1940s-1960s

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 -- 19th century
American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 19th century -- Archives
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints -- United States -- 20th Century
Photographs -- United States -- 20th Century

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 19th century
Authors -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

James, Alice Howe Gibbens
James, Henry, 1843-1916
James, Henry, 1879-1947
Norris, W. E. (William Edward), 1847-1925
Pinker, James B.
Ward, Mary Augusta Arnold, 1851-1920