

# Guide to the Harold Acton Papers

GEN MSS 663



by Jennifer Meehan

2009

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
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(203) 432-2977  
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**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 663

**CREATOR:** Acton, Harold, 1904-1994

**TITLE:** Harold Acton papers

**DATES:** 1932–1941

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.83 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of manuscript and typescript drafts of Harold Acton's translations of Chinese literary works and his writings; correspondence from Chinese, English, and American scholars and friends; material relating to a lecture tour of Italy; and other papers. Highlights include the unpublished manuscript for *Popular Chinese Plays*, which was once thought lost, as well as correspondence concerning its projected publication by Henry Vetch. Also included is an annotated typescript and related correspondence for Acton's novel, *Peonies and Ponies* (1941). Material sheds light on the development of literary translation between Chinese and English and the influence of China on British intellectual history and literary life during the period preceding the Second World War.

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

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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.acton>.

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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

Purchased from Simon Finch on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2009.

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### Custodial History

This archive was given by Harold Acton to his only godson, the Hon. Martin Parsons (1938 - ), younger son of Michael Parsons, sixth Earl of Rosse (1906-1979). The gift was made in memory of the Hon. Desmond Parsons, younger brother of Michael, who died prematurely in 1937 at the early age of 26.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Harold Acton 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

Harold Acton Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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### Processing Information

The material was contained in the original leather trunk in which it was packed for dispatch from Beijing, China, after the invasion of the Japanese in 1937. According to the dealer, the integrity of the archive was strictly maintained and nothing was removed. Individual items were placed in transparent sleeves and numbered according to the dealer description.

Upon receipt by the library, material was removed from the trunk and rehoused in acid-free folders and boxes; individual items were removed from sleeves. The material has largely been maintained in the order in which it was described in the description provided by the dealer. Information in the biographical and Description of the Papers notes and in the Collection Contents section is drawn almost entirely from the dealer description. This information has not been verified, and is included in the finding aid in order to provide more detail about the context and content of the collection.

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## Harold Acton (1904-1994)

Harold Acton was a British writer and scholar. His works include *The Last Medici* (1932), *The Bourbons of Naples, 1734-1825* (1956), and two memoirs, *Memoirs of an Aesthete* (1948) and *More Memoirs of an Aesthete* (1970).

Acton lived in China from 1933 to 1939, during which time he supported himself by teaching English Literature and collaborated with others to translate various Chinese literary works. His translations include *Glue and Lacquer: Four Cautionary Tales* (1941) and the unpublished *Popular Chinese Plays*. He wrote a novel, *Peonies and Ponies* (1941), about British expatriate life in Beijing before the Second World War. Acton returned to England in 1939 and shortly thereafter embarked upon a lecture tour of Italy under the

auspices of the British Council to promote continuing ties between England and Italy at a time when the two countries were on the verge of war.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of manuscript and typescript drafts of Harold Acton's translations of Chinese literary works and his writings; correspondence from Chinese, English, and American scholars and friends; material relating to Acton's lecture tour of Italy; and other papers. Highlights include the unpublished manuscript for *Popular Chinese Plays*, as well as correspondence concerning its projected publication by Henry Vetch. Also included is an annotated typescript and related correspondence for Acton's novel, *Peonies and Ponies* (1941). Material sheds light on the development of literary translation between Chinese and English, and the influence of China on British intellectual history and literary life during the period preceding the Second World War.

The bulk of the material--translations, writings, correspondence--was created and accumulated by Acton during his residence in China and in the course of his literary work there as a translator and writer. Upon Acton's departure from China, the material was packed into a trunk and shipped to London. Other material--such as that stemming from Acton's lecture tour of Italy--was presumably added to the trunk later, before being given to Acton's godson, Martin Parsons.

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## Arrangement

The collection is organized into four series: I. Translations and Writings, 1933-1941. II. Correspondence, 1935-1941. III. Other Papers, 1932-1941. IV. Lecture Tour in Italy, 1940.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Translations and Writings, 1933–1941

#### 2.2 linear feet

This series consists of manuscript and annotated typescript drafts of Acton's translations of Chinese plays and stories, a draft of his novel, *Peonies and Ponies*, and book reviews, and correspondence relating to his translations and writings.

Largely arranged in the order in which it was received from the dealer.

#### *Popular Chinese Plays*

By 1937, "the Peking Theatre had become my chief pastime...I spent half the day translating the plays... with my teacher Mr.Chou who knew no English..." Preparation for publication which was agreed in 1939 before Acton left China and for which final proofs were sent to the publishers from England. Because of the war, the book was never printed. "A stout volume of these translations was to have been published by Henry Vetch of the French Bookstore, but beyond correcting some proofs just before the outbreak of war, I have not heard of them since. The manuscript must count as a war casualty." (Acton in *More Memoirs of an Aesthete*.)

b. 1, f. 1	<a href="#">Introduction (possibly by Chou I-min, Acton's teacher)</a>
b. 1, f. 2	<a href="#">Prefatory note by Harold Acton</a>
b. 1, f. 3	List of plays
	I. Civil Dramas
b. 1, f. 4	<a href="#">Wu Lung Yuan (Black Dragon Court)</a>
b. 1, f. 5	<a href="#">Ma Ch'ien P'o Shui (Sprinkling Water before a Horde)</a>
b. 1, f. 6	<a href="#">Chên-ô T'zu Hu (A Palace-maiden slays the Tiger General)</a>
b. 1, f. 7	<a href="#">Wên Ch'iao Nao Fu (Questioning a Woodcutter)</a>
b. 1, f. 8	<a href="#">San Niang Chiao Tzu (The third wife educates a Son)</a>
b. 1, f. 9	<a href="#">Ta Ch'iu Ch'ê (Breaking the Prisoner's Cart)</a>
b. 1, f. 10	<a href="#">Hsü Mu Ma Ts'ao (Hsü's Mother curses Ts'ao)</a>
b. 1, f. 11	<a href="#">Hsiao-Yao Chin (Hsiao-yao Ford - [where the battle took place])</a>
b. 1, f. 12	<a href="#">Yü Chou Fêng (The Sword of the Universe)</a>
b. 1, f. 13	<a href="#">Cha Mei An (The Chopping of Ch'ên Shih-mei)</a>
	II. Comedies
b. 1, f. 14	<a href="#">Shih Hou Chi (The Roaring Lioness)</a>
b. 1, f. 15	<a href="#">Ch'un-hsiang Nao Hsüeh (Ch'un-hsiang turns the Schoolroom topsy-turvy)</a>
b. 1, f. 16	<a href="#">Ta Yen Sung (The Thrashing of Yen Sung)</a>

## Popular Chinese Plays &gt; II. Comedies (continued)

- b. 1, f. 17 [Chin Ch'iao Chi \(The Romance of the Goldfish\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 18 [Ch'ing-Wên Ssu Shan \(Ch'ing-wên smashes Fans\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 19 [Hsin-an I \(Hsin-an Postal Station or the Women Robbers\)](#)

## III. Domestic Farces

- b. 1, f. 20-21 [Hsiao Kuo Nien \(A Humble New Year Celebration\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 22-23 [Shuang Yao Hui \(A Shaking of Dice\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 24-25 [T'an Ch'in Hsiang Ma \(Visiting Relations and exchanging Curses\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 26-27 [Ta Tsao, Fên Chia \(Beating the Kitchen God and Dividing the Family Estate\)](#)

## IV. Song and Dance Plays

- b. 1, f. 28-29 [Lin Ch'ung Yeh Pên \(Lin Ch'ung Flees by Night\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 30-32 [Kuei-fei Tsui Chiu \(Kuei-fei's Solitary Carousel\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 33-34 [Hsiao Shang Fên \(A Little Visit to the Graveyard\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 35-36 [Ta Hua Ku \(Beating the Flowery Drum\)](#)

## V. Plays Military and Acrobatic

- b. 1, f. 37-38 [An T'ien Hui \(Paradise Regained\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 39-40 [Chin Ch'ien Pao \(The Golden-spotted Leopard\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 41-42 [T'iao Hua Ch'ê \(Overturning the War-chariots\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 43 [Wu Sung Ta Hu \(Wu Sung's Fight with the Tiger\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 44 [Shih-tzu Lou \(The Lion Tavern\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 45-46 [Yen Yang Lou \(The Tower of the Pleasant View\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 47-48 [Hua Hu-tieh \(Flower-butterfly\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 49-50 [Pa Ch'a Miao \(Pa Cha Temple\)](#)

## VI. Half-Civil, Half-Military or Acrobatic Plays

- b. 1, f. 51-52 [Pa Wang Pieh Chi \(Pa Wang's parting with his Favourite 'Yü Chi'\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 53-54 [Pä Shih Chuan \(The Tale of the White Snake\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 55-56 [Pa Ta Ch'u \(Eight Big Hammers\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 57-58 [Po Mên Lou \(White Gate Tower\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 59-60 [Lien Hua-T'ao \(The Theft of the Imperial Horse\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 61-62 [Ting Chia Shan \(Hammer Armour Mountain\)](#)
- b. 1, f. 63 Notebook, Notes on Chinese Plays

b. 1, f. 64	Notes on the history Chinese drama for article in 'The Oxford Companion of the Theatre'	
b. 1, f. 65	Notes on Chinese literature	
b. 1, f. 66	Notebook, Untitled Chinese Play	
b. 1, f. 67-69	Chinese Poetry, Rose Fêng Acton met Rose Fêng when he first arrived in Peking. In his 'Memoirs of an Aesthete' he mentions her beauty and 'she was a fluent linguist..' It seems likely that the translations are those of Rose Fêng but Acton has made corrections to improve the meaning of the poetry in English.	
b. 1, f. 70	Chinese Music by J. A. Van Aalst, published by order of The Inspector General of Customs and re-issued and sold by The French Bookstore, Peiping, 1933. With Acton's signature on front cover.	1933
	"The Palace of Longevity" Changshengdian – The Hall of Everlasting Life (alternative title). Author Hung Shêng (with a second name Fang-Szu). Translated by Harold Acton and Dr. H. H. Hu.  The translation into English of this lengthy drama done in collaboration with Dr. H. H. Hu (see correspondence) was clearly never published nor performed in London as Acton had hoped. While Acton has labelled the hand-written and typed translations "The Palace of Longevity," the alternative translation "The Hall of Everlasting Life" is the title used in his autobiography.	
b. 1, f. 71	<a href="#">Foreword; Preface; Author's Preface; Translator's Preface; Translator's Introduction</a>	
b. 1, f. 72	<a href="#">Personal and Place Names in the Palace of Longevity</a>	
b. 1, f. 73-74	<a href="#">Prologue</a>	
b. 1, f. 75	<a href="#">Act II. Bribing the Powerful</a>	
b. 1, f. 76	<a href="#">Act III. Spring Sleep</a>	
b. 1, f. 77	<a href="#">Act IV. Outing in Holiday</a>	
b. 1, f. 78	<a href="#">Act V. Attendant Surprised</a>	
b. 1, f. 79	<a href="#">Act VI. Unexpected Favour</a>	
b. 1, f. 80	<a href="#">Act VII. Presenting Hair</a>	
b. 1, f. 81	<a href="#">Act VIII. Recall</a>	
b. 1, f. 82	<a href="#">Act IX. Reading Cryptogram</a>	
b. 1, f. 83	<a href="#">Act X. Listening to Music</a>	
b. 1, f. 84	<a href="#">Act XI. Composing Music</a>	
b. 1, f. 85	<a href="#">Act XII. Quarrel between the Favourites</a>	
b. 1, f. 86	<a href="#">Act XIII. Stealing Music</a>	



## "The Palace of Longevity" (continued)

b. 1, f. 87	<a href="#">Act XIV. Tribute of Fruits</a>
b. 1, f. 88	<a href="#">Act XV. Dancing in the Tray</a>
b. 1, f. 89	<a href="#">Act XVI. Going Hunting</a>
b. 1, f. 90	<a href="#">Act XVII. Nocturnal Sorrow</a>
b. 1, f. 91	<a href="#">Act XVIII. The Report of the Spy</a>
b. 2, f. 92	<a href="#">Act XIX. Quarrel at the Pavilion of the Blue Flower</a>
b. 2, f. 93	<a href="#">Act XX. Peeping at Bath</a>
b. 2, f. 94	<a href="#">Act XXI. The Secret Vows</a>
b. 2, f. 95	<a href="#">Act XXII. The Capture of the Pass</a>
b. 2, f. 96	<a href="#">Act XXIII. Startled by the Rebellion</a>
b. 2, f. 97	<a href="#">Act XXIV. Burial of the Beauty</a>
b. 2, f. 98	<a href="#">Act XXV. A Tribute of Rice</a>
b. 2, f. 99	<a href="#">Act XXVI. Chasing of Spirit</a>
b. 2, f. 100	<a href="#">Act XXVII. Rating the Rebel</a>
b. 2, f. 101	<a href="#">Act XXVIII. Listening to the Bell</a>
b. 2, f. 102	<a href="#">Act XXIX. Penitence in Love</a>
b. 2, f. 103	<a href="#">Act XXX. Fighting against the Rebels</a>
b. 2, f. 104	<a href="#">Act XXXI. Weeping for the Image</a>
b. 2, f. 105	<a href="#">Act XXXII. Appeal before the Fairy</a>
b. 2, f. 106	<a href="#">Act XXXIII. Assassination of the Rebel</a>
b. 2, f. 107	<a href="#">Act XXXIV. Recapture of the Capital</a>
b. 2, f. 108	<a href="#">Act XXXV. Examining the Sock</a>
b. 2, f. 109	<a href="#">Act XXXVI. Return to the Fairyland</a>
b. 2, f. 110	<a href="#">Act XXXVII. Recital with the Guitar</a>
b. 2, f. 111	<a href="#">Act XXXVIII. A Private Mass</a>
b. 2, f. 112	<a href="#">Act XXXIX. Meeting the Fairies</a>
b. 2, f. 113	<a href="#">Act XL. Seeing the Moon</a>
b. 2, f. 114	<a href="#">Act XLI. Preparation at the Station</a>
b. 2, f. 115	<a href="#">Act XLII. A New Burial</a>
b. 2, f. 116	<a href="#">Act XLIII. Pleading for the Reunion</a>

## "The Palace of Longevity" (continued)

b. 2, f. 117	<a href="#">Act XLIV. Dream in Rainy Night</a>	
b. 2, f. 118	<a href="#">Act XLV. Search for the Spirit</a>	
b. 2, f. 119-120	<a href="#">Act XLVI. Redemption of the Wrong</a>	
b. 2, f. 121-122	<a href="#">Act XLVII. Message of Love</a>	
b. 2, f. 123-124	<a href="#">Act XLVIII. Receiving the News</a>	
b. 2, f. 125-126	<a href="#">Act IL. Reunion</a>	
b. 2, f. 127-129	Notebooks containing earlier manuscript versions by Acton	
b. 2, f. 130	Notes	
b. 2, f. 131	Miscellaneous	
	<i>Glue and Lacquer: Four Cautionary Tales</i>	circa 1941
	Author Feng Menglong, translated from the Chinese by Harold Acton and Lee Yi-Hsieh, preface by Arthur Waley.	
	"Published at 2 guineas in Spring/Summer 1941..." Acton says that the edition was sold out on publication and in a letter to Sandford dated 26 March 1951, he recalls he defrayed the production costs himself.	
b. 2, f. 132	Preface by Arthur Waley	
b. 2, f. 133	Galley proofs	
b. 2, f. 134-141	"The Mandarin Duck-Girdle"	
b. 2, f. 142-147	"Brother or Bride?"	
b. 2, f. 148-152	"The Predestined Couple"	
b. 2, f. 153-157	"Love in a Junk"	
	Other Chinese Stories (published)	
b. 2, f. 158	<a href="#">"Mr. Hua Wei"</a>	
b. 2, f. 159	<a href="#">"Half a Cart-Load of Straw Short"</a>	

b. 2, f. 160-164 Other Chinese Stories (unpublished)

Titles include:

Third-Rate Gunner  
How Takano Ryoo Dies  
On Taking a Walk  
My Companion  
A Letter  
My Sweet Partner  
Frank and Lindy  
Young Pink  
An Adventure  
Spring in Peiping  
A Sleepless Night  
Mencious Leaving Ch'i  
Imagination I, II, III  
Country Life and Town Life  
The Sad Fate of Mary Stone  
Love - Despite a Scar  
From a Diary  
How I Spent My Holidays  
My Spring Vacation

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*Peonies and Ponies*

b. 3, f. 165-167 Typescript and proofs

b. 3, f. 168 [Correspondence](#) 1939-1940

b. 3, f. 169-170 [Correspondence from literary agents and publishers relating to Acton's other Chinese works](#)

b. 3, f. 171 [Correspondence from publishers relating to Acton's writings](#) 1940, undated

b. 3, f. 172 Book reviews by Acton 1940-1941

Includes reviews of:

Ricketts, Charles; "Flowers of a Deep Civilization"  
Bigland, Eileen; "Into China"  
Peck, Graham; "Through China's Wall"  
Crow, Carl; "Foreign Devils in the Flowery Garden"  
Wingate, Col. A. W. S.; "A Cavalier in China"  
Mme Chang Kai-Shek; "China in Peace and War"  
Gleichen, Lady Helena; "Contacts and Contrasts"

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**Series II: Correspondence, 1935–1941***0.8 linear feet*

This series includes letters to Acton from Chinese, English, and American scholars and friends.

Arranged in the order in which it was received from the dealer.

b. 3, f. 173	<a href="#">Dr. Hsen-Hsu Hu</a> Hsen-Hsu Hu (1894-1968) was the Professor and Director of Botany at the Fan Memorial Institute of Biology in Peiping and famous as the founder of modern plant taxonomy in China. He received his doctorate from Harvard in 1925 while working at the Arnold Arboretum.	1935-1939
b. 3, f. 174	Lee, Shelley	1938-1939
b. 3, f. 175	<a href="#">Rosse, Michael and Anne</a>	1939-1941
b. 3, f. 176	<a href="#">Matters relating to the death of Desmond Parsons, Brother of Earl of Rosse</a>	1937-1938
b. 3, f. 177	<a href="#">Yuan Jiahua</a>	1939-1940
b. 3, f. 178	Oliver, Frank (Reuter's representative in Peking)	1939
b. 3, f. 179	<a href="#">Mitchell, Guy (Acton's uncle)</a>	1939-1941
b. 3, f. 180	<a href="#">Chang Shu-Wang</a>	1939-1940
b. 3, f. 181	Sickman, Mary "May" R. Mother of Laurence Sickman, who was director of the Nelson-Atkins Museum, Kansas City and had the use of an airplane in China which greatly assisted his acquisitions. He acquired some of the best paintings directly from the Chinese emperor Pu Yi, the last monarch of the Qing Dynasty and with Alexander Soper wrote "The Art and Architecture of China."	1939-1940
b. 3, f. 182	<a href="#">Bridge, Charles (Ministry of Information)</a>	1939
b. 3, f. 183	<a href="#">Lynton-Harrod, C. (Ministry of Information)</a>	1939
b. 3, f. 184	<a href="#">Sitwell, Osbert</a>	1939-1941
b. 3, f. 185	Burchard, Dr. Otto, and L. Burchard (Otto's brother) Otto Burchard was an eminent Berlin gallery owner and specialist in Chinese sculpture etc. now living in Peking	1939-1941
b. 3, f. 186	<a href="#">Yang Su Chi</a>	1940
b. 3, f. 187	Rushbrooke, Joe	1939-1940
b. 3, f. 188	<a href="#">Xiao Qian</a>	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 189	Emerald, Lady Cunard	1940
b. 3, f. 190	<a href="#">Waley, Arthur</a>	1940
b. 3, f. 191	Moore, Thomas Sturge English poet, author and artist, brother of George Edward Moore, philosopher, and long-term friend of Yeats.	1940

b. 3, f. 192	Pope-Hennessey, Dame Una	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 193	Walter C.	1940
b. 3, f. 194	Hutton, Edward	1940
b. 3, f. 195	<a href="#">Chinese Embassy, London</a>	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 196	<a href="#">Chen Shixiang</a> Chen Shixiang worked with translations of poems for Modern Chinese Poetry (1936). One of Acton's students who later emigrated to the USA and became Professor of Oriental Languages at the University of California, Berkeley.	1940
b. 3, f. 197	<a href="#">De Zoete, Beryl</a> Orientalist and critic, partner of Arthur Waley, on fringes of the Bloomsbury circle, and to whom <i>Glue &amp; Lacquer</i> (1941) is dedicated	1940
b. 3, f. 198	<a href="#">Acton, Hortense (Acton's mother)</a>	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 199	Whitaker, Tina Author of "Sicily and England," whom Acton met in Florence.	1940
b. 3, f. 200	British Broadcasting Corporation	1940
b. 3, f. 201	Banville, John	1940, undated
b. 3, f. 202	<a href="#">H. Y. [Yuan Chia-Hua?]</a>	1940
b. 3, f. 203	Rose, Sir Francis	1940
b. 3, f. 204	Betjeman, John	1940
b. 3, f. 205	Vivian	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 206	<a href="#">Li, Y. F.</a>	1940-1941
b. 3, f. 207	Colquhoun, Archibald Painter, writer and translator of Italian works, who met Acton on his Italian tour.	1940
b. 3, f. 208	Hartnoll, Phyllis Editor of the "Oxford Companion to the Theatre" to which Acton contributed a "Survey of Chinese Theatre."	1941
b. 3, f. 209	Mywit, Hal	undated
b. 3, f. 210	<a href="#">Dover, Cedric (author)</a>	1941
b. 3, f. 211	Harrod, Roy and Billa	1941
b. 3, f. 212-217	<a href="#">Other Letters and Papers</a>	1931-1941

**Series III: Other Papers, 1932-1941***0.21 linear feet*

b. 4, f. 218	International Relations Includes "The Unspoken Alliance. Recommendations for strengthening the ties between Great Britain and the United States in the light of American opinion since Munich and the visit of British Sovereigns," typescript, possibly by Acton; notes dating from 1941 concerning Italy, the United States and attitudes to war; and notes on current Anglo-German relations with draft of "The Unspoken Alliance" chapter headings and introduction.	1939-1941
b. 4, f. 219	Notebook, Bali and C[hinese] Theatre Notes	1932
b. 4, f. 220-225	Financial papers	1938-1941

**Series IV: Lecture Tour in Italy, 1940–1940***0.62 linear feet*

Acton was born in Italy in the family home, La Pietra, and remained devoted to Italy and Italian culture all his life; he also spoke and wrote fluently in Italian. On his return from China in 1939, he persuaded the British Council, among others, that a lecture tour of Italy might help sway opinions away from an alliance with Germany.

b. 4, f. 226	Correspondence planning the lecture tour	1940
b. 4, f. 227	"England's Cultural Debt to Italy," drafts (in Italian)	1940
b. 4, f. 228	"England's Cultural Debt to Italy," drafts and notes (in English)	1940
b. 4, f. 229	Lecture invitations	1940
b. 4, f. 230	Other lecture notes and drafts	1940
b. 4, f. 231	"A Letter from Italy (to Kenneth Morgan)," drafts	1940
b. 4, f. 232	Correspondence after lecture tour	1940
b. 4, f. 233	"Memorandum on a recent Lecture Tour," drafts	1940
b. 5, f. 234	Related correspondence	1940
	<b>Notebooks</b>	
b. 5, f. 235	Lecture notes, "Omaggio all Influenza della Cultura Italiana su quelle Inglese"; "The Little Horned Owl," notes on Italian literature; "To The Dissatisfied/Discontented", Acton's translation from the Italian. Introductory Epistle, First and Second Dialogues between the Interlocuters Smilu, Theophilus, Prudentious and Frulla	circa 1940
b. 5, f. 236	Lecture notes, "Omaggio all Influenza della Cultura Italiana su quelle Inglese"; "To the Discontented", later version of translation; Acton's English translation of an Italian article about Princess Tatiana Taminovitch-Razenka, a White Russian in exile in Florence	circa 1940
b. 5, f. 237	Notes on Italy and England	
b. 5, f. 238-239	Vocabulary (Italian)	
b. 5, f. 240	British Library Reading Room, book requests	1940
b. 5, f. 241	Newspaper clippings on Italy	1940-1941
b. 5, f. 242	Notes	
b. 5, f. 243	Miscellaneous	

## 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 -- Archives  
British literature -- 20th Century  
Chinese drama  
Chinese literature  
Chinese literature -- Translations into English  
Chinese poetry  
Translating and interpreting

### Geographic Names

England -- Foreign relations -- Italy  
Italy -- Foreign relations -- England

### Names

Acton, Harold, 1904-1994  
Betjeman, John, 1906-1984  
Chen, Shixiang, 1912-1971  
Colquhoun, Archibald, 1912-1964  
De Zoete, Beryl, 1884-1962  
Dover, Cedric  
Harrod, Roy, 1900-1978  
Hartnoll, Phyllis, 1906-1997  
Moore, T. Sturge (Thomas Sturge), 1870-1944  
Sitwell, Osbert, 1892-1969  
Waley, Arthur, 1889-1966  
Xiao, Qian, 1910-1999  
Yuan, Jiahua, 1904-