

# Guide to the John Daniel Wild Papers

GEN MSS 842



by Diane J Ducharme

May 2012

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
John Daniel Wild (1902-1972) .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	6
1974 Acquisition, 1943-1974 .....	6
2004 Acquisition, 1934-1972 .....	10
Selected Search Terms .....	12

## 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 842

**CREATOR:** Wild, John, 1902-1972

**TITLE:** John Daniel Wild papers

**DATES:** 1934-1974

**BULK DATES:** 1957-1972

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 6.80 linear feet (14 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains writings, lecture notes, syllabi, research notes and notebooks and other materials documenting the scholarly career of American philosopher John Daniel Wild. In particular, the papers concern Wild's work on aspects of Phenomenology and Existentialism during the last decades of his career.

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

---

## 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.jdwild>.

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

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mrs. John Wild, 1975; gift of Richard Sugarman, 2004.

---

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

---

## Conditions Governing Use

The John Daniel Wild Papers are 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

John Daniel Wild Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

---

## Processing Information

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization, in 2012.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection, including a donor list, and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles were supplied by staff during basic processing.

Former call numbers: Uncat MS Vault Wild; Uncat MSS 733

---

## John Daniel Wild (1902-1972)

John Daniel Wild, American philosopher, was born in Chicago, Illinois. He received his B.A. from the University of Chicago and his M.A. from Harvard University. He completed his Ph.D at the University of Chicago in 1926. After teaching for one year at the University of Michigan, Wild joined the Harvard faculty and taught there until 1961. In that year he became chair of the philosophy department at Northwestern University, then a leading center for the study of Phenomenology. He left Northwestern to join the Yale faculty in 1963; his final academic position was with the University of Florida.

His works included *Plato's Theory of Man* (1946); *Plato's Modern Enemies and the Theory of Natural Law* (1953); *The Challenge of Existentialism* (1955); and *The Radical Empiricism of William James* (1969). Wild was also one of the founders of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy.

---

## Scope and Contents

The collection contains writings, lecture notes, syllabi, research notes and notebooks and other materials documenting the scholarly career of American philosopher John Daniel Wild. In particular, the papers concern Wild's work on aspects of Phenomenology and Existentialism during the last decades of his career.

---

## Arrangement

Organized in two groupings: I. 1974 Acquisition, 1943-1974; II. 2004 Acquisition, 1934-1972.

Material within this collection has been organized by acquisition reflecting the fact that the collection has been acquired in increments over time. Researchers should note that material within each acquisition overlaps with/or relates to material found in other acquisitions. For instance, writings and lecture notes

can be found in both groupings. In order to locate all relevant material within this collection, researchers will need to consult each acquisition described in the Collection Contents section.

Researchers should also note that similar material can be arranged differently in each acquisition, depending on how the material was organized when it was received by the library.

---

## Collection Contents

### 1974 Acquisition, 1943-1974

4.59 linear feet (11 boxes)

Writings, lecture notes, syllabi, research notes and other material documenting the scholarly career of John Daniel Wild.

Folder titles in quotation marks are transcribed from the original folder labels in the hand of John Daniel Wild. Folders typically contain a variety of material, not all of which may be accounted for in the folder label.

Former call number: Uncat MS Vault Wild

Not arranged in any particular order.

b. 1	"Philosophy 201b, Spring 1969"	1969
b. 1	"Marxism and Existentialism II"	undated
b. 1	"Seminar Yale 1963: Problems of Epistemology and Metaphysics"	1963
b. 1	"Ethics and Political Philosophy"	undated
b. 1	"Philosophy of religion, 1967"	1967
b. 1	"Course on Otherness"	undated
b. 2	"Ethics and political philosophy"	undated
b. 2	"My Book, 1968 Summer!"	1968
b. 2	"Philosophy 255: My Book"	undated
b. 2	"Phil. 138b 1960"	1960
b. 2	<i>The Challenge of Existentialism</i> : incomplete draft	undated
b. 2	"My Book: Levels of Awareness"	undated
b. 2	"My Book: Subjectiveness"	undated
b. 3	"Philosophy 30A: 1965-66"	1965-1966
b. 3	"What I Hold" (parts of APA paper)	1960
b. 3	William F. Zuurdeeg, "Short paper on methodological points"	1960
b. 3	Materials related to <i>The Other</i> , including typescript drafts	undated
b. 3	<i>The Other</i> and <i>Otherness</i> , notes and fragments	undated
b. 3	"Talks on Phenomenology and Existentialism"	1957, undated
b. 3	"The Other Person--Some Phenomenological Reflections"	undated
b. 3	"My Philosophy ideas" 2 Folders	1957 November

b. 3	"Preface to <i>Challenge</i> " 3 Folders	1963
b. 3	Lecture notes, article notes and bibliography	1957, undated
b. 4	"Ethics 11b: Secular and Christian ethics"	1956
b. 4	"The Human Lebenswelt"	undated
b. 4	"Poli. Sci. talk, April 9, 1961"	1961
b. 4	<i>The Uses of Philosophy</i> : lecture	undated
b. 4	"Existentialism and Realism:" notes	undated
b. 4	"Philosophy 150, Spring 1964"	1964
b. 4	Notes and drafts on Christianity and Existentialism	1960-1961
b. 4	John Wild bibliography	undated
b. 5	<i>The Death of God and the Life of Man</i>	undated
b. 5	<i>The Rights of the Other as Other</i>	undated
b. 5	"Lecture notes for Philosophy 504" 2 Folders	undated
b. 5	"Projects 1960 ff. Also 1964" 2 Folders	undated
b. 5	<i>The Other Person</i>	undated
b. 5	<i>The World and Its Versions</i>	undated
b. 5	Notes, lecture notes and memoranda 5 Folders	undated
b. 5	"Collective existences: notes for lecture"	undated
b. 5	<i>Existential Themes in the Thought of William James</i>	undated
b. 5	"Notes for Seminar on <i>The A-Priori Philosophy</i> "	1967
b. 5	"Notes for Philosophy 56a, Freedom and responsibility"	1966
b. 5	Unidentified typescript	undated
b. 6	"Popper Paper"	1964
b. 6	"Work: conference:" papers in several languages	undated
b. 6	"Natural law and personal ethics:" lecture notes	1958
b. 6	Review of <i>Being and Nothingness</i>	1956
b. 6	"Is Normative Ethics a Rational Discipline?"	undated
b. 6	Photocopy of conclusion of unidentified dissertation	undated

b. 6	"Freedom--paper fragments"	undated
b. 6	Manuscript and typescript draft of an unidentified history of Western philosophy <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 7	"A Philosophy of Freedom, Moravian College, 1964"	1964
b. 7	"New MS England 1957:" typescript and manuscript draft	1957
b. 7	"The Thought of William James Today"	undated
b. 7	<i>Culture and Barbarism</i>	[1941-1945]
b. 7	Unidentified typescript concerning philosophy <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 8	"Science of Philosophy--Metaphysics"	undated
b. 8	Review of <i>Truth in the Contemporary Crisis</i>	1942
b. 8	"A Philosophy of Freedom"	undated
b. 8	"Realism and the Existentialist View of War"	undated
b. 8	"Man and his Life-world"	undated
b. 8	"James: Seminar, Fall 1967"	1967
b. 8	"Feeling: Seminar D10, Fall 1962"	1962
b. 8	"Philosophy of existence: Yale, Fall 1963"	1963
b. 8	"Philosophy 158A 1965-6: Heidegger"	1965-1966
b. 8	"Philosophy 133b: Phenomenology, Spring 1968"	1968
b. 9	"Papers for Florida, 1972"	1972
b. 9	"Phenomenology of belief, Fall 1967"	1967
b. 9	"Existential a priori-final"	undated
b. 9	"The Rights of the Other as Other"	undated
b. 9	"The Need for a Philosophy of Democracy"	1972
b. 9	"My Views and Criticisms, 1957"	1957
b. 9	"The World and Its Versions"	undated
b. 9	"The Phenomenological Method, 1963-64"	1963-1964
b. 9	"The Perceptual Time-Lag and Lived Time"	1964
b. 9	<i>La notion de Lebenswelt chez John Wild</i>	1967
b. 9	Tenth Annual Conference on Theology in Action	1952
b. 10	"Other materials"	undated



b. 10	"Duncan"	undated
b. 10	"Existentialism, Feb-March 1951"	1951
b. 10	"Objectivism Geist Hartmann"	undated
b. 10	"Colloquium paper Jan 1970"	1970
b. 10	"Notes on new book"	undated
b. 10	"The world and its versions, Jan 1964"	1964
b. 10	"The Lived Body"	undated
b. 10	"Strasser notes"	undated
b. 10	"Eastern Div. Meeting Xmas 1967"	1967
b. 10	"Speeches and sermons, 1960 ff."	[1960s]
b. 10	"Against Utilitarianism, Summer 1960"	1960
b. 10	"Ethics and Politics AMB 1967"	1967
b. 10	"Talks 1969 NY Club: the Life-World and the Other"	1969
b. 11, 12a	Offprints, reprints and journal issues <i>7 Folders</i>	1943-1974

**2004 Acquisition, 1934-1972***2 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Notebooks, writings, lecture notes and subject files documenting the scholarly career of John Daniel Wild. Folder titles are derived from the detailed donor list, which is located in Box 12, folder 1.

Former call number: Uncat MSS 733

Arranged by subject and/or type of material by the donor.

b. 12, f. 1	<i>Bibliography of John Wild's Unpublished Writings</i> , by Richard I. Sugarman Includes detailed list of the contents of this acquisition.	undated
b. 12, f. 2	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 3	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 4	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 5	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 6	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 7	Notebook	1934-1938, undated
b. 12, f. 8	Essays, "The Rights of the Other as Other", "The Death of God and Life of Man", "Christianity and Existential Philosophy" and other essays.	undated
b. 12, f. 9	"Rights of Others"	undated
b. 12, f. 10	"Lebenswelt and Berkley" or "Primary and Secondary Qualities"	1969
b. 12, f. 11	"The Perceptual Time-lag and Lived Time"	circa 1965-1970
b. 12, f. 12	"The Existential A-Prion" or "An Empirical Approach to the A-Prion"	1969
b. 12, f. 13	Notes and commentary on E. Levinas, <i>Totality and Infinity</i>	[1969-1970]
b. 12, f. 14	Lecture notes and commentaries on Phenomenology	undated
b. 12, f. 15	Lecture notes and commentaries on Phenomenology	undated
b. 12, f. 16	Lecture notes and commentaries on Phenomenology	undated
b. 12, f. 17	Lecture notes and commentaries on Existentialism <i>5 Folders</i>	undated
b. 13, f. 1	"Christian Existentialism"	undated
b. 13, f. 2	"Christian Existentialism and Social Problems"	circa 1960
b. 13, f. 3	"Notes on Heidegger"	circa 1952, undated

b. 13, f. 4	"Ricoeur's Lectures on Finitude at the Sorbonne"	circa 1957
b. 13, f. 5	"Kierkegaard and the Existential Philosophy"	circa 1954-1959
b. 13, f. 6	"Interviews conducted by J.W. while on Guggenheim Fellowship", also included are "diary-like entrees and reminiscences"	1957
b. 13, f. 7	"Things I am clear about in Religion and Theology" 4 Folders	1958
b. 13, f. 9	"Plans", philosophic anthropology, phenomenology of theory, evil, error and illusion.	1957-1958
b. 13, f. 10	Religious Talks	circa 1954-1959
b. 13, f. 11	Secular speeches	undated
b. 13, f. 12	Northwestern speeches	undated
b. 13, f. 13	"Boston University Talk"	1960 December 7
b. 13, f. 14	"Garret Talk"	1963 January 14
b. 13, f. 15	"Talk on James"	1963 May 14
b. 13, f. 16	Projects: guilt, inner-outer, philosophy as therapy, Husserl's "Krisis"	circa June to August 1963
b. 13, f. 17	Psychiatry-seminar notes, Massachusetts General Hospital	1959
b. 13, f. 18	"Talk at Vanderbilt"	1963 February 8
b. 13, f. 19	"Moral choice and Personal Identity (Inc.)"	circa 1956-1959
b. 13, f. 20	Eulogy of John Wild, given by Henry Jordan of Connecticut College at Yale Divinity School	1972 October 28
b. 13, f. 21	Lectures and Seminar preparations	circa 1940-1970
b. 13, f. 22	Lectures and Seminar preparations	circa 1940-1970
b. 13, f. 23	Lectures and Seminar preparations	circa 1940-1970
b. 13, f. 24	Lectures and Seminar preparations	circa 1940-1970
b. 13, f. 25	Lectures and Seminar preparations	circa 1940-1970
b. 13, f. 26	"Science of Philosophy-Metaphysics"	undated
b. 13, f. 27	"Human Cognition"	undated
b. 13, f. 28	"Realism and Its Alternatives"	undated
b. 13, f. 29	Translation of "Sein und Zeit" by J. W. along with R. Trayhern, B. Dreyfus, C. de Devga	circa 1960

## **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**

Christianity and existentialism  
Existentialism  
Existential phenomenology  
Phenomenology  
Philosophers -- United States -- Archives  
Philosophy, American -- 20th Century

### **Names**

Wild, John, 1902-1972