

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Benét Family Papers

YCAL MSS 1107



Michael L. Forstrom

2017

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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 1107

**CREATOR:** Benét Family

**TITLE:** Benét Family Papers

**DATES:** 1836–1994

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 26.65 linear feet (56 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Benét family papers consists of correspondence, manuscripts, and other papers documenting the lives and activities of four generations of the Benét family. Material relating to members of the Rose, Mahon, and Carr families can also be found. The collection spans the years from 1849 to 1994.

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

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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.benetfamily>.

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  
■■■■     item barcode

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired through gift and purchase from Laura Benét, Thomas Benét, and Rebecca (Benét) Sawyer, 1977-2017.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 55: Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Box 56 (videocassette): Restricted fragile material. Reference copy may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Benét Family 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

Benét Family Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

The Benét Family Papers contains material acquired by the library through gift and purchase from Laura Benét, Thomas Benét, and Rebecca (Benét) Sawyer from 1977 through 2017. Manuscript material formerly classified under multiple call numbers, as well as printed ephemera that had been cataloged separately, was brought together and processed during 2016-2017.

Former call numbers: Za Benét, Uncat Za Ms 261, Uncat Za Ms 359, Uncat Za Ms 361, Uncat Za Ms 628, Uncat Za File 386, Uncat Za File 392, Uncat Mss 53, Uncat Mss 65, Uncat Mss 651, Uncat Mss 821, Uncat Mss 1256, and Za B434 +1.

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## Related Materials

Material by or relating to the Benét family acquired by the library from non-family sources is located in the Benét Family Collection (YCAL MSS 1108). Additional material by or relating to Stephen Vincent and Rosemary Benét can be found in the Stephen Vincent Benét and Rosemary Benét Papers (YCAL MSS 1046). Additional material by or relating to William Rose Benét can be found in the William Rose Benét Papers (YCAL MSS 1100).

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## Benét family

Brigadier General S. V. (Stephen Vincent) Benét was born 22 January 1827 in St. Augustine, Florida. He studied at Hallowell's school in Alexandria, Virginia and then at the University of Georgia and the United States Military Academy, where he graduated in 1849. He was appointed to the Ordnance Corps, and served at the Watervliet Arsenal, at Washington, at Frankford Arsenal, again at Washington, and then at the St. Louis Arsenal. In 1859 he became Assistant Professor of Geography, History, and Ethics at West Point, and from 1861 until 1864 was instructor of Ordnance and the Science of Gunnery. From 1865 until 1869 he was in command of Frankford arsenal. In 1869 he became Assistant to the Chief of Ordnance, and in 1874 he succeeded to Chief of Ordnance with the rank of Brigadier General. He translated Jomini's *Political and Military History of the Campaign of Waterloo* (New York, 1853) and he is the author of a treatise on "Military Law and the Practice of Courts-Martial" (1862) and "Electro-Ballistic Machines and the Schultze Chronoscope" (1866).

He married Laura Amanda Walker and together they had two sons, James Walker Benét and Laurence Vincent Benét.

James Walker Benét (1857-1928), a Colonel in the U.S. Army, was born 16 July, 1857 in Richmond, Kentucky. He graduated from West Point Academy in 1880 and went on to serve most of his military career in the Army Ordnance Department. From 1890 until his retirement in 1921, he served at the Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia (1890-1894); Bethlehem Iron Works, South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (1894-1898); Ordnance Headquarters, Buffalo, New York (1898-1899); Watervliet Arsenal, New York (1904-1905, 1919-1921); Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois (1904-1905), Benicia Arsenal, California (1905-1911), and Augusta Arsenal, Georgia (1911-1918).

James Walker Benét married Frances Neill Rose (1860-1940) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1883. Ms. Rose, born 23 October, 1860 in Washington, D.C., was the child of William John Rose and Mary Lee Mahon. She attended Mrs. Sutton's School for Girls. Their children include authors Laura Benét, William Rose Benét, and Stephen Vincent Benét.

Laura Benét (1884-1979) was educated at the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York, and at Vassar and Moravian colleges. She worked at the Spring Street Settlement in New York City from 1915 to 1917 and at the American Red Cross in Augusta, Georgia from 1917 to 1919. She later took on editorial and free-lance writing assignments. She was the author of several poetry collections, fiction, and biographical works.

William Rose Benét (1886-1950) was educated at Albany Academy and Yale College (1903-1907). After college, Benét worked for *Century Magazine* as a reader. He served in the U.S. Air Services during the First World War, and after the war took work as a copy writer for an advertising firm. In 1920, Henry Seidel Canby brought Benét on as an assistant editor at the *New York Evening Post* and in 1923, Canby, Benét, and their fellow editors left the *Post* to form the *Saturday Review*.

William Rose Benét was the author of several collections of poetry, a novel, and a collection of essays. His autobiography in verse, *The Dust Which Is God* (1941), was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1942. In addition to his long-standing (1923-1950) position with the *Saturday Review*, Benét contributed to several compilations of English-language poetry and literature.

William Rose Benét married four times, to: Teresa Frances Thomson (1912-1919), with whom he had three children, James Walker Benét (1914-2012), Kathleen Anne (Benét) Fry, and Frances Rosemary (Benét) Dawson; poet Elinor Wylie (1923-1928); actress Lora Baxter (1932-1937); and children's book author Majorie Flack (1941-1950).

Stephen Vincent Benét (1898-1943), educated at Summerville Academy and Yale College (1915-1919), was a well known and widely read author in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s. After the success of his long poem, *John Brown's Body* (1928), for which he was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1929, he regularly published poems, short stories, and other work in popular magazines such as *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*. His short story, "The Devil and Daniel Webster" (1936) was awarded the O. Henry Memorial Award in 1937. In addition to poetry and short stories, he is the author of novels, book reviews, essays, radio and stage plays, screenplays, and speeches.

Stephen Vincent Benét and Rosemary Carr married in 1921. They had three children, Thomas, Stephanie Jane, and Rachel.

Biographical information taken from Arlington National Cemetery website and other sources.

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## Scope and Contents

The Benét family papers consists of correspondence, manuscripts, and other papers documenting the lives and activities of four generations of the Benét family. Material relating to members of the Rose, Mahon, and Carr families can also be found. The collection spans the years from 1849 to 1994.

The defining thread to the collection runs from Brigadier General Stephen Vincent Benét and his wife Laura Amanda (Walker) Benét through their son James Walker Benét and his wife Frances Neill (Rose) Benét,

through their three children, Laura, William Rose, and Stephen Vincent, to the children of William Rose and Stephen Vincent Benét.

The three siblings, Laura, William Rose, and Stephen Vincent established the Benét family's literary reputation in the early to mid-20th century. The papers of Laura Benét are particularly well represented here. The Correspondence series includes large files of letters to Laura Benét from her mother and her two brothers. The Writings series includes over 50 examples of her work, with drafts and printed versions of short forms such as poems, reviews, stories, and essays. And the Other Papers series includes 26 diary volumes dating from 1922 to 1978, as well as scrapbooks and other material.

Collection material is chiefly in English; with some material in French.

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## **Arrangement**

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1854-1994. II. Writings, 1849-1973. III. Other Papers, 1871-1994.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1854–1994, 1880-1940s

13.34 linear feet (32 boxes)

Series I. Correspondence is the largest component of the Benét family papers. The correspondence covers four generations of the family, almost 150 years, dating from the mid-19th century (1854) to the end of the 20th century (1994). The defining thread of the series, and indeed the entire collection, runs from Brigadier General Stephen Vincent Benét and his wife Laura Amanda (Walker) Benét through their son James Walker Benét and his wife Frances Neill (Rose) Benét, through their three children, Laura, William Rose, and Stephen Vincent, to, finally, the children of William Rose and Stephen Vincent Benét.

The three siblings, Laura, William Rose, and Stephen Vincent established the family's literary reputation in the early to mid-20th century, and there are large files of letters from the three children to their mother, Frances Rose Benét. There are also large files of letters to Laura Benét from her mother and from her brother William Rose. Additionally, there are letters to and from more extended members of the family, including the Rose, Mahon, and Carr families. Other noteworthy files exist for Rosemary Benét and her mother, Dr. Rachel H. Carr of Chicago, Illinois.

Organized into 28 subseries. Correspondence is arranged alphabetically first by correspondent (recipient) and then by sender. Letters are arranged chronologically within files.

#### Frances Rose Benét Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	Baxter, Lora	1933 March 20
b. 1, f. 2	Benét, James Walker	1922 November 16
b. 1, f. 3	Benét, James, 1914-	1928, undated
b. 1, f. 4-6	Benét, Laura	1907-1933, undated
b. 1, f. 7	Benét, Laurence Vincent	1928 April 3
b. 1, f. 8	Benét, Margaret Cox	1928
b. 1, f. 9	Benét, Rosemary	undated
b. 1, f. 10-17	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1909–1936
b. 2, f. 18-28	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1936-1940, undated
b. 2, f. 29-30	Benét, William Rose	1905–1916
b. 3, f. 31-33	Benét, William Rose	1917-1940, undated
b. 3, f. 34	Carr, Rachel H.	1928
b. 3, f. 35	Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)	1927-1939, undated
b. 3, f. 36	Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét)	1928, undated



## Frances Rose Benét Correspondence (continued)

b. 3, f. 37	Mahon, John M.	undated
b. 3, f. 38	Mahon, Mary	1925-1928
b. 3, f. 39	[Norris?], Kathleen Thompson	1918 August
b. 3, f. 40	Peterson, Anne	1928 April 8
b. 3, f. 41	Rose, Elizabeth Neill	undated
b. 3, f. 42	[Rose?], Genevieve	1928 April 24
b. 3, f. 43	<a href="#">Rose, Mary Lee (Mahon)</a>	1906
b. 3, f. 44	Rose, Mary	1935 September 24
b. 3, f. 45	Rose, William John	1928 April 10
b. 3, f. 46-51	Others Includes letters from Frances Rose Benét	1910-1937
b. 4, f. 52-53	Others	undated
b. 4, f. 54-56	Empty envelopes	1906-1936, undated
James Walker Benét Correspondence		
b. 4, f. 57-59	Benét, Frances Rose	1893-1927, undated
b. 4, f. 60	Benét, James, 1914-	undated
b. 4, f. 61	Benét, Laura	1925-1927, undated
b. 4, f. 62	Benét, Laura Amanda (Walker)	1876
b. 4, f. 63	Benét, Laurence Vincent	1900-1919, undated
b. 4, f. 64	Benét, Margaret Cox	1916-1927
b. 4, f. 65	Benét, Rosemary	1927 October 31
b. 4, f. 66	Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent)	1876 September 26
b. 4, f. 67	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1912, undated
b. 5, f. 68-69	Benét, William Rose	1904-1928
b. 5, f. 70	Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)	1923, undated
b. 5, f. 71	Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét)	1927 April 1
b. 5, f. 72	Rose, Elizebeth Neill	undated

## James Walker Benét Correspondence (continued)

b. 5, f. 73-74	Others Includes letters from James Walker Benét	1900-1928, undated
James Benét Correspondence		
b. 5, f. 75	Norris, Kathleen Thompson	undated
b. 5, f. 76	Others	1922, undated
Laura Benét Correspondence		
b. 5, f. 77-84	Benét, Frances Rose	1906-1937, undated
b. 6, f. 85-86	Benét, Frances Rose	undated
b. 6, f. 87-88	Benét, James Walker	1905-1927, undated
b. 6, f. 89	Benét, James, 1914-	1919-1926, undated
b. 6, f. 90	Benét, Margaret Cox	1923 December 24
b. 6, f. 91	Benét, Peter	1966 September 5
b. 6, f. 92	Benét, Rosemary	1921-1943, undated
b. 6, f. 93-96	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1913-1942, undated
b. 6, f. 97	Benét, Thomas	1946, undated
b. 6, f. 98-100	Benét, William Rose	1906-1939
b. 7, f. 101-108	Benét, William Rose Includes third party correspondence	1940-1949, undated
b. 7, f. 109	Dawson, Bill	1964 December 29
b. 7, f. 110-111	Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)	1923-1927, undated
b. 7, f. 111A	Fletcher, John Gould Former call number: Uncat ZA File Fletcher	undated
b. 8, f. 112	Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét)	1919-1953, undated
b. 8, f. 113	Mahin, Stephanie	undated
b. 8, f. 114	Mahon, Agnes	1904-1927, undated

## Laura Benét Correspondence (continued)

b. 8, f. 115	Mahon, Mary	1919 September 11
b. 8, f. 116	Norris, Charles G. (Charles Gilman)	undated
b. 8, f. 117	Rose, William John	1923 December 19
b. 8, f. 118-126	Others Includes letters from Laura Benét	1891-1977, undated
b. 9, f. 127-129	Others	undated
Laura Amanda (Walker) Benét Correspondence		
b. 9, f. 130	Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent)	1856 February 24
Laurence Vincent Benét Correspondence		
b. 9, f. 131	Others	1906, 1927
Rachel Benét Correspondence		
b. 9, f. 132	Carr, Rachel H.	undated
Rosemary Benét Correspondence		
b. 9, f. 133	Benét, Frances Rose	1921, undated
b. 9, f. 134	Benét, James Walker	undated
b. 9, f. 135	Benét, Laura	1922 January 16
b. 9, f. 136	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1926, undated
b. 9, f. 137-145	Carr, Rachel H. Includes third party correspondence	1901-1920
b. 10, f. 146-159	Carr, Rachel H.	1920-1933
b. 11, f. 160-161	Carr, Rachel H.	1933-1938, undated
b. 11, f. 162-163	Carr, Thomas	1919-1921
b. 11, f. 164	McVey, Margaret	1910, 1920
b. 11, f. 165	Mahon, Agnes	1920 May
b. 11, f. 166-169	Others	[1915?]-1943, undated
S. V. (Stephen Vincent) Benét Correspondence		
b. 11, f. 170	Others	1854-188[4?]
Stephanie Benét Correspondence		

## Stephanie Benét Correspondence (continued)

b. 11, f. 171	Carr, Rachel H.	1926-1931, undated
Stephen Vincent Benét Correspondence		
b. 11, f. 172	Benét, Frances Rose	[1905?], 1918
b. 11, f. 173	Benét, James Walker	1904, 1927
b. 11, f. 174	Benét, James, 1914-	1928 September 18
b. 11, f. 175	Benét, Laurence Vincent	1918 March 18
b. 11, f. 176	Benét, Rosemary	undated
b. 11, f. 177	Benét, William Rose	1916-1918, undated
b. 11, f. 178	Carr, Rachel H.	1921-1933, undated
b. 11, f. 179	Others	1907-1917
Teresa (Thomson) Benét Correspondence		
b. 11, f. 180	Benét, Frances Rose	1912 August 14
b. 11, f. 181	Benét, William Rose	1912 August
Thomas Benét Correspondence		
b. 12, f. 182	Benét, Laura	1963 April 16
b. 12, f. 183	Carr, Rachel H.	1926-1934, undated
b. 12, f. 184	Others	1993-1994, undated
William Rose Benét Correspondence		
b. 12, f. 185	Benét, Frances Rose	undated
b. 12, f. 186	Benét, Stephen Vincent	undated
b. 12, f. 187	Hoyt, Henry Martyn	undated
b. 12, f. 188	Others Includes letters from William Rose Benét	19[17?]-1926, undated
Rachel H. Carr Correspondence		
b. 12, f. 189	[Bailey?], Mary Josephine	1908, 1912
b. 12, f. 190-194	Benét, Frances Rose	1921-1934, undated
b. 12, f. 195	Benét, Rachel	1934 February 15

## Rachel H. Carr Correspondence (continued)

b. 12, f. 196-199	Benét, Rosemary	1905-1920
b. 13, f. 200-209	Benét, Rosemary Includes photographs and clippings	1920-1926
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 716-717	Clippings removed from Benét, Rosemary	1921, undated
b. 14, f. 210-219	Benét, Rosemary Includes photographs	1926-1928
b. 15, f. 220-229	Benét, Rosemary Includes photographs	1928-1930
b. 16, f. 230-239	Benét, Rosemary Includes third party correspondence, photographs, and clippings	1931-1933
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 718	Clipping removed from Benét, Rosemary	1931 November 14
b. 17, f. 240-251	Benét, Rosemary Includes photographs and clippings	1934-1938
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 719	Clipping removed from Benét, Rosemary	1934 July 1
b. 18, f. 252-255	Benét, Rosemary	1938, undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 720	Clippings removed from Benét, Rosemary	undated
b. 18, f. 256-263	Benét, Rosemary (letters to Rachel and Thomas Carr) Includes third party correspondence, photographs, and printed material	1910-1920
b. 19, f. 264-274	Benét, Rosemary (letters to Rachel and Thomas Carr) Includes photographs	1920-1924
b. 20, f. 275-285	Benét, Rosemary (letters to Rachel and Thomas Carr) Includes photographs and clippings	1924-1929, undated
b. 21, f. 286	Benét, Rosemary (letters to Rachel and Thomas Carr)	undated
b. 21, f. 287	Benét, Stephanie; Benét, Thomas	1933-1934
b. 21, f. 288	Benét, Stephanie	1933-1938, undated
b. 21, f. 289-292	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1921-1936, undated
b. 21, f. 293	Benét, Thomas	1934-1938, undated
b. 21, f. 294	Benét, William Rose	1936 April 1

## Rachel H. Carr Correspondence (continued)

b. 21, f. 295	Carr, Thomas	1919 December 10
b. 21, f. 296	Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)	1922 April 24
b. 21, f. 297	Dubois, Edward J.	1918 May
b. 21, f. 298	McVey, J. H.	1924-1933, undated
b. 21, f. 299	McVey, Margaret	1931 August 28
b. 21, f. 300	"Sophie"	1928-1930
b. 21, f. 301-304	Others	1892-1936, undated
Thomas Carr Correspondence		
b. 22, f. 305-306	Benét, Rosemary	1905-1923, undated
b. 22, f. 307	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1923-1926
b. 22, f. 308	Carr, Rachel H.	1890, 1896
b. 22, f. 309	Others Includes letter from Thomas Carr	1890-1919
Frances Rosemary (Benét) Dawson Correspondence		
b. 22, f. 310	Others	1924 January 9
Kathleen Anne (Benét) Fry Correspondence		
b. 22, f. 311	[Benét, James Walker?]	undated
b. 22, f. 312	Others	undated
Agnes Mahon Correspondence		
b. 22, f. 313	Benét, Frances Rose	1918-1929, undated
b. 22, f. 314	Benét, James Walker	1923 December 13
b. 22, f. 315	Benét, James, 1914-	1927, undated
b. 22, f. 316	Benét, Laura	1918-1926, undated
b. 22, f. 317	Benét, Rosemary	1923 December
b. 22, f. 318	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1918-1927, undated
b. 22, f. 319	Benét, William Rose	1905-1917, undated

## Agnes Mahon Correspondence (continued)

b. 22, f. 320	Carr, Rachel H.	1923-1924
b. 22, f. 321	Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)	1924-1925, undated
b. 22, f. 322	Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét)	1925, 1927
b. 22, f. 323	Irwin, John S.	1872 August 13
b. 22, f. 324	Mahon, Agnes Mary (Irwin) (mother)	1867-1882
b. 22, f. 325	Mahon, [Irwin?] (brother)	1909 January 12
b. 22, f. 326	Mahon, Mary (cousin)	1924-1927, undated
b. 22, f. 327	Mahon, Sophie (sister)	1899 August
b. 22, f. 328	[Mahon, ?]	1899 August
b. 22, f. 329	Montgomery, Thomas	1924-1927, undated
b. 22, f. 330	Norris, Charles G. (Charles Gilman); Norris, Kathleen Thompson	1927 December 15
b. 22, f. 331	[Rose, Elizabeth Neill?]	1925
b. 22, f. 332	<a href="#">Rose, Mary Lee (Mahon)</a>	1909-1915, undated
b. 22, f. 333	Rose, William John (brother)	1872-1927
b. 22, f. 334	Rose, William (nephew)	1924, undated
b. 22, f. 335-336	Others	1882-1923
b. 23, f. 337-347	Others	1923-1925
b. 24, f. 348-357	Others	1925-1927
b. 25, f. 358-368	Others	1927-1929, undated
b. 26, f. 369-370	Others	undated
Thomas Montgomery Correspondence		
b. 26, f. 371	Benét, Stephen Vincent	undated
Agnes Mary Rose Correspondence		
b. 26, f. 372	Rose, William John	1872 September 6
b. 26, f. 373	Others	1872

## Elizabeth Neill Rose Correspondence

## Elizabeth Neill Rose Correspondence (continued)

b. 26, f. 374-380	Benét, Frances Rose (sister)	1914-1925, undated
b. 26, f. 381	Benét, James Walker	1884-1925, undated
b. 26, f. 382	Benét, John (nephew)	1886 February 2
b. 26, f. 383-384	Benét, Laura (niece)	1914-1924, undated
b. 26, f. 385	Rose, Mary Lee (mother)	1922 December 14
b. 26, f. 386	Rose, William John (brother)	1923 December 17
b. 26, f. 387	Others	1923-1929, undated
Mary Lee Rose Correspondence		
b. 27, f. 388	<a href="#">Benét, Frances Rose</a>	1910, 1915
b. 27, f. 389	Benét, Laura	1904 April 3
b. 27, f. 390	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1905-1915
b. 27, f. 391-392	Benét, William Rose	1902-1914, undated
b. 27, f. 393	Neill, William (grandfather)	[?] August 6
b. 27, f. 394	Rose, Elizabeth Neill	[18??]
b. 27, f. 395	Others	1898-1916, undated
[?] Thomson Correspondence		
b. 27, f. 396	Benét, Teresa (Thomson)	1913, undated
Katharine Jane Wiest and William H. McCrea Correspondence		
b. 27, f. 397-404	Correspondence	1884-1890
b. 28, f. 405-415	Correspondence	1891-1895
b. 29, f. 416-426	Correspondence	1895-1896
b. 30, f. 427-437	Correspondence	1896-1897
b. 31, f. 438-447	Correspondence	1897-1899
b. 32, f. 448-453	Correspondence	1899-1900, undated

## Sarah Jane Wiest Correspondence



## Sarah Jane Wiest Correspondence (continued)

b. 32, f. 454	Correspondence	1886-1898, undated
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## Elinor Wylie Correspondence

b. 32, f. 455	Benét, William Rose	[1920s]
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b. 32, f. 456	Others	1928
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## Others and unidentified

b. 32, f. 457-461	Correspondence	1856-1959, undated
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**Series II: Writings, 1849–1973, bulk 1920–1959***2.83 linear feet (3 boxes)*

Series II. contains writings by members of the Benét family and by others. The small number of works by others relate chiefly to members of the Benét family. Writings by family members includes work by Frances Rose Benét, Laura Benét, Rosemary Benét, Stephen Vincent Benét, Thomas Benét, and William Rose Benét. Drafts and printed versions of mostly shorter works, such as poems, stories, and essays, are present here. The largest group of material, the writings of Laura Benét, includes over 50 titles. Additional writings by Laura Benét can also be found in Series III. Other Papers where, in a subseries for Other Material, scrapbooks include clippings of poems.

Organized into two subseries: Writings by Members of the Benét Family and Writings of Others.

## Writings by Members of the Benét Family

## Benét, Frances Rose

b. 33, f. 462	"A Lay Owed to S.V.B.," poem, autograph manuscript	[1912]
b. 33, f. 463	"A Merry Christmas to You!," poem, printed version, signed	undated

## Benét, Laura

b. 33, f. 464	"Ah, Icarus," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 465	<i>Ah, Icarus: Poems</i> , typescript and typescript photocopy	undated
b. 33, f. 466	"Autobiographical Note," draft, typescript, corrected	[?] October 25
b. 33, f. 467	<i>Basket for a Fair</i> , poems, typescript and printed versions (photocopy)	undated
b. 33, f. 468	"Behind the Bureau," story, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 469	"The Benét Budget," [juvenalia?], autograph manuscript	undated
b. 33, f. 470	"Biographical Sketch of Laura Benét," draft, typescript, corrected and annotated	undated
b. 33, f. 471	"The Bird," poem, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 472	"The Blue Alert," story, printed version, <i>St. Nicholas</i>	1943 May
b. 33, f. 473	<i>Bridge of a Single Hair</i> , publicity	undated
b. 33, f. 474	<a href="#">"Christmas Eve," poem, printed version (4 copies)</a>	[1929?]
b. 33, f. 475	<a href="#">"Christmas Eve," poem, draft, typescript, corrected</a>	undated
b. 33, f. 476	"The Church of Dumb Creatures," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 477	"Clover Coquette," poem, draft, typescript, corrected	undated
b. 33, f. 478	"The Companion," poem, draft, typescript, annotated	undated
b. 33, f. 479	"A Daily Text Book," autograph manuscript	undated
b. 33, f. 480	"December Magnificat," poem, printed version, <i>Boston Transcript</i>	1933 December 23

## Writings by Members of the Benét Family &gt; Benét, Laura (continued)

b. 33, f. 481	"The Door," poem, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 482	<i>The Forge in the Forest</i> by Padraic Colum, review, draft, autograph manuscript	[1925?]
b. 33, f. 483	"Frances Neill Rose, Daughter of William," obituary, autograph manuscript, corrected	[1940]
b. 33, f. 484	"Gardens of Babylon," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 485	"The Ghost," poem, printed version, <i>Voices</i>	1961
b. 33, f. 486	"The Goat," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 487	"The Goose Girl's Song," poem, printed version, <i>Contemporary Verse</i>	undated
b. 33, f. 488	"Grandmother's Preserve Closet," article, printed version, <i>The Christian Science Monitor</i>	1946 October 24
b. 33, f. 489	"Halloween Child: John Keats," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 490	"The Harvest," story, typescript, corrected	undated
b. 33, f. 491	"Horseshoe Nails," story, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 492	"Humor," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 493	"Individual Song," review of <i>High Mowing</i> by Marion Canby, printed version, <i>The Commonwealth</i>	1932 June 15
b. 33, f. 494	<i>Is Morning Sure? Poems</i> , printed version (photocopies)	undated
b. 33, f. 495	"Joan," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 496	"Marianne Moore, essay, typescript carbon	undated
b. 33, f. 497	"Merry Christmas!" poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 498	"Mila and the Birds," poem, printed version, <i>The Bookman</i>	1930 December
b. 33, f. 499	"The Mischievous Wings," story, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 500	"Myself & I," poem, autograph manuscript	undated
b. 33, f. 501	"Narrative," essay, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 502	"Nevermore... and Yet Forever," story, printed version, <i>St. Nicholas</i>	1943 May
b. 33, f. 503	<a href="#">"Noah's Dove," poem, printed version</a>	undated
b. 33, f. 504	"A Novelist's 'Take-Off'," review of <i>Witch Perkins</i> by Evelyn Scott, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 505	"Out of Bounds," poem, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 506	"Plan," poem, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 507	[Poems], drafts, typescript and autograph manuscript	undated

## Writings by Members of the Benét Family &gt; Benét, Laura (continued)

b. 33, f. 508	[Poems and other writings], printed versions	1927-1933, undated
b. 33, f. 509	"The Ring," dialogue, draft, typescript	undated
b. 33, f. 510	"Selected Poems by W. H. Davies," review, draft, autograph manuscript	undated
b. 33, f. 511	"The Story of Houdini," review, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 512	"To Rachel at Ten," poem, draft, typescript	undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 721	"The Tree," story, printed version, <i>Household Magazine</i>	1931 August
b. 33, f. 513	"The Turtle," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 514	"Unknown Friend," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 515	"When William Rose, Stephen Vincent, and I Were Young," drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, corrected	undated
b. 33, f. 516	"Who Can Say?" story, draft, typescript, corrected	undated
b. 33, f. 517	"The Wife," poem, printed version	undated
b. 33, f. 518	Miscellaneous writings, drafts fragments, autograph manuscript and typescript	undated
Benét, Rosemary		
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 722	"Delightful Details of a French Child's Life," essay, printed version, <i>Ladies' Home Journal</i>	1928 August
b. 34, f. 519	"French Children's Clothes are Pleasant," essay, printed version, <i>Ladies' Home Journal</i>	1928 February
b. 34, f. 520	"In Blank Verse," poem, printed version, <i>Forum</i>	[?] January
b. 34, f. 521	"Les Morts," translation, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected	undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 723-724	"Our Paris Letter," printed versions, <i>Town &amp; Country</i>	1927-1929, undated
b. 34, f. 522	"Pussy-cat, Pussy-cat, Where Have You Been?" essay, printed version, <i>Harper's Bazaar</i>	1930 October
Benét, Stephen Vincent		
b. 34, f. 523	"Dear Adolf," radio play, typescript mimeograph	1952 August 2
b. 34, f. 523a	"Elementals," script, typescript and typescript carbon, annotated Includes letter, typescript, signed, concerning the script from Malcolm Sharpe to Brandt & Brandt	1957, undated
b. 34, f. 524	"Good Old Medusa," play, printed version, <i>The Younger Set</i>	1924 February
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 725	"Lunch-time Along Broadway," poem, printed version, <i>S-4-N</i>	1920 July

## Writings by Members of the Benét Family &gt; Benét, Stephen Vincent (continued)

b. 34, f. 525	"Portrait [of a] Young F. Officer," autograph manuscript	undated
b. 34, f. 526	"Spanish bayonet," story, typescript carbon	undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 726	EMPTY folder	
b. 34, f. 527	"To James Walker Benét..." autograph manuscript	undated
b. 34, f. 528	Untitled poems, draft, typescript carbon, and printed version	1933, undated
Benét, Thomas		
b. 34, f. 529	"Speech to Town & Country Club," draft, computer printout	undated
b. 34, f. 530	Untitled, draft, computer printout	undated
Benét, William Rose		
b. 34, f. 531	"Birds of the Air," poem, printed version	undated
b. 34, f. 532	"On the Decay of the Toy Theatre," poem, typescript, signed	undated
b. 34, f. 533	"A Person," poem, typescript, corrected and signed	1940 September
b. 34, f. 534	"The Phoenix Nest," essay, printed version, <i>Saturday Review</i>	1944 September 23
Unidentified		
b. 34, f. 535-536	Miscellaneous writings	1849-1923, undated
Writings of Others		
Bacon, Leonard		
b. 34, f. 537	"In Memoriam: William Rose Benét," typescript	undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 727	"Lines," printed version	1933 December 23
[Bangs, Edward?]		
b. 34, f. 538	"The Yankee's Return from Camp," poem, typescript carbon	undated
Barker, Elsa		
b. 34, f. 539-540	[Poems], drafts, typescript and autograph manuscript, corrected	undated
b. 34, f. 541-542	"The Secret Companions: A Story of the Supernatural," draft, typescript	undated
[Hively, Evelyn Helmick?]		
b. 34, f. 543	"Rosemary Carr Benet: More Than Just Sweet," essay, [typescript photocopy?]	undated
Johnson, Edith Warner		

## Writings of Others &gt; Johnson, Edith Warner (continued)

b. 34, f. 544	"Mask," poem, draft, typescript	undated
	Keith, Joseph Joel	
b. 34, f. 545	"As Brothers Are Remembered," tribute, printed version	[1943?]
	Langham, Leslie	
b. 34, f. 546	Untitled autobiographical narrative, typescript, corrected	undated
	Nelson, Starr	
b. 34, f. 547	"In the Boulder on the Shore," tribute, typescript, signed	1950 October 10
	Post, G. Worthington	
b. 34, f. 548	Untitled review of <i>A Book of Americans</i> , draft, typescript, corrected	undated
	Ridge, Lola	
b. 34, f. 549	"Thermopylae," poem, printed version	undated
	Thompson, Teresa Frances	
b. 34, f. 550	Notebook, autograph manuscript	1911 May
	Undentified	
b. 34, f. 551	Miscellaneous writings	1942-1973, undated
b. 53 (Oversize), f. 728	Miscellaneous writings	1914, undated

**Series III: Other Papers, 1871–1994***10.30 linear feet (20 boxes)*

Series III. Other Papers contains all other family-related material in the collection, including diaries, financial and legal records, photographs, and printed and other personal material. The series is arranged first by type of material and then, in most cases, alphabetically by family member.

In addition to the large group of writings by Laura Benét in Series II., here there is a run of Laura Benét's diaries dating from 1922 through 1978--there is one volume for 1922, and then 25 volumes for the period from 1949 through 1978. Financial and legal records consist chiefly of bank statements, cancelled checks, receipts, tax documents, and other financial documents. While some photographs of Benét family members can be found here, a significant number of photographs of Stephen Vincent and Rosemary Benét and their children are enclosed in letters from Rosemary Benét to her mother, Rachel H. Carr, and to her parents, Rachel H. and Thomas Carr. These letters, and enclosed photographs, are located in Series I. Correspondence.

Printed materials include business and callings cards, clippings, invitations, programs, postcards, and other ephemera. There are also several volumes relating to Stephen Vincent Benét's graduating class at Yale, the Yale College class of 1919. Volumes such as *The History of the Class of Nineteen Hundred & Nineteen* (Yale University Press, 1919) provide biographical information on Benét and his classmates.

Miscellaneous other materials include manuscript notes and notebooks, identification cards and passports, and school papers.

Box 56 contains audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Organized into five subseries: Diaries, Financial and Legal Records, Photographs, Printed Material, and Other Material.

## Diaries

b. 35, f. 552	Benét, Frances Rose	1935
b. 35, f. 553-554	Benét, James Walker	[1902?]-1909
b. 35, f. 555-556	Benét, Laura Includes material laid in	1922-1949
b. 36, f. 557-560	Benét, Laura	1951-1957
b. 37, f. 561-564	Benét, Laura	1958-1961
b. 38, f. 565-568	Benét, Laura	1962-1965
b. 39, f. 569-572	Benét, Laura	1967-1970
b. 40, f. 573-576	Benét, Laura	1971-1974
b. 41, f. 577-580	Benét, Laura	1975-1978
b. 41, f. 581	Benét, Laura Amanda (Walker)	1880-1898
b. 42, f. 582	Mahon, Agnes	1921-1924
b. 42, f. 583	Unidentified	1910

## Financial and Legal Records

## Financial and Legal Records (continued)

b. 42, f. 584	Benét, Isabel	1902 May 31
b. 42, f. 585-586	Benét, James Walker	1899-1930
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 729	Benét, James Walker	1925-1928
b. 42, f. 587	Benét, Laura	1907-1962
b. 42, f. 588	Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent)	1879 September 19
b. 42, f. 589	Benét, Stephen Vincent	1930, undated
b. 42, f. 590	Benét, William Rose	1927 March 17
b. 42, f. 591	Mahon, Agnes I.	1924-1926
b. 42, f. 592	Rose, Agnes M.	1871-1872
b. 42, f. 593	Rose, Elizabeth Neill	1922 December 19
b. 42, f. 594	Unidentified	1922-1926, undated
Photographs		
b. 42, f. 595	<a href="#">[Benét, James Walker?]</a>	undated
b. 42, f. 596	Benét, Rosemary	1928, undated
b. 42, f. 597	Benét, Stephen Vincent Includes photographs of Benét's children and others	1922-1936, undated
b. 42, f. 597a	Benét, Stephen Vincent and others	undated
b. 42, f. 598	Benét, William Rose Includes Elinor Wylie and unidentified others	[1898?]-1920s
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 730	Benét, William Rose	undated
b. 42, f. 599-600	Benét family and children	1916-1941
b. 42, f. 601	Knox, Lillian Elizabeth	undated
b. 42, f. 602	Mahon, Agnes	undated
b. 42, f. 603	Murphy, Ethel Andrews	undated
b. 42, f. 604	<a href="#">[Rose, William John?]</a>	undated
b. 43, f. 605-608	<a href="#">Unidentified</a>	circa 1880s-1914, undated
b. 43, f. 609	Places	undated



## Photographs (continued)

Digital surrogates of nitrate negatives undated  
 Images of Stephen Vincent Benet, Rosemary Carr Benet, and other family members.  
 Original nitrate negatives were discarded in 2023 in accordance with Yale policy.

## Printed Material


## Business and calling cards

b. 43, f. 610	Benét, James Walker	undated
b. 43, f. 611	Benét, William Rose	1906 July
b. 43, f. 612	Carr, Rachel H.	undated
b. 43, f. 613-614	Others	undated
b. 43, f. 615-618	Miscellaneous removed from Katharine Jane Wiest and William H. McCrea Correspondence	undated
b. 43, f. 619-621	Clippings	1871-1978, undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 731	Clippings	1879-1994, undated
b. 43, f. 622	Clippings removed from Agnes Mahon correspondence	undated
b. 44, f. 623-624	Events and programs	1887-1922, undated
b. 44, f. 625-635	Greeting cards	undated
b. 45, f. 636	Invitations	1901-1928, undated
b. 45, f. 637	Miscellaneous material removed from Agnes Mahon correspondence	undated
b. 45, f. 638	Miscellaneous material removed from Katharine Jane Wiest and William H. McCrea Correspondence	1907, undated
b. 45, f. 639	Postcards	undated
b. 45, f. 640-641	Religious ephemera	1917-1925, undated
Yale class books and material		
b. 45, f. 642	Class of 1884	1906
b. 45, f. 643	Class of 1919	1919
b. 46, f. 644-650	Class of 1919	1919-1946
b. 47, f. 651-654	Class of 1949	1949

## Printed Material (continued)

b. 48, f. 655-660	Other ephemera	1873-1977, undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 732	Other ephemera	1923-1946, undated
Other Material		
Benét, Frances Rose		
b. 48, f. 661	Diary entry	1933 July 22
Benét, James		
b. 48, f. 662	Album Includes photographs	1914-1919, undated
Benét, James Walker		
b. 49, f. 663	Certificates	1883, 1921
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 733	Commission	1887 January 10
Benét, Laura		
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 734	College diploma	1907 June 12
b. 49, f. 664	Legal records	1940, 1974
b. 49, f. 665	Manuscript notes	undated
b. 49, f. 666	Medical records	[?] March
b. 49, f. 667	Miscellaneous "personal and P.R. material"	1935-1977, undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 735	Clippings removed from miscellaneous "personal and P.R. material"	1935, 1977
b. 49, f. 668	School papers	1904-1907, undated
b. 49, f. 669	Scrapbook Includes correspondence and printed material	1912-1942, undated
b. 52, f. 713-715	Scrapbook Includes clippings, printed ephemera, photographs, and correspondence	1932-1969, undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 736-737	Material removed from scrapbook	1951-1970, undated
Benét, Laurence Vincent		
b. 49, f. 670	Notebook	1923-1929, undated

## Other Material &gt; Benét, Laurence Vincent (continued)

b. 49, f. 671	Material removed from notebook	1910-1949, undated
Benét, Rosemary		
b. 49, f. 672	Certificate of baptism	1917 January 14
b. 49, f. 673	Manuscript notes	undated
b. 49, f. 674	Notebook	undated
b. 49, f. 675	Passport	1919-1920
Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent)		
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 738	Special passport	1885 July 8
Benét, Stephen Vincent		
b. 56, f. 774,  39002099369119	"Benét/Paris/'20s" 1 Videocassette (VHS) 00:04:42 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm) <a href="#">[Aviary] ycalmss110739002099369119.u.mp4</a> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1920-1929
b. 49, f. 676	Cancelled passport pages	[1920?], 1928
b. 49, f. 677	"Christmas List"	undated
b. 49, f. 678	Membership card	[1918?]
b. 49, f. 679	Printed ephemera	1914 February 26
b. 50, f. 680	School papers	undated
Benét, William Rose		
b. 50, f. 681	"Baby's Record"	1886-1950, undated
Carr, Thomas		
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 739	Civil service commission	1904 March 11
b. 50, f. 682	Other papers	undated
[Dawson, Frances Rosemary (Benét)?]		
b. 50, f. 683	School papers	1923-1925, undated
Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét)		
b. 50, f. 684	School papers	1924-1925, undated
Mahon, Agnes I.		

## Other Material &gt; Mahon, Agnes I. (continued)

b. 50, f. 685	Manuscript notes	undated
b. 50, f. 686	Medical records	1907-1921, undated
Other		
b. 50, f. 687-688	Drawings	undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 740	Drawings	undated
b. 50, f. 689	Empty envelopes	1898, undated
b. 50, f. 690	Empty folders	undated
b. 50, f. 691	Floral specimens	undated
b. 50, f. 692-696	Manuscript notes	undated
b. 51, f. 697-698	Manuscript notes	undated
b. 51, f. 699	Material relating to Watervliet Arsenal	1942, undated
b. 54 (Oversize), f. 741	Clipping removed from material relating to Watervliet Arsenal	undated
b. 51, f. 700	Medallion	undated
b. 51, f. 701	Medical records	undated
b. 51, f. 702-705	Notebooks	undated
b. 51, f. 706	Piece of fabric	undated
b. 51, f. 707-708	School papers	1904-1924, undated
b. 51, f. 709	Stamps	undated
b. 51, f. 710	Stationary	undated
b. 51, f. 711	Tissue paper	undated
b. 51, f. 712	Valentine cards and cutouts	undated

## **Restricted Fragile Papers**

*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

Box 55: Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. 55, f. 742-773 In Series I, Series III

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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

American literature -- 20th Century  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives  
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

### Genres / Formats

Photographic prints

### Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century  
Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

### Names

Benét, Frances Rose, 1860-1940  
Benét, James, 1914-  
Benet, James Walker, 1914-  
Benét, Laura  
Benét, Rosemary, 1900-1962  
Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent), 1827-1895  
Benét, Stephen Vincent, 1898-1943  
Benét, William Rose, 1886-1950

### Families

Carr family  
Mahan family  
Rose family

### Acquired From

Benét, James, 1914-  
Benet, James Walker, 1914-  
Benét, Laura  
Benét, Rosemary, 1900-1962  
Benét, Frances Rose, 1860-1940  
Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent), 1827-1895  
Benét, Stephen Vincent, 1898-1943  
Benet, Thomas  
Benét, William Rose, 1886-1950  
Benét family