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Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**Thornton Wilder collection of papers**

1926-1975 [bulk 1926-1967]

Berg Coll MSS Wilder

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Wilder, Thornton, 1897-1975

**Title:** Thornton Wilder collection of papers

**Date:** 1926-1975 [bulk 1926-1967]

**Size:** 84 items

**Source:** This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

**Abstract:** This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, and correspondence.

**Conditions Governing Use:** For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

**Preferred citation:** [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

**Language of the Material:** Some correspondence in French

**Processing note:** Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

## Creator History

Thornton Wilder was an American playwright, novelist, and essayist.

## Custodial History

This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, and correspondence. The manuscript and typescripts include descriptive copy by the author, as well as drafts of Glenway Westcott's talks with the author. The correspondence, dating from 1926 to 1975, includes letters from the author to Lewis S. Baer, May Sarton, John Collings Squire, Frances Steloff, Glenway Wescott, and others. There are also letters related to the author, dating from 1927 to 1975, between various correspondents including Albert and Chales Boni, Will Durant, Glenway Wescott, and others, as well as letters to the author from Herbert Mitgang. There are letters to Wilder from the James Joyce Society, Herbert Mitgang, Glenway Wescott, and Louis Untermeyer, dating from 1948 to 1975.

## Key Terms

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

### Names

Wilder, Thornton, 1897-1975

Baer, Lewis S

Boni, Albert, 1892-1981

Boni, Charles

Durant, Will, 1885-1981

Mitgang, Herbert

Sarton, May, 1912-1995

Squire, John Collings, Sir, 1884-1958

Steloff, Frances, 1887-1989

Untermeyer, Louis, 1885-1977

Wescott, Glenway, 1901-1987

James Joyce Society (New York, N.Y.)

## Container List

### Manuscripts and Typescripts

#### Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Wilder

- Cased Woman of Andros, The. Holograph comment for dust jacket (?) n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

#### Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Wilder

- Manuscript box. Box 44 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Earlier holograph passages. Collated against chapter 8 of Images of truth. New York, Harper & Row [c. 1962] 1949 Apr. 26 - 1958 Mar. 6 (557 p) (557 p)
- Manuscript box. Box 45 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Later holograph passages. Collated against chapter 8 of Images of truth 1949 May 2 - 1962 Feb. 1 (504 p) (504 p)  
With additional holograph passages in an envelope inscribed by the author. 103 p.
- Manuscript box. Boxes 46 & 47 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Holograph and typescript drafts of various passages with the author's ms. corrections. 1948 Apr. 16 - 1962 Jan (495 p) (495 p)  
Includes 2 ringed binders and 1 v. in loose sheets
- Manuscript box. Box 48 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Typescript drafts of various passages with the author's ms. corrections. Collated against chapter 8 of Images of truth 1951 Sept. 10 - 1962 Mar (362 p) (362 p)
- Manuscript box. Box 49 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Later typescript (carbon, incomplete) with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (130 p) (130 p)
- Manuscript box. Box 49 Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Later typescript (carbon, incomplete) with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (128 p) (128 p)

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing Correspondence

- Manuscript box Baer, Lewis S. 12 ALS, 5 telegrams, Christmas card to n.d.] - 1930 (18 letters in 3 folders) (18 letters in 3 folders)
- Manuscript box Baker, Ethel. ALS to 1941 Aug. 10 (1 p) (1 p)  
Came with his letters to May Sarton
- Manuscript box Ervine, St. John Greer. 2 ALS to 1929 Oct. 13, 1929 Oct. 15 (2 leaves; 1 p) (2 leaves; 1 p)  
With ALS from his sister Isabel Wilder, April 2, 1929. 1 l.
- Manuscript box Hope, Emily (Blanchard). ALS to 1973 June 23 (1 p) (1 p)  
With envelope
- Manuscript box International magazine company. Postcard to Mildred Temple 1928 Oct. 24 (1 card) (1 card)
- Manuscript box Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. ALS to n.d. (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
- Manuscript box Monnier, Adrienne. 3 ALS to. Letter of 1931 addressed also to Sylvia Beach. Letter of 1951 in French 1931 Aug. 21 - [1951? Oct (1 p. each) (1 p. each)  
With one envelope
- Manuscript box Richardson, Frederick. ALS to. Mentions Henry Blake Fuller 1929 Dec. 4 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Sarton, May. 5 ALS to 1950 Nov. 14 - 1963 Dec. 12 (5 letters in 1 folder) (5 letters in 1 folder)

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box      Sarton, May. 2 ALS, 1 ANS, 1 postcard to 1951 Mar. 24 - 1963 Feb. 19 (4 letters in 1 folder) (4 letters in 1 folder)
- Manuscript box      Squire, John Collings. ALS to 1926 Oct. 18 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box (Gotham)      Steloff, Frances. 4 ALS, 1 telegram, 1 postcard to 1947 July 19 - 1961 Oct. 18 (6 letters in 2 folders) (6 letters in 2 folders)  
With 2 TL (carbon) replies. With 4 ALS, 1 TLS from Isabel Wilder
- Manuscript box      Untermeyer, Louis. TL to. Written by Isabel Wilder 1963 Sept. 13 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
Also, TL (carbon) from Louis Untermeyer to Thornton Wilder, Sept. 5, 1962. 1 p.
- Manuscript box      Walpole, [Sir Hugh]. ALS to 1932 Mar. 30 (3 p) (3 p)  
B.
- Manuscript box      Wescott, Glenway. 3 TL (copies) to. Copied by Glenway Wescott 1948 Apr. 7 - 1948 Sept. 14 (3 p.; 2 p.; 2 p) (3 p.; 2 p.; 2 p)  
April 7 and May 23 letters removed from: Wescott's [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Holograph and typescript drafts. Vol. 1; Sept. 14 letter removed from the later holograph passages
- Manuscript box      Whitridge, Mrs. Arnold. ALS to 1967 July 5 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Incoming Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Gotham). In: Box 4 of James Joyce Society Records, 1947-1967      James Joyce Society, New York. Letters to Wilder 1951 Dec. 27 - 1962 May 2 (11 letters) (11 letters)
- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Mitgang, Herbert. Letters to Wilder 1967 - 1975 (1 folder) (1 folder)  
With replies and articles contributed to the New York Times
- Manuscript box      Untermeyer, Louis. TL (carbon) to Wilder 1962 Sept. 5 (1 p) (1 p)  
With Wilder, Thornton. TL to Louis Untermeyer. Sept. 13, 1963. 1 leaf
- Manuscript box      Wescott, Glenway. ALS, 4 AL (draft, incomplete), TL (draft, carbon) to Wilder 1948 Apr. 11 - 1954 Jan. 6 (6 letters in 2 folders) (6 letters in 2 folders)

Related Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Durant, Will. TLS to Albert and Charles Boni. Relates to Thornton Wilder's The bridge of San Luis Rey [1928] Mar. 16 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (Wescott)      Harper & Bros., New York. TL to Glenway Wescott 1957 Apr. 24 (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed Simon Michael Bessie. Removed from Wescott's [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Typescript drafts of various passages
- Manuscript box (Patchen)      Kenneth Patchen Fund, New York. 1 TL (circular) n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed W. H. Auden, T. S. Eliot, Archibald MacLeish, and Thornton Wilder
- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Mitgang, Herbert. Letters to Thornton Wilder 1967 - 1975 (1 folder) (1 folder)  
With replies and articles contributed to The New York Times
- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Parrish, Anne. TLS to Albert and Charles Boni. Relates to Thornton Wilder's The bridge of San Luis Rey 1928 Jan. 21 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Phelps, William Lyon. TL (copy) to [Albert and Charles Boni] Relates to Thornton Wilder's The bridge of San Luis Rey 1927 Nov. 30 (1 p) (1 p)  
With autograph pasted on
- Manuscript box (Wilder)      Strode, Hudson. TLS to Albert and Charles Boni. Relates to Thornton Wilder's The bridge of San Luis Rey 1928 Mar. 4 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box      Wescott, Glenway. TL (photostat) to Bernard Stone-Blossom 1949 Apr. 29 (3 p) (3 p)  
Removed from his [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Holograph and typescript drafts. Vol. 1

Correspondence (cont.)

Related Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box

Wescott, Glenway. TL (carbon) to Isobel [Wilder] Stone-Blossom 1957 Aug.  
20 (1 p) (1 p)  
Removed from his [Images of truth. Talks with Thornton Wilder]. Holograph and typescript  
drafts. Vol. 1