

Guide to the Quiller-Couch Family Papers

GEN MSS 551



by Michael Rush

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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 551

CREATOR: Quiller-Couch family

TITLE: Quiller-Couch family papers

DATES: 1878-1954

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5.68 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Writings by J. M. Barrie, postcards, scrapbooks, photographs, and a toy theater version of Peter Pan related to the family of Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch. J. M. Barrie writings consist of a photograph album and manuscript storybook by Barrie, "The Pippa and Porthos," telling the story of Bevil Quiller-Couch and Barrie's dog Porthos on a walk in Fowey, Cornwall. Postcards consist of postcard albums and loose postcards, probably collected by Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch. Postcard correspondents include Bevil and Mabel Quiller-Couch and recipients include Foy Felicia, Bevil, Arthur Thomas, and Lilian Quiller-Couch. Two scrapbooks contain holiday cards, probably collected by Louisa Quiller-Couch, and miscellaneous engravings and clippings, many of which were colored by an unidentified child. Two photographs include a signed portrait of Barrie and an unidentified building. The Peter Pan toy theater includes paper cutouts and boards showing the characters and scenery from Peter Pan.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Frederick R. Koch, 2002.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Quiller-Couch 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.

Preferred Citation

Quiller-Couch Family Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

SIR ARTHUR THOMAS QUILLER-COUCH (1863-1944)

Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch, 1863-1944, was a writer and anthologist who published under the pseudonym "Q." Quiller-Couch wrote many novels and collections of short stories, and edited the first *Oxford Book of English Verse, 1250-1900*. In 1912, he was elected a fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. Quiller-Couch was a friend of J. M. Barrie.

Quiller-Couch married Louisa Amelia Hicks (1861-1948), with whom he had two children, Bevil Brian (1890-1919) and Foy Felicia (1899-1986), whose godfather was J. M. Barrie. After 1892, the primary family home was The Haven, at Fowey, in Cornwall.

Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch had two sisters, Mabel and Lilian. Lilian married John Hay Lobban.

Quiller-Couch died at The Haven on May 12, 1944.

Scope and Contents

The Quiller-Couch Family Papers consist of a photograph album and storybook by J. M. Barrie, postcards and postcard albums, scrapbooks, photographs, and a toy theater version of *Peter Pan*, all of which belonged to the family of Sir Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch, and span the years 1878-1954. The papers are housed in eight boxes (including 3 oversize boxes) and are organized into five series: *Writings of J. M. Barrie*, *Postcards*, *Scrapbooks*, *Photographs*, and *Peter Pan Toy Theater*.

[Series I, *Writings of J. M. Barrie*](#), contains "The Pippa and Porthos," a photograph album and storybook with 24 photographs taken January 1, 1895, at Fowey, with inscription, "Dedicated to Mrs. Quiller-Couch (without her permission). The Literary matter by J. M. Barrie. The drudgery by Mary Barrie." Photographs show Fowey, two unidentified women, Bevil Quiller-Couch, who Barrie nicknamed "The Pippa," and Barrie's dog Porthos, a St. Bernard. The story chronicles a walk taken by Bevil Quiller-Couch and Porthos around Fowey.

[Series II, Postcards](#), contains postcard albums and loose postcards, probably collected by Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch. The postcard albums are arranged chronologically and the loose postcards are arranged alphabetically into places, people, and other postcards.

Postcard subjects, in both the postcard albums and loose postcards, include many cities, towns, and buildings across England and Europe, particularly France, Germany, and Italy. Postcards also contain pictures of animals, humorous and holiday illustrations, ships, sailboats, artwork, and people, including a series of female "Cinema Stars," English royalty, and others.

Postcard albums contain both blank and written postcards, including postcards sent to Foy Felicia, Bevil, and Arthur Thomas Quiller-Couch, Lilian Quiller-Couch (Mrs. John Hay Lobban), and Juilles Couch, an unidentified family member. Most correspondents are unidentified but include Bevil Quiller-Couch and "Aunt Mamie" [Mabel Quiller-Couch?]. Most of the loose postcards are blank, but include postcards sent to Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch, Lillian Quiller-Couch (Mrs. John Hay Lobban), and Juilles Couch.

[Series III, Scrapbooks](#), contains two scrapbooks. The first scrapbook is labelled "Arthur Couch" and spans the years 1878-80. It includes forget-me-not, Valentine's Day, Christmas, and New Year's cards from Arthur Quiller-Couch and others, possibly collected by his wife, Louisa. Manuscript notes identify some of the correspondents. The second scrapbook contains miscellaneous engravings and other pictures, many of which were colored by an unidentified child. It includes several manuscript poems, including poems signed "Sarah Ann," "Clara," "Emily," and "Elle Williams."

[Series IV, Photographs](#), contains two undated photographs, a photograph of a portrait of J. M. Barrie, with inscription, "Yours Ever, J. M. Barrie," and a photograph of an unidentified building.

[Series V, Peter Pan Toy Theater](#), contains cutouts and boards from a toy theater for children depicting Barrie's *Peter Pan*, ca. 1905. The series is arranged alphabetically into Characters, Scenery, and Other Papers. Characters includes cutouts of all of the characters in *Peter Pan*, including the Darling family, Lost Boys, Mermaids, Peter Pan, Piccaninny tribe, and Pirates. Most characters are represented by more than one cutout. Most cutouts are labelled with the act and scene in which they appear. Some cutouts correspond to multiple scenes.

Scenery includes both cutouts and boards representing the Darling nursery, the Lost Boys's Home under the Ground, the Mermaid's Lagoon, and the pirate ship Jolly Roger. Other papers related to the toy theater include a manuscript note by Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch, which states that the toy theater was a gift to her from her godfather, J. M. Barrie.

Collection Contents

Series I: Writings of J. M. Barrie, 1895

b. 1, f. 1

["The Pippa & Porthos"](#)

1895 Jan

Series II: Postcards, 1892-1954*1.04 linear feet (2.5 boxes)*

Series II, Postcards, is arranged into two subseries, Postcard Albums and Loose Postcards. Postcard Albums are arranged chronologically. Loose postcards are arranged alphabetically by Place, People, and Other Postcards. Most of the Loose Postcards are blank. Notes indicate if a folder contains written postcards.

POSTCARD ALBUMS

b. 1, f. 2	<p>"Postcards"</p> <p>Contains eighty-five postcards showing Italian art and architecture from cities including Pompeii, Rome, Venice, Verona, and others. Also includes postcards showing Roslyn Chapel and the Exeter College Tapestry. Most postcards are blank. Includes several postcards addressed to Mrs. John Hay Lobban and Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch, from Margaret Hay and other unidentified correspondents, concering art and travel.</p>	ca. 1892-1925
	<p>Untitled postcard album Stored in: Oversize, Box 6, folder 100</p> <p>Contains one hundred and eighty-eight postcards showing buildings, villages and cities in England, France, Scotland, Spain, and Switzerland; various animals; humorous and holiday illustrations; advertisements; ships; artwork; and photographs of unidentified people. Most of the postcards were sent to Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch. Additional recipients include Bevil and Arthur T. Quiller-Couch. Most correspondents are unidentified, but include Bevil Quiller-Couch and Mabel Kerr. Seven postcards are blank.</p>	ca. 1902-05
	<p>"Album"</p> <p>Stored in: Oversize, Box 6, folder 101</p> <p>Contains one hundred and eighty-five postcards, showing villages and cities in England, France, Germany, Ireland, and Italy; sailboats and ships; photographs of unidentified people and animals; illustrated holiday cards; and several postcards from the Franco-British Exposition of 1908. Most of the postcards were sent to Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch. Additional recipients include Bevil and Arthur T. Quiller-Couch and Juilles Couch. Most correspondents are unidentified, but include Bevil Quiller-Couch and "Aunt Mamie." Approximately seventeen postcards are blank.</p>	1904-10
b. 2, f. 3	<p>"Post Card Album"</p> <p>Contains one hundred and thirty-one postcards showing villages and cities in England, Scotland, France, and Italy; sailboats; illustrations of children; watercolors; birds; holiday cards; and photographs of unidentified people. Most of the postcards were sent to Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch. Approximately thirty postcards are blank.</p>	ca. 1909-21
b. 2, f. 4	<p>"Post Card Album"</p> <p>Contains fifty-eight postcards showing villages and cities in England, Wales, and Scotland, as well as a few unidentified people. Most postcards are blank. Includes several postcards sent to Felicia Foy Quiller-Couch, Mrs. [John Hay] Lobban, and others from unidentified correspondents.</p>	ca. 1909-54
b. 3, f. 5	Empty postcard album	n.d.

LOOSE POSTCARDS

Places

LOOSE POSTCARDS > Places (continued)

	Belgium	
b. 3, f. 6	Brussels	n.d.
b. 3, f. 7	Waterloo	n.d.
	Denmark	
b. 3, f. 8	Copenhagen	
	England	
b. 3, f. 9	Burell House	n.d.
b. 3, f. 10	Forder Village	n.d.
b. 3, f. 11	Great Chesterfield	n.d.
b. 3, f. 12	Hampstead	n.d.
b. 3, f. 13	Harting	n.d.
b. 3, f. 14	Hereford	n.d.
b. 3, f. 15	Ince Castle Includes notes describing Ince Castle	n.d.
b. 3, f. 16	Kew Garden	n.d.
b. 3, f. 17	Midhurst Sanatorium	n.d.
b. 3, f. 18	Ringmer Includes eight postcards sent to [Foy Felicia] Quiller-Couch, signed B. B. [Bevil B. Quiller-Couch?] and one postcard to Mrs. [John Hay] Lobban, from an unidentified correspondent.	1920-23
b. 3, f. 19	Treyford	n.d.
	France	
b. 3, f. 20	Avignon	n.d.
b. 3, f. 21	Beaulieu-sur-Mer Includes one postcard to Juilles Couch from N. Mitchell	1924 Mar 31
b. 3, f. 22	Ile de Port-Cros	n.d.
b. 3, f. 23	Lyon	n.d.
b. 3, f. 24	Nîmes	n.d.
b. 3, f. 25	Orange Includes one postcard to Juilles Couch from an unidentified correspondent	1928?
b. 3, f. 26-28	Paris	n.d.
b. 3, f. 29	Versailles	n.d.

LOOSE POSTCARDS > Places (continued)

	Libya	
b. 3, f. 30	Tripoli	n.d.
	The Netherlands	
b. 3, f. 31	De Zonheuvel	n.d.
	Switzerland	
b. 3, f. 32	Chesieres	1921 Jan 17
b. 3, f. 33	Territet	1923 Mar 5
	United States	
b. 3, f. 34	California	n.d.
	People	
b. 3, f. 35	Chamberlain, Joseph Includes one postcard to Miss L. Quiller-Couch from an unidentified correspondent.	1904 Aug 22
	"Cinema Stars"	
b. 3, f. 36	Griffith, Corinne	n.d.
b. 3, f. 37	Logan, Jacqueline	
b. 3, f. 38	Morgan, Marilyn	n.d.
b. 3, f. 39	Nixon, Marian	
b. 3, f. 39	Shearer, Norma	n.d.
b. 3, f. 40	White, Alice	n.d.
b. 3, f. 41	Young, Loretta	n.d.
	English Royalty	
b. 3, f. 42	Alexandra, Queen, consort of Edward VII, King of Great Britain	n.d.
b. 3, f. 43	Edward VII, King of Great Britain	n.d.
b. 3, f. 44	Edward VII, Funeral procesion, 20 May 1910	n.d.
b. 3, f. 45	George V, King of Great Britain	n.d.
b. 3, f. 46	George V, Coronation, 22 Jun 1911	n.d.
b. 3, f. 47	George V, Coronation Durbar, Delhi, 12 Dec 1935	n.d.
b. 3, f. 48	George V and Queen Mary's silver jubilee, 1935	n.d.
b. 3, f. 49	Henry, Prince, Duke of Gloucester, wedding to Lady Alice Christabel, 6 Nov 1935	n.d.

LOOSE POSTCARDS > People (continued)

b. 3, f. 50	Maartens, Maarten	n.d.
b. 3, f. 51	Mackenzie, Compton, Sir	n.d.
Other Postcards		
b. 3, f. 52	British military postcard, "[Blank] is Serving his King, Country, and Empire"	n.d.
b. 3, f. 53	Kaleidoscopic postcard	n.d.
b. 3, f. 54	Large Alpine Daisy	n.d.
b. 3, f. 55	Sculpture, "Angel of the Annunciation," Victoria and Albert Museum	n.d.
b. 3, f. 56	Raphael, "Granduca Madonna"	n.d.
b. 3, f. 57	2 watercolor postcards showing boats on rivers	n.d.

Series III: Scrapbooks, 1878-80

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Series III, Scrapbooks, is arranged chronologically.

b. 4, f. 58	"Arthur Couch"	1878-80
b. 4, f. 59	Untitled scrapbook	n.d.

Series IV: Photographs, n.d.

[See also: "The Pippa and Porthos," Box 1, folder 1](#)

	Photograph of a portrait of J. M. Barrie, signed Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 102	n.d.
b. 4, f. 60	View of unidentified building	n.d.

Series V: Peter Pan Toy Theater, ca. 1905*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

Series V, Peter Pan Toy Theater, is arranged into three subseries, Characters, Scenery, and Other Papers. Each subseries is arranged alphabetically.

CHARACTERS

Animals

b. 5, f. 61	Crocodile	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 62	Ostrich	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 63	Wolves	[ca. 1905]

Darling Family

b. 5, f. 64	John	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 65	Liza See also: Mrs. Darling, Box 5, folder 68	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 66	Michael	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 67	Mr. Darling	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 68	Mrs. Darling	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 69	Nana	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 70	Wendy See also: Peter Pan and Wendy, Box 5, folder 81 See also: Lost Boys and Wendy, Box 5, folder 73 See also: Mrs. Darling, Box 5, folder 68	[ca. 1905]

Lost Boys

b. 5, f. 71	Curley	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 72	First Twin	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 73	Lost Boys and Wendy	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 74	Lost Boys on the pirate ship Jolly Roger	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 75	Nibs	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 76	Second Twin	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 77	Slightly	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 78	Tootles	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 79	Mermaids	[ca. 1905]

Peter Pan

CHARACTERS > Peter Pan (continued)

b. 5, f. 80	Peter Pan	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 81	Peter Pan and Wendy	[ca. 1905]
Piccaninny Tribe		
b. 5, f. 82	Piccaninny tribemembers	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 83	Tiger Lily See also: Groups of pirates, Box 5, folder 88	[ca. 1905]
Pirates		
b. 5, f. 84	Black Pirate	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 85	Captain Hook	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 86	Cecco	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 87	Cookson	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 88	Groups of pirates	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 89	Jukes	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 90	Mullins	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 91	Noodler	[ca. 1905]
SCENERY		
	Columns Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 103	[ca. 1905]
	Curtains Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 104	[ca. 1905]
	Home under the Ground Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 105 Includes the wood above	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 92	Kennel	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 93	Lamps	[ca. 1905]
	Mermaids' Lagoon and pirate ship Jolly Roger Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 106 The pirate ship Jolly Roger is on the verso of the Mermaids' Lagoon	[ca. 1905]
	Nursery Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 107	[ca. 1905]
	Proscenium arch Stored in: Oversize, Box 7, folder 108	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 94	Rock	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 95	Row boat	[ca. 1905]

SCENERY (continued)

b. 5, f. 96	Trees	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 97	Water and rocks	[ca. 1905]
	Wooden toy theater base Stored in: Oversize, Box 8, folder 109	[ca. 1905]

OTHER PAPERS

b. 5, f. 98	Envelopes	[ca. 1905]
b. 5, f. 99	Note regarding Peter Pan toy theater by Foy Felicia Quiller-Couch	n.d.

Oversize*3.6 linear feet (3 boxes)*

b. 6, f. 100	Untitled postcard album (in Series II)	ca. 1902–05
b. 6, f. 101	"Album" (in Series II)	1904–10
b. 7, f. 102	Photograph of a portrait of J. M. Barrie, signed (in Series V)	n.d.
b. 7, f. 103	Columns (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 7, f. 104	Curtains (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 7, f. 105	Home under the Ground (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 7, f. 106	Mermaids' Lagoon and pirate ship Jolly Roger (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 7, f. 107	Nursery (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 7, f. 108	Proscenium arch (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]
b. 8, f. 109	Wooden toy theater base (in Series V)	[ca. 1905]

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
Authors, Scottish -- 20th Century
Toy theaters

Geographic Names

Fowey (England) -- Pictorial works

Genres / Formats

Photograph albums
Photographs
Postcards
Scrapbooks
Toy theaters

Occupations

Authors -- England -- 20th Century
Authors -- Scotland -- 20th Century

Names

Barrie, J. M. (James Matthew), 1860-1937 (Peter and Wendy)
Quiller-Couch, Arthur, 1863-1944
Quiller-Couch, Bevil, 1890-1919
Quiller-Couch, Foy Felicia, 1899-1986
Quiller-Couch, Lilian

Families

Quiller-Couch family

Contributors

Quiller-Couch family
Barrie, J. M. (James Matthew), 1860-1937