

# **Guide to the Stephen John Keynes Collection Files**

**GEN MSS 2151**



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April 2025

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 2151

**CREATOR:** Keynes, Stephen John, 1929-2017

**TITLE:** Stephen John Keynes Collection Files

**DATES:** 1804–2017

**BULK DATES:** 1973–1989

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.13 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Stephen John Keynes collection files shed light on the process of manuscript collecting in the 1970s through 1990s. The collection contains catalogues of manuscripts and miniatures as well as correspondence, invoices, and notes related to items of Keynes' business interest.

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

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## 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.stephenjohnkeynes>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Richard B. Linenthal on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2019.

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## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Stephen John Keynes collection files. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## 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.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Yale Archival Processing Manual.

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## Related Materials

Printed material received with the collection files were removed for separate cataloging and can be accessed by searching the library's online catalog.

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## Biographical / Historical

Stephen John Keynes was born on October 19, 1929, in London, United Kingdom. He was the fourth son of surgeon and bibliophile Geoffrey Langdon Keynes (1887-1982) and Margaret Elizabeth Darwin (1890-1975). Keynes's extended family included his great-grandfather Charles Darwin and uncle John Maynard Keynes. He attended both public and private schools before becoming an Open Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, where he participated in the arts.

After graduating, he did National Service with the Royal Artillery until 1951 when he began a career as a merchant banker. In 1955, Keynes married Mary Cecilia Knatchbull-Hugessen, the daughter of a Canadian senator. They proceeded to have five children in six years. Knatchbull-Hugessen later became a teacher in London.

After twenty years of banking, Keynes turned to book collecting. In 1971, he began his second career at a community bookshop, which was one of the few businesses in town welcoming to LGBTQ+ individuals, people of color, and low-income families. Keynes became a member of the Roxburghe Club in 1978, the world's oldest bibliographic and publishing society, of which his father and, later, brother were members. The bulk of his collecting occurred between the 1970s and 1980s. He specialized in Western artifacts from the Middle Ages. While many of his books were acquired through antiquarian booksellers, some of his collection was inherited from his parents. His mother left him a collection of autographed letters and manuscripts assembled over the course of her lifetime, which included materials from Edwardian and

Victorian political figures and members of the British Royal family. With his brother Quentin Keynes, he founded the Charles Darwin Trust in 1999.

Keynes continued his collecting work until his death on August 13, 2017.

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## Scope and Contents

The Stephen John Keynes collection files shed light on the process of manuscript collecting in the 1970s through 1990s. The collection contains catalogues of manuscripts and miniatures as well as correspondence, invoices, and notes related to items of Keynes' business interest. The collected catalogues were published between 1973 and 2001 by household names such as Christie's, Sotheby's, and Maggs Bros. Ltd, and offer insight into the identity, condition, and demand of artifacts that informed Keynes' purchasing decisions. With the catalogues are notes written by Keynes that were either tucked into specific pages or found inside the cover. Several boxes in this collection contain books from the Sotheby's catalogue series Western Manuscripts and Miniatures, which describes artifacts between the ninth and nineteenth century. Papers related to the acquisition of manuscripts include correspondence with antiquarian booksellers regarding location and pricing. Keynes' professional relationships with these sellers stretched over decades. Many manuscripts referenced have annotated catalogue copies and invoices detailing their history and value. Lastly, this collection contains three artifacts obtained by Keynes that are partially identified by their short description and item number.

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## Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Catalogues, 1973-2001; II. Manuscripts, 1804-2017; III. Professional papers, 1980-1995.

## Collection Contents

### I: Catalogues, 1973–2001

Includes antiquarian catalogues and related material tucked into specific pages or inside the cover by Keynes.

Arranged alphabetically by publisher with associated material filed after its corresponding catalogue.

	Alan G. Thomas	circa 1973
	<i>Fine Books</i>	
b. 1, f. 1	Catalogue	1973
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence, from page 97	1973
b. 1, f. 3	Notes, from page 3	undated
	Christie's	circa 1990s
	<i>The Mostyn Hall Library: Printed Books and Manuscripts Part III: P-Z</i>	
b. 1, f. 4	Catalogue	1974
b. 1, f. 5	Notes, from pages 94-95	undated
b. 1, f. 6	Notes, Sotheby's General	1986
	Maggs Bros Ltd.	1976–1977
	<i>Ancient Mediaeval and Modern No. 13</i>	
b. 1, f. 7	Catalogue	1976
	<i>2400 BC Royalty AD 1977</i>	
b. 1, f. 8	Catalogue	1977
b. 1, f. 9	Correspondence, notes, from pages 10-11	1977
	Sam Fogg	circa 1990s
	<i>Illuminated Manuscripts</i>	
b. 1, f. 10	Catalogue	1999
	<i>Text Manuscripts and Documents 2200 BC to 1600 AD</i>	
b. 1, f. 11	Catalogue	1995
b. 1, f. 12	Event invitation, from pages 100-101	undated
b. 1, f. 13	Event program, from pages 6-7	1995
b. 1, f. 14	Guidelines, from pages 38-39	undated
	<i>Treasure from the Middle Ages</i>	

## Sam Fogg &gt; Treasure from the Middle Ages (continued)

b. 1, f. 15	Catalogue	1996
	The Schoyen Collection	undated
	<i>Checklist of Western Manuscripts</i>	
b. 2, f. 1	Catalogue With note from Martin Schoyen	undated
	Sotheby's	1973–2001
	<i>The Celebrated Library of the Late Major J.R. Abbey: The Ninth Portion: The Hornby Manuscripts, Part II</i>	
b. 2, f. 2	Catalogue	1975
b. 2, f. 3	Notes, from pages 16-17	undated
	<i>Illuminated Manuscripts from the Celebrated Library of the Late Major J.R. Abbey: The Eleventh and Final Part</i>	
b. 2, f. 4	Catalogue	1989
b. 2, f. 5	Notes General	undated
	<i>Fine Books and manuscripts from the Library of the late Alan G. Thomas</i>	
b. 2, f. 6	Catalogue	1993
b. 2, f. 7	Notes, from page 207	undated
b. 2, f. 8	Receipt, from page 31	undated
	<i>Medieval Illuminated Miniatures from the Collection of the Late Eric Korner</i>	
b. 2, f. 9	Catalogue	1990
b. 2, f. 10	Notes	undated
	<i>Phillipps: Medieval Manuscripts: Part VIII: Catalogue of Manuscripts on Papyrus, Vellum, and Paper</i>	
b. 3, f. 1	Catalogue	1973
b. 3, f. 2	Notes General	undated
	<i>Phillipps: Medieval Manuscripts: Part X: Catalogue of Manuscripts on Papyrus, Vellum, and Paper</i>	
b. 3, f. 3	Catalogue	1975
b. 3, f. 4	Notes General	undated
b. 3, f. 5	Notes, from pages 2-3	undated

## Sotheby's (continued)

*Phillipps: Medieval Manuscripts: Part XI: Catalogue of Manuscripts on Papyrus, Vellum, and Paper*

b. 3, f. 6	Catalogue	1976
b. 3, f. 7	Notes General	undated
<i>Printed Books</i>		
b. 3, f. 8	Catalogue	1972
b. 3, f. 9	Notes General	undated
<i>Single Leaves &amp; Miniatures from Western Illuminated Manuscripts</i>		
b. 3, f. 10	Catalogue	1981
b. 3, f. 11	Notes General	undated
<i>Western and Hebrew Manuscripts and Miniatures</i>		
b. 3, f. 12	Catalogue	July 1973
b. 3, f. 13	Kings College (Cambridge) paper, from page 7 Blank	undated
b. 3, f. 14	Kings College (Cambridge) paper, from page 50 Blank	undated
<i>Western Miniatures and Manuscripts</i>		
December 1973		
b. 3, f. 15	Catalogue	1973
b. 3, f. 16	Correspondence, from page 12 From H. Clifford Maggs	1973
b. 3, f. 17	Notes General	undated
December 1974		
b. 3, f. 18	Catalogue	1974
b. 3, f. 19	Catalogue copies, correspondence, and notes From H. Clifford Maggs	circa 1974
December 1975		
b. 3, f. 20	Catalogue	1975



## Sotheby's &gt; Western Miniatures and Manuscripts &gt; December 1975 (continued)

b. 3, f. 21	Notes General	undated
July 1976		
b. 4, f. 1	Catalogue	1976
b. 4, f. 2	Catalogue copies and notes	undated
December 1976		
b. 4, f. 3	Catalogue	1976
b. 4, f. 4	Notes General	undated
July 1977		
b. 4, f. 5	Catalogue	1977
b. 4, f. 6	Notes, from page 104 General	undated
b. 4, f. 7	Notes General	undated
December 1977		
b. 4, f. 8	Catalogue	1977
b. 4, f. 9	Correspondence and notes Referencing item 6	1977
b. 4, f. 10	Notes Referencing items 65-66	undated
July 1978		
b. 4, f. 11	Catalogue	1978
b. 4, f. 12	Notes, from pages 30-31	undated
December 1978		
b. 4, f. 13	Catalogue	1978
b. 4, f. 14	Notes, from pages 32-33	undated
December 1981		
b. 4, f. 15	Catalogue	1981
b. 4, f. 16	Notes, from page 12	undated
b. 4, f. 17	Notes, from pages 32-33	undated
June 1982		

## Sotheby's &gt; Western Miniatures and Manuscripts &gt; June 1982 (continued)

b. 4, f. 18	Catalogue	1982
b. 4, f. 19	Notes, from page 66	undated
December 1982		
b. 5, f. 1	Catalogue	1982
b. 5, f. 2	Notes General	undated
November 1985		
b. 5, f. 3	Catalogue	1985
b. 5, f. 4	Notes General	undated
December 1986		
b. 5, f. 5	Catalogue	1986
b. 5, f. 6	Notes, from pages 12-13	undated
June 1987		
b. 5, f. 7	Catalogue	1987
b. 5, f. 8	Catalogue copies with notes General	undated
December 1987		
b. 5, f. 9	Catalogue	1987
b. 5, f. 10	Notes, from pages 14-15	undated
b. 5, f. 11	Notes General	undated
December 1989		
b. 6, f. 1	Catalogue	1989
b. 6, f. 2	Notes General	undated
June 1990		
b. 6, f. 3	Catalogue	1990
b. 6, f. 4	Notes General	undated
December 1991		
b. 6, f. 5	Catalogue	1991

## Sotheby's &gt; Western Miniatures and Manuscripts (continued)

December 1992		
b. 6, f. 6	Catalogue	1992
b. 6, f. 7	Fax and notes, from page 57	undated
December 2001		
b. 6, f. 8	Catalogue	2001
b. 6, f. 9	Notes, from pages 40-41	undated

**II: Business papers related to manuscripts, 1804–2017**

Includes notes, correspondence, invoices, and catalogue copies.

Identified Manuscript		1942–2017
Multiple		
b. 7, f. 1	Articles and catalogue copy Referencing Jacquemart de Hesdin	undated
b. 7, f. 2	Correspondence	1980
b. 7, f. 3	Financial sheet	undated
b. 7, f. 4	Invoices	1972–1974
b. 7, f. 5	Lists	undated
b. 7, f. 6	Notes	undated
<i>Antiphona with Musical Notation</i>		
b. 7, f. 7	Auction notecards	undated
<i>Benedictional</i>		
b. 7, f. 8	Auction notecards	undated
<i>Bible in Latin</i>		
b. 7, f. 9	Catalogue copies	1974
<i>Biblia Sacra</i>		
b. 7, f. 10	Invoice	1974
<i>Bibliotheca Phillippica</i>		
b. 7, f. 11	Catalogue copies with notes	1975
<i>A Book of Hours from the Limbourg Atelier</i>		
b. 7, f. 12	Catalogue copy From the Burlington Magazine	1942
<i>Book of Hours</i>		
b. 7, f. 13	Correspondence	1974–1993
b. 7, f. 14	Auction notecard	undated
<i>Bound for the Earl of Bridgewater</i>		
b. 7, f. 15	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>Breviary for a Dominican Nun of Poissy</i>		
b. 7, f. 16	Catalogue copy	1974

## Identified Manuscript &gt; Breviary for a Dominican Nun of Poissy (continued)

b. 7, f. 17	Correspondence	1991–1996
b. 7, f. 18	Invoice	1974
<i>Circle of the Duc de Berry</i>		
b. 7, f. 19	Correspondence	1974
<i>DeArith Medica</i>		
b. 7, f. 20	Correspondence	1980
<i>Death Scene Miniature</i>		
b. 7, f. 21	Correspondence	1974
<i>The DeLavis Hours and the Bedford Workshop</i>		
b. 7, f. 22	Correspondence	1989
<i>Duranti (Gulielmus)</i>		
b. 7, f. 23	Auction notecard	undated
<i>East Anglican</i>		
b. 7, f. 24	Correspondence	1980
<i>Enfeoffment</i>		
b. 7, f. 25	Auction notecard	undated
<i>Epistle Lectionary</i>		
b. 7, f. 26	Invoice	1975
b. 7, f. 27	Auction notecard	undated
<i>Euclid's Elements</i>		
b. 7, f. 28	Text	undated
<i>Flemish</i>		
b. 7, f. 29	Catalogue copy	undated
b. 7, f. 30	Catalogue copy and correspondence	1978
b. 7, f. 31	<i>European Miniatures and Illuminations</i> catalogue, catalogue copies, correspondence, and notes	1974
<i>Florentine Breviary</i>		
b. 7, f. 32	Correspondence	1976
b. 7, f. 33	Correspondence and invoice	1973
<i>Fragments of a Missal</i>		
b. 7, f. 34	Auction notecard	undated

## Identified Manuscript (continued)

<i>A Gospel Lectionary from the Foundation Period of Portugal</i>		
b. 7, f. 35	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>Heroids of Ovid (?) Miniature</i>		
b. 7, f. 36	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>Hours of the Virgin</i>		
b. 7, f. 37	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>Hungerford Hours</i>		
b. 7, f. 38	Correspondence	1980–2017
<i>Judaica</i>		
b. 7, f. 39	Catalogue copy	1975
<i>Lambach Psalter</i>		
b. 7, f. 40	Catalogue copy and correspondence	1980
<i>Lambach Psalter, misc.</i>		
b. 7, f. 41	Catalogue copy and invoice The contents of this folder are related to Folder 40 but remain separate as pre-arranged by Keynes.	1985
<i>Magna Carter and other charters</i>		
b. 7, f. 42	Auction notecard	undated
<i>Master of the Fransican Breviary of Bologna</i>		
b. 7, f. 43	Article, correspondence, envelope, and invoices	1972
<i>Master of the Lübeck Bible</i>		
b. 7, f. 44	Catalogue copy and correspondence	1994
<i>Mostyn Psalter</i>		
b. 7, f. 45	Correspondence	1974
<i>Paulus de Sancta Maria</i>		
b. 7, f. 46	Invoice	1971
<i>Psalter, 1240</i>		
b. 7, f. 47	Auction notecard	undated
b. 7, f. 48	Catalogue copy	undated
b. 7, f. 49	Correspondence	1973–1974
b. 7, f. 50	Notes	1966

## Identified Manuscript (continued)

<i>Psalter-Hours</i>		
b. 7, f. 51	Correspondence	1975–1984
<i>Psalter and Sarum Hours</i>		
b. 7, f. 52	Invoice	1974
<i>Pseudo-Marcellus</i>		
b. 7, f. 53	Auction notecard	undated
<i>Revelations, 1504</i>		
b. 7, f. 54	Catalogue copy, correspondence, and invoice	1974
<i>Saint Jerome, Contra Jovinianum</i>		
b. 7, f. 55	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>Siya Kniga Sobryanie Sloves' I Deyanii, 1820</i>		
b. 7, f. 56	Catalogue copy	undated
<i>St. Sophronius</i>		
b. 7, f. 57	Catalogue copy, correspondence, and notes	1997
<i>Sumerian Cuneiform</i>		
b. 7, f. 58	Catalogue copy	1995
<i>Syon Abbey</i> clay tablet		
b. 7, f. 59	Pamphlet	1991
<i>Tilly de la Mare</i>		
b. 7, f. 60	Correspondence	1975
b. 7, f. 61	Notes	undated
<i>Walter of Henry</i>		
b. 7, f. 62	Catalogue copy	1978
b. 7, f. 63	Catalogue copy, correspondence, invoices, and notes	1978–1980
<i>Whitby Psalter</i>		
b. 7, f. 64	Correspondence	2010
Unidentified Manuscript		1804–1993
Multiple		
b. 8, f. 1	Catalogue copy	undated
b. 8, f. 2	Catalogue copy with notes	undated

## Unidentified Manuscript &gt; Multiple (continued)

b. 8, f. 3	Correspondence	1973–1989
	Bromide prints	
b. 8, f. 4	Invoices	1979
	Double leaf vellum sermons	
b. 8, f. 5	Auction notecard	undated
	Early Arabic Printing	
b. 8, f. 6	Articles	undated
	Illuminated bible	
b. 8, f. 7	Catalogue copies and correspondence	1974
	Illuminated manuscripts	
b. 8, f. 8	Clippings	1978
	Illuminated miniature of Christ	
b. 8, f. 9	Invoice	1986
	Lectionary	
b. 8, f. 10	Auction notecard	undated
	9th c. Manuscripts	
b. 8, f. 11	Catalogue copy	undated
	10th c. Benedictional leaves	
b. 8, f. 12	Correspondence	1993
	11th c. Gospels	
b. 8, f. 13	Correspondence	1983
	Manuscript material and bindings	
b. 8, f. 14	Item 6259, "MS linings from spine" Envelope containing vellum pieces	undated
b. 8, f. 15	Item 6259, "sewing arrays" Envelope containing sewing pieces	undated
b. 8, f. 16	Item 6278, "16th c. English Living Note of Ownership" Envelope containing card	1804



**III: Professional papers, 1980–1995**

Includes materials sent to Stephen Keynes.

b. 8, f. 17	Papers by others, correspondence, invitation Referencing event details and preservation and printing practices.	1980–1995
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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**

Antiquarian booksellers -- Catalogs  
Catalogs, Booksellers'  
Illumination of books and manuscripts  
Manuscript -- Prices  
Private libraries -- England -- Catalogs

### **Genres / Formats**

Auction catalogs -- 20th Century  
Manuscripts, Medieval

### **Contributors**

Keynes, Stephen John, 1929-2017  
Estate of Stephen John Keynes

### **Acquired From**

Christie's  
Maggs Brothers Ltd.  
Sam Fogg  
Sotheby's (Firm)  
Thomas, Alan G., 1911-1992  
The Mostyn Hall Library