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Sherwood Trask Papers

YCAL MSS 844



by Beinecke staff

July 2019

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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 844

CREATOR: Trask, Sherwood, 1890-1973

TITLE: Sherwood Trask Papers

DATES: 1846-1969

BULK DATES: 1921-1963

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 10.08 linear feet (11 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of correspondence, writings, printed material, photographs, and personal papers by and relating to American educator and poet Sherwood Trask.

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

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.trask>.

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 note

Gift of Robert L. Jackson, 1967.

Information about Access

This collection is open for research.

Ownership & Copyright

The Sherwood Trask 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.

Cite As

Sherwood Trask Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Notes

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization. Descriptive information is drawn in large part from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents.

Former call number: Uncat Za Ms 60.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for revisions in arrangement and description.

This collection was previously closed to research. That restriction was lifted in July 2019.

Sherwood Trask (1890-1973)

Sherwood Trask, educator and author, was born 5 February 1890 in Kewanee, Illinois. He was educated at Dartmouth (1911) before doing some graduate work at Dartmouth and Harvard and working a number of short-term jobs between 1912 and 1917, as an assistant to a social worker in Boston, an investigator of factories, a vocational counselor, and an agent to John Collier. Between 1919 and 1922 Trask studied utopian colonies and progressive schools and taught briefly at the Modern School in Stelton, New Jersey and Marrieta Johnson's School of Organic Education in Fairhope, Alabama. Trask then spent four years in Europe, from 1922 to 1926, before returning to the United States and to work at the Walden School in New York City.

Description of the Papers

The collection consists of correspondence, writings, printed material, photographs, and personal papers by and relating to American educator and poet Sherwood Trask. Correspondence includes letters from writers, editors, publishers, members of the Modern School Movement, and family. Correspondence dating from the 1930s-40s includes letters from many writers and editors, including Edwin Muir, Edward Merrill Root, T. S. Eliot, Harriet Monroe, Marianne Moore, Lincoln Kirstein, Harold Vinal, and others. Other materials document Trask's interest in progressive education and his career as an educator, including his affiliations with the Modern School in Stelton, New Jersey and the Walden School in New York City.

Collection Contents

b. 1	Notebooks <i>16 Folders</i>	1917-1962
b. 2	Notebooks <i>9 Folders</i>	circa 1928-1952
b. 3	"1926-1929 Poems" <i>2 Folders</i>	1926-1929
b. 3	"Station, 1921-29..." <i>4 Folders</i>	circa 1921-1936
b. 3	Unsorted writings <i>3 Folders</i>	circa 1930-1963
b. 3	"Materials 1960"	1960-1963
b. 3	"The Negro in America: A Revue of the Race," draft, typescript	1969 May
b. 3	Material relating to "Negro Revue" <i>11 Folders</i>	circa 1927-1948
b. 4	Modern School of Stelton anniversary program	1940
b. 4	"Lodge Meeting" (3 copies)	undated
b. 4	"Materials, 'The Dance,' 1929-1936"	1929-[1936?]
b. 4	Untitled work	undated
b. 4	"His Honor, Mayor Walker"	undated
b. 4	"Let Us Take Invoice"	undated
b. 4	"The Fight" (3 copies)	undated
b. 4	"Maverick on 'Long Road'"	1928-1946, undated
b. 4	"Mr. Casey Jones"	undated
b. 4	Untitled work	undated
b. 4	"Firing and Hiring for the Cookstove"	undated
b. 4	"All Aboard"	undated
b. 4	"Noah's Ark"	undated
b. 4	"Steam-age Finale"	undated
b. 4	"Searching for Folk-form"	1932, undated
b. 4	Unsorted material <i>2 Folders</i>	1930-1934, undated

b. 4	Walden School material <i>8 Folders</i>	1932-1942, undated
b. 4	"Teaching History Material, May 1968, Daytona"	1968 May
b. 4	Photographs <i>5 Folders</i>	circa 1895-1955, undated
b. 4	"When I Lived in Deadwood"	undated
b. 4	Untitled work	undated
b. 4	Clippings	1966-1968
b. 5	Material for Biography <i>4 Folders</i>	1966-1975, undated
b. 5	"Anonymously from Illinois"	1957 February 23
b. 5	"History of Trask Family"	undated
b. 5	"The Making of an American" <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 5	<i>The Modern School</i>	1920-1921
b. 5	<i>The Modern School of Stelton</i>	1925
b. 5	"The Gossiper"	undated
b. 5	"Letters to 'Modern School' Children"	1924
b. 5	"The Roundtable"	1918-1919, undated
b. 5	Correspondence	1922-1936, undated
b. 5	"Publishers Heard from--1944 on"	1927-1962, undated
b. 5	Unsorted material	1940
b. 5	"Casey Jones"	undated
b. 5	"Shaw Lifted Up His Voice"	1933, undated
b. 5	"The Panhandles" <i>5 Folders</i>	1958, undated
b. 5	"The Western Revue"	1928-1936
b. 5	"The Long Road"	undated
b. 5	"New Material on 'André'"	1925-1928
b. 5	"The Republicans" <i>2 Folders</i>	undated

b. 6 (Oversize)	"School on Wheels" scrapbook	1950
b. 7	Walden School material Also stored in: Oversize, Box 6	1963
b. 7	Correspondence	1931-1939, undated
b. 7	"Poetry in the Machine Age"	1932
b. 7	"The Joyful Workday"	1920
b. 7	Poems 2 Folders	1920s-1930s
b. 7	"Series of Books"	1937
b. 7	"Search for Utopias"	1932
b. 7	"Jottings..."	1929-1937, undated
b. 7	Unsorted material	1925-1947, undated
b. 7	<i>The Kentucky Revival</i> , printed version, annotated	1846
b. 7	"Report on the Effect of the Child Labor Law of 1913" (2 copies)	1914
b. 7	"The Cotton, Mill," printed version, <i>Forum</i>	1917 March
b. 7	"Diary on School Work"	1930
b. 7	"Hoovervilles and Deweytowns"	undated
b. 7	Untitled material	undated
b. 7	Poems	1931-1968, undated
b. 7	"Sheer Poetry Is Our Only True Status"	undated
b. 7	"Published Poems"	1922-1935, undated
b. 7	"If I Can But Be Humble"	1959
b. 7	"One Major Move They Made, Then Stayed"	undated
b. 7	"Song of Doing"	undated
b. 7	"Amaryllis, Sleep-Shepherdess" and other poems	undated
b. 7	"Land of Cyclones"	1956, undated
b. 7	"America Was a Farmers' Haven"	1931, undated
b. 7	"Vikings"	1928-1933, undated

b. 7	["Casketed Europe"?]	1933-1937, undated
b. 7	Miscellaneous material <i>2 Folders</i>	1929-1963, undated
b. 7	"A Place of Truth, Unroofed"	1929, undated
b. 8	"Hoovervilles and Deweytowns"	undated
b. 8	Untitled essay	1960 December 18
b. 8	"Trial by Fire"	1934, undated
b. 8	"Casey Jones" material	1929-1931, undated
b. 8	"Poetry and the Machine Age"	undated
b. 8	Correspondence <i>15 Folders</i>	1919-1968, undated
b. 8	"Diary of 1st Year at Dartmouth"	1907, 1910
b. 8	Notebooks <i>9 Folders</i>	circa 1927-1966
b. 9	Walden School material <i>8 Folders</i>	1927-1963, undated
b. 9	"A Dynamic Changeover Possible in Secondary Schools"	1939
b. 9	"The Modern School: A Tone Poem"	undated
b. 9	"Confederate Play" <i>19 Folders</i>	1932-1936, undated
b. 10	"Poems 1950s"	1957-1965, undated
b. 10	Unsorted material <i>6 Folders</i>	circa 1930s-1960s
b. 10	"The Negro in America" <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 10	Poems <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 10	"Our Agrarian Selves"	undated
b. 10	"Additional Typescript Poems"	undated
b. 10	"Raw War"	undated
b. 10	"Poems of the 20s"	circa 1920s
b. 10	"Comments on Literature, Poetry"	1934, 1940

b. 10	"Poems on Indian Theme"	1929, undated
b. 10	"Poems & Jottings"	1928-1932, undated
b. 10	"Poems - Chronologically Organ[ized]"	1929-1965
b. 10	"More Than Bread" <i>4 Folders</i>	1929-1935, undated
b. 11	"The Broken Poem"	undated
b. 11	Unsorted material <i>8 Folders</i>	circa 1919-1969
b. 11	Box labels	undated

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

Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Progressive education -- United States

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints

Occupations

Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Eliot, T. S. (Thomas Stearns), 1888-1965
Kirstein, Lincoln, 1907-1996
Monroe, Harriet, 1860-1936
Moore, Marianne, 1887-1972
Muir, Edwin, 1887-1959
Root, E. Merrill (Edward Merrill), 1895-1973
Trask, Sherwood, 1890-1973
Vinal, Harold, 1891-1965

Corporate Bodies

Modern School (Stelton, N.J.)
Walden School