Summary

Creator: Plomer, William, 1903-1973

Title: William Plomer collection of papers

Date: 1921-1973

Size: 257 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources. Plomer's essay on Virginia Woolf was a gift of Simon Nowell-Smith.

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

Access: Restricted access.

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


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

Creator History

William Plomer was an English poet, novelist, short-story writer, librettist, and songwriter.

Custodial History

This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources. Plomer's essay on Virginia Woolf was a gift of Simon Nowell-Smith.
Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, and correspondence. The manuscripts and typescripts consist of librettos, essays, interviews, lectures, and poems by the author. The correspondence consists of letters from the author, dating from 1921 to 1973, to Graham Ackroyd, Susan Hill, Simon Nowell-Smith, William Sansom, Leonard Woolf, Virginia Woolf, and others. There is also a letter to Plomer from W. S. Maugham, dated Sept. 30, 1934.

Key Terms

Names
Plomer, William, 1903-1973
Ackroyd, Graham
Hill, Susan, 1942-
Maugham, W. Somerset (William Somerset), 1874-1965
Nowell-Smith, Simon, 1909-1996
Sansom, William, 1912-1976
Woolf, Leonard, 1880-1969
Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941


**Container List**

**Manuscripts and Typescripts**

**Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Plomer**

**Cased**

- Britten's War Requiem. Holograph draft of preface n.d. (10 p) (10 p)
- Britten's War Requiem. Typescript with the author's ms. corrections and initialled ms. note on title. Music by Benjamin Britten, words by Wilfred Owen n.d. (5 p) (5 p)
  
  With printed text to accompany recording of Jan. 3-10, 1963 with William Plomer’s ms. correction and autograph; with program of first performance in New York, Oct. 23, 1963

**Cased**

  
  With clipping

**Oversize (+++)**

  
  Signed

**Manuscript box**

  
  Published in The Penguin new writing, no. 4, 1941

**Manuscript box**

  
  Signed

**Manuscript box**

  
  Signed with initials. With author's note authenticating that it was written "for the Aldeburgh Festival programme"

**Manuscript box**

- Forster, Edward Morgan (1879- ). Holograph 1961 (6 p) (6 p)
  
  Signed with initials. With author's note authenticating that it was written for the Encyclopedia Britannica, 1961

**Manuscript box**

- Happy days, by Robert Pagan [pseud.] Holograph n.d. (16 p) (16 p)
  
  With John Lehman's ms. note commenting on the author's use of a pseudonym. Published in The Penguin new writing, no. 3, 1941

**Manuscript box**

- [Introduction to Herman Charles Bosman's Unto dust] Holograph 1962 (8 p) (8 p)
  
  Incomplete ALS and signed title supplied by author, laid in

**Manuscript box**

- [John Hampson Simpson] Holograph 1956 (6 p) (6 p)
  
  With author's note authenticating that it was written for a memorial volume to be published in Madras, Feb. 1956

**Cased**

  
  Signed

**Manuscript box**

- Lime-flower tea. 2 holograph drafts of poem. One draft is entitled A night in winter n.d. (5 p) (5 p)

**Manuscript box**

- [Limerick] n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

**Manuscript box**

- money man, The. Holograph poem n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
  
  With accompanying envelope, inscribed and signed by the author: "Final version, as printed in The Listener, Oct. 17, 1963;" with preliminary notes, 7 p.; work sheets, 4 p.; and draft, 5 p.

**Manuscript box**

  
  With his: 5 ALS to Jacob Schwartz. 1961
With: Rumbold, Richard. A message in code. Typescript

Manuscript box

Published in Recollections of Virginia Woolf, ed. by J. R. Noble, N.Y., 1972. Gift of Simon Nowell-Smith

Cased

Wild doves of Louis Trichardt, The. Holograph draft of poem. Bd. 19 x 13.5cm 1959 Mar. (1 v) (1 v)
With his ALS to Simon Nowell Smith, dated March 14, 1959

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Plomer


Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Manuscript box

Abercrombie, [--?]. 2 ALS to. [Correspondent is either Lascelles or Ralph Abercrombie] 1957 May 16, 1957 May 24 (1 p.; 3 leaves) (1 p.; 3 leaves)

Manuscript box

Ackroyd, Graham. 2 ALS to 1951 Dec. 9, 1952 Jan. 4 (1 leaf; 3 leaves) (1 leaf; 3 leaves)

Manuscript box

Clark, Leonard. ALS to. Relates to Andrew Young 1956 June 7 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Manuscript box

Enslin du Plessis, H[enry?]. 15 ALS to 1921 Sept. 20 - 1962 Apr. 13 (15 letters in 3 folders) (15 letters in 3 folders)

Manuscript box

Hill, Susan. 59 ALS, 1 postcard to 1970 Sept. 22 - 1973 Sept. 11 (60 letters in 12 folders) (60 letters in 12 folders)

Manuscript box

Lehmann, John. ALS to 1945 Oct. 25 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
With correspondent's marginal ms. note

Manuscript box

Nowell-Smith, Simon. 91 ALS, 4 ANS to. Pasted into two quarto half black morocco albums. [1942] May 1 - 1972 May 29 (95 letters in 2 v) (95 letters in 2 v)
With his [Autobiographical notes] pasted on p. 140-146

Manuscript box

Nowell-Smith, Simon. 32 postcards, 3 Christmas cards to 1945 Oct. 3 - 1972 [Dec. 25 (35 letters in 5 folders) (35 letters in 5 folders)


Manuscript box

[Nowell-Smith], Simon. ANS to 1965 June 15 (1 p) (1 p)
With dust jacket for The Phoenix Cup by John Morris, published in 1947

Manuscript box

Sansom, William. 4 ALS, 1 postcard to 1945 Aug. 30 - 1946 Dec. 13 (5 letters) (5 letters)

Manuscript box

Schwartz, Jacob. 5 ALS to 1961 Nov. 14 - 1961 Dec. 8 (1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf) (1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf; 2 leaves; 1 leaf)
Accompanied by his: Museum pieces. Holograph fragment (photocopy), undated. 2 p.; Rosenberg, Isaac. [Fragment xix] "Where the rock's heart is hidden from the sea." Holograph poem (photocopy), undated. 1 p.; Published in his Collected works, London, Chatto and Windus, 1937, p. 221

Manuscript box

Szladits, Lola. ALS to. Relates to Lord Byron 1969 May 26 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box

Woolf, Leonard Sidney. 6 ALS to 1929 Dec. 14 - 1930 Dec. 5 (6 letters) (6 letters)
Correspondence (cont.)
Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)
Manuscript box
Woolf, Leonard Sidney. ALS to 1951 Oct. 24 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
Manuscript box
Woolf, Virginia. 3 ALS to. One dated June 14 [n.y.] 1937 June 19, 1937 Sept. 18
(2 leaves; 3 leaves; 4 p) (2 leaves; 3 leaves; 4 p)
Manuscript box (Vietnam)
Woolf, Cecil and John Bagguley, eds. Authors take sides on Vietnam.
Correspondence with William Plomer 1967 (1 folder) (1 folder)
Incoming Correspondence
Manuscript box
Maugham, William Somerset. ALS (photocopy) to Plomer 1934 Sept. 30 (2 p)
(2 p)
Came with Plomer's correspondence with Jacob Schwartz