

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Wilda Hamerman Papers

YCAL MSS 217



by Michael Rush

October 2005

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
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<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  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 217

**CREATOR:** Hamerman, Wilda

**TITLE:** Wilda Hamerman papers

**DATES:** 1968-1985

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.83 linear feet (2 boxes) + 1 broadside folder

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, writings, printed materials, clippings, photographs, and other papers related to Wilda Hamerman's work as secretary to Norman Holmes Pearson. Correspondents consist of Bryher, Pearson, and others, including several Japanese students. Bryher correspondence concerns the completion of the manuscript of *The Days of Mars*, which Wilda Hamerman typed. The bulk of the letters and postcards from Pearson date from a 1970 trip he took to Australia and many parts of Asia. Writings of others include typescripts and printed essays by Pearson, including a journal of his 1970 trip; an uncorrected proof of Ladislav Farago's *Game of the Foxes*; and an outline and excerpts from *How I Enjoyed Studying in America* by Tamotsu Nishiyama. Other papers include clippings of obituaries and printed materials related to Pearson. Photographs all feature Pearson, in individual or group portraits.

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

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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.hamerman>.

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

Gift of Wilda Hamerman, 2005.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Broadside folder: Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Wilda Hamerman 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.

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### Preferred Citation

Wilda Hamerman Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## WILDA HAMERMAN

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Wilda Hamerman worked as secretary to Norman Holmes Pearson, a professor of English and American Studies at Yale. Pearson was also faculty advisor to the Yale Collection of American Literature and literary executor of both H. D. and Bryher. Wilda Hamerman is married to Martin Hamerman.

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### Scope and Contents

The Wilda Hamerman Papers consist of correspondence, writings, clippings, photographs and other papers related to Wilda Hamerman's work as secretary to Norman Holmes Pearson, a professor of English and American Studies at Yale, as well as faculty advisor to the Yale Collection of American Literature and literary executor of both H. D. and Bryher. The papers span the years 1968-1985. The papers are housed in two boxes and are organized into four series: *Correspondence*, *Writings of Others*, *Other Papers*, and *Photographs*.

[Series I, \*Correspondence\*](#), is arranged alphabetically in folders 1-30. The bulk of the correspondence is from Bryher and Norman Holmes Pearson. Wilda Hamerman's correspondence with Bryher largely concerns the completion of the manuscript for Bryher's *The Days of Mars*, which Hamerman typed, and includes some carbons of letters from Hamerman to Bryher. The bulk of Norman Holmes Pearson's correspondence to Wilda Hamerman dates from a 1970 trip that included Tahiti, New Caledonia, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Taipei, and Japan. Other correspondence includes letters from Helene Brewer as she travelled in Japan in 1974, several thank you notes from Japanese students, and a copy of a letter from Kai Erikson, chair of the American Studies Program, to Norman Holmes Pearson's widow concerning an essay prize established in his name.

[Series II, \*Writings of Others\*](#), is arranged alphabetically by author in folders 31-38. Writings include an uncorrected proof of *Game of the Foxes* by Ladislav Farago, several typescript and printed essays by

Norman Holmes Pearson, a copy of a typescript outline for "How I Enjoyed Studying in America" by Tamotsu Nishiyama that mentions and thanks both Hamerman and Norman Holmes Pearson, and a typescript journal of a visit to London, probably kept by Pearson's daughter Elizabeth Tracy.

[Series III, Other Papers](#), is arranged chronologically in folders 39-46. Other papers include an annual report form for the Department of English filled out by Norman Holmes Pearson, a program for an exhibit, "Two Estonian Artists," with an introduction by Pearson, clippings of obituaries of Pearson, a calendar from the State of Connecticut House of Representatives listing a resolution, "Expressing sympathy on the death of Professor Norman H. Pearson," an issue of Yale Library Associates Newsletter noting the presentation of a portrait of Pearson to the Beinecke Library, and a typescript emergency contact list, probably for a housesitter for the Pearsons during their 1970 trip.

[Series IV, Photographs](#), is arranged chronologically in folders 47-52. Photographs include two snapshots of Norman Holmes Pearson, Susan Pearson, Wilda Hamerman, Martin Hamerman and others at a picnic, September 1970, and four photographs of Norman Holmes Pearson, including one of him holding two snakes and another showing him with Susan Pearson and an unidentified man.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1968-85

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Series I, Correspondence, is arranged alphabetically by correspondent. All letters are to Wilda Hamerman unless otherwise noted.

b. 1, f. 1	Brewer, Helene	1974-76
b. 1, f. 2-7	Bryher Also includes carbons of letters from Wilda Hamerman to Bryher	1969-76
b. 1, f. 8	Erikson, Kai Copy of letter to Mrs. Norman Holmes Pearson	1976 Apr 13
b. 1, f. 9	Hashiguchi, Yasuo	1970 Jun 10
b. 1, f. 10	Kamogawa, Takahiro	1985 Dec 15
b. 1, f. 11	Kanaseki, Hisao	1970 Mar 18
b. 1, f. 11a	Kennelly, Peggy	n.d.
b. 1, f. 12	Kerblat, Jeanne Blanchenay	1983 Feb 1
b. 1, f. 13	Leyda, Jay	1977-84
b. 1, f. 14	Miyake, Takuo	1970 Aug 21
b. 1, f. 15	Nair, Eva W.	1975 Nov 17
b. 1, f. 16	Nishiyama, Tamotsu	1970 Aug 5
b. 1, f. 17	Noguchi, Kenji	1985 Dec 10
b. 1, f. 18-26	<a href="#">Pearson, Norman Holmes</a>	1968-75, n.d.
b. 1, f. 27	Richardson, Helen K. Copy of letter to Norman Holmes Pearson	1971 Jul 5
b. 1, f. 28	Saito, ----	n.d.
b. 1, f. 29	Santos, Irene de Souse	1974 Aug 7
b. 1, f. 30	Unidentified	1975, n.d.

**Series II: Writings of Others, 1952-75**

8 Folders

Series II, Writings of Others, is arranged alphabetically by author.

b. 2, f. 31	Farago, Ladislav. Uncorrected proofs of <i>Game of the Foxes</i> , David McKay Co.	ca. 1971
b. 2, f. 32	Nishiyama, Tamotsu. "How I Enjoyed Studying in America," Copy of typescript book outline and excerpts	n.d.
Pearson, Norman Holmes		
b. 2, f. 33	"Problems of Literary Executorship" Reprinted from <i>Studies in Bibliography</i> , Vol. 5	1952-53
b. 2, f. 34	"1970 Trip" Copy of typescript Includes trip itinerary	1970
b. 2, f. 35	Address to the Hawthorne Society. Copy of typescript, signed	1974 Dec 27
b. 2, f. 36	"A Double Sense of Vision." In <i>Yale Alumni Magazine</i> . Vol. XXXIX, no. 3 2 copies	1975 Dec
b. 2, f. 37	"Melus" Copy of typescript, signed	n.d.
b. 2, f. 38	[Tracy, Elizabeth]. "London -- 1972" Copy of typescript	1972

**Series III: Other Papers, 1970-76***6 Folders*

Series III, Other Papers, is arranged chronologically.

b. 2, f. 39	Pearson, Norman Holmes. Department of English annual report form	1970
b. 2, f. 40	<i>Norse Greenland</i> . Copenhagen: The National Museum	1971
b. 2, f. 41	<i>Yale Alumni Magazine</i> . Vol. XXXV, no. 5	1972 Feb
b. 2, f. 42	Program, "Two Estonian Artists," with introduction by Norman Holmes Pearson Program for exhibition of works by Aleksis Rannit, poet, and Ediard Wiiralt, engraver	1974 Nov 25
b. 2, f. 43	Clippings Includes obituaries and other newspaper articles relating to Norman Holmes Pearson.	1975
b. 2, f. 44	State of Connecticut House of Representatives. Calendar 3 copies. Includes resolution, "Expressing sympathy on the death of Professor Norman H. Pearson"	1976 Feb 27
b. 2, f. 45	Yale Library Associates Newsletter Notes presentation of portrait of Norman Holmes Pearson to the Beinecke Library	1976 Dec
b. 2, f. 46	Emergency contact list	n.d.



**Series IV: Photographs, 1970-74***6 Folders*

Series IV, Photographs, is arranged chronologically

b. 2, f. 47	Martin Hamerman, Norman Holmes Pearson, and Susan Pearson. Color photograph	1970 Sep
b. 2, f. 48	Martin Hamerman, Norman Holmes Pearson, Wilda Hamerman, Hiroko Sato, and Rik Warch. Color photograph	1970 Sep
b. 2, f. 49	Norman Holmes Pearson. Portrait photograph	1974 Jan
b. 2, f. 50	Norman Holmes Pearson holding two snakes. Color photograph	n.d.
b. 2, f. 51	Norman Holmes Pearson. Color photograph	n.d.
b. 2, f. 52	Norman Holmes Pearson, Susan Pearson, and unidentified man	n.d.

## **Restricted Fragile**

*(1 broadside folder)*

Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. bsd, folder 53    Box 2, folder 43

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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**

Authors, English -- 20th Century  
Voyages and travels -- Asia  
Voyages and travels -- Australia

### **Geographic Names**

Asia -- Description and travel  
Australia -- Description and travel

### **Genres / Formats**

Obituaries  
Photographic prints

### **Occupations**

Authors

### **Names**

Bryher, 1894-1983 (Days of mars)  
Farago, Ladislav (Game of the foxes)  
Hamerman, Wilda  
Nishiyama, Tamotsu, 1914-  
Pearson, Norman Holmes, 1909-1975

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale University -- Employees  
Yale University -- Faculty