

# Guide to the John Morton Blum Papers

MS 86



compiled by Marguerite S. Witkop and staff of Manuscripts and Archives

April 1979

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
mssa.assist@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 86

**CREATOR:** Blum, John Morton, 1921-2011

**TITLE:** John Morton Blum papers

**DATES:** 1943-2011

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 13.67 linear feet (20 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of typescript drafts and research notes for three published works: *Joe Tumulty and the Wilson Era*; *Woodrow Wilson and the Politics of Morality*; and *The Promise of America*. Also included is some professional and personal correspondence.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0086>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0086>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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 John Morton Blum, 1966, 1985, 1991, 1994-1997, 2005, 2007, and 2009. Gift of Lewis L. Gould, 2016-2017. Gift of Pamela Blum, 2019.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

John Morton Blum Papers (MS 86). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

John Morton Blum (A.B. Harvard 1943, M.A. 1947, Ph.D. 1950) was a research associate, assistant professor of history, and associate professor at M.I.T. from 1948-1957. He has been a professor of history at Yale since 1957. Blum died on October 18, 2011, in North Branford, Connecticut.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of typescript drafts and research notes for three published works: *Joe Tumulty and the Wilson Era*; *Woodrow Wilson and the Politics of Morality*; and *The Promise of America*. Also included is some professional and personal correspondence.

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## Arrangement

Collection is arranged by accessions.

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## Collection Contents

### Inventory, Circa 1950-1966

*Woodrow Wilson and the Politics of American Morality*

Published version's title is *Woodrow Wilson and the Politics of Morality*.

b. 1, f. 1-4	Typed manuscript	pre-1956
b. 1, f. 5-13	First draft	pre-1956
b. 1, f. 14-23	Second draft	pre-1956
b. 2, f. 24-27	<i>The Promise of America; an Historical Inquiry</i> typed manuscript	pre-1966
b. 4, 3	<i>Tumulty and the Wilson Era</i> research notes on index cards	pre-1951

## **Accession 1986-M-001: Additional materials, Undated**

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b. 3, 2, 1	Photocopies of Walter Lippmann letters	Undated
b. 6, 5, 4	Steel, Ronald, research notes on Walter Lippmann	Undated

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**Accession 1991-M-073: Additional materials, 1929-1985**

Received from John M. Blum, 1991.

Nine audio cassettes, with printed transcripts, on Civil Rights, 1963, originally from the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, were separated from this accession and sent to the Historical Sound Recordings Collection, Yale University Library.

b. 1, f. 1	"The Evolution of Anti-Poverty Policy," senior essay for the Yale College Dept. of History by Timothy P. Shriver English	1981 April 17
b. 1, f. 2	"The Macroeconomic Education of John F. Kennedy," senior essay for the Yale Dept. of History by Thomas R. Burke English	1985 April 18
b. 1, f. 3	"Federal Government Deficits and Interest Payments As A Proportion of Gross National Product, 1929-1984:" statistical tables English	1929-1984
Material from John F. Kennedy Presidential Papers, President's Office Files: Presidential Transcripts		
b. 1, f. 4	"Integration of the University of Mississippi" English	1962 September 29-October 3
b. 1, f. 5	"Cuban Missile Crisis Meetings" English	1962 October 16
b. 1, f. 6	"Tax Cut Proposals," vol. I English	1962 July 30-August 10
b. 1, f. 7	"Tax Cut Proposals," vol. II English	1962 October 2-1963 July 29
b. 1, f. 8	"Tax Cut Proposals," vol. III English	1963 August 13-August 22

**Accession 1994-M-052: Additional materials, 1966-1993**

Received from John M. Blum, 1994.

b.1

Professional correspondence, A-Z

1966-1993

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**Accession 1995-M-095: Additional materials, 1942-1994**

Received from John M. Blum, 1995.

b.1 Professional and personal correspondence, subject files

1942-1946,  
1970s-1994

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**Accession 1996-M-103: Additional materials, 1993-1996**

Includes Accession 1997-M-075.

b. 1, f. 1-5

Professional and personal correspondence

1993-1996

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**Accession 2006-M-075: Additional materials, 1991-2005**

This accession consists of general correspondence to John Blum arranged alphabetically by correspondent. Congratulatory messages on the publication of Blum's memoir, *A Life in History* (2004), and his New Haven-based murder mystery, *An Old Blue Corpse* (2005) are included.

Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	A-D	
b. 1, f. 2	F-L	
b. 1, f. 3	Lilley, William	1996-2004
b. 1, f. 4	M	
b. 1, f. 5	O-S	
b. 1, f. 6	Schlesinger, Arthur, Jr.	1991-1998
b. 1, f. 7	Schorske, Carl	1997-2002
b. 1, f. 8	Skidelsky, Robert	1998-2000
b. 1, f. 9	W-Z	
b. 1, f. 10	Unidentified	1998 December 7
Congratulatory messages		
b. 1, f. 11-12	<i>A Life in History</i> English	2004 June-2005 November
b. 1, f. 13	<i>An Old Blue Corpse</i> English	2005 April- December

## **Accession 2007-M-052: Additional materials, 1986-2006**

b. 1, f. 1

Professional correspondence and publications

1986-2006

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**Accession 2009-M-069: Additional materials, 1989-2008**

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence, general	1998-2008
b. 1, f. 2	Congratulatory retirement messages	1991
b. 1, f. 3	"From Rosie to Roosevelt" English Written introduction by John Blum to accompany the American Retrospective Series, National Video Resources.	1989

**Accession 2016-M-091: Additional materials, 2005–2011**

This accession comprises correspondence between Blum and Lewis L. Gould, the Eugene C. Barker Centennial Professor Emeritus in American History at the University of Texas. The correspondence covers both professional and personal topics, including updates on scholarly articles in progress, feedback on scholarly articles, sports, and politics.

b. 1, f. 1-6	Correspondence from Lewis Gould	2006–2011
b. 1, f. 7-8	Correspondence to Lewis Gould	2005–2011

**Accession 2018-M-0014: Additional materials, 2011**

*0.02 linear feet (1 box)*

This accession is one letter to Blum from Lewis L. Gould, the Eugene C. Barker Centennial Professor Emeritus in American History at the University of Texas.

b.1

Letter from Lewis Gould

May 13, 2011

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## **Accession 2019-M-0048: Additional materials, 1984**

Letters from John Blum to Katrina (Triny) Barnes, 1984 and undated, concerning the 1984 United States presidential election and family, personal, and travel news.

Gift of Pamela Blum, 2019.

- |     |  |               |
|-----|--|---------------|
| b.1 | Letters to Katrina (Triny) Barnes  | 1984, undated |
|     | Two letters from John Blum to Katrina (Triny) Barnes, 1984, and one undated letter from Blum to Barnes. Barnes writes about the 1984 United States presidential election, particularly his impressions of Ronald Reagan, Walter Mondale, and Gary Hart; he also addresses family, personal, and travel news. |               |
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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**

Historians

### **Names**

Blum, John Morton, 1921-2011

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University -- Faculty