

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Lola Gornall Papers

WA MSS S-2715



by Beinecke Staff

2012

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

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-2715

**CREATOR:** Gornall, Lola, 1884-1969

**TITLE:** Lola Gornall papers

**DATES:** 1883-1945

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 6.5 linear feet (7 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains correspondence, drafts of writings, clippings, photographs, and printed material documenting the life and work of Australian writer Lola Gornall, and in particular her relationship with the American writer Zane Grey. The bulk of the collection consists of extensive correspondence from Grey between 1933 and 1938, and includes some letters written in a private code (a key created by the dealer is present). Drafts of Gornall's writings include three collections of verse for children, including "Sing a Song of Sydney" and "New Zealand Nursery Rhymes," as well as a group of poems titled "King's Cross Nights". The collection also includes correspondence from others, clippings documenting Gornall's career, a family Bible, and books inscribed to her by Zane Grey and other writers. Zane Grey's engagement calendar for 1935 is also present.

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

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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.gornall>.

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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Serendipity Books on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2002.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Lola Gornall 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

Lola Gornall Papers. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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### Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit. The collection received basic rehousing at the time of acquisition in 2002. Some further arrangement, rehousing, and description were carried out in 2012.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection by the dealer, and from an initial survey of the contents. The arrangement of the correspondence in Series I was carried out by the dealer and has not been further refined.

Formerly classed as Uncat MSS 319.

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## Lola Gornall (1884-1969)

The writer Lola Sydney Gornall was born in Sydney, Australia, on January 24, 1884, to Peter and Alice Hardman Gornall, proprietors of *The Suburban Times*, Redfern, Sydney. She had one sister, Olive Agnes Gornall Clough. Lola Gornall was a poet and a drama critic, and a member of the Australian Journalists Association. Her poems were published in a variety of periodicals and anthologies, chiefly in Australia and New Zealand, in the early twentieth century.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection contains correspondence, drafts of writings, clippings, photographs, and printed material documenting the life and work of Australian writer Lola Gornall, and in particular her relationship with the American writer Zane Grey. The bulk of the collection consists of extensive correspondence from Grey between 1933 and 1938, and includes some letters written in a private code. Drafts of Gornall's

writings include three collections of verse for children, including "Sing a Song of Sydney" and "New Zealand Nursery Rhymes," as well as a group of poems titled "King's Cross Nights". The collection also includes correspondence from others, clippings documenting Gornall's career, a family bible, and books inscribed to her by Zane Grey and other writers. Zane Grey's engagement calendar for 1935 is also present.

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## **Arrangement**

Organized into three series: I. Zane Grey correspondence, 1933-1938. II. Writings, 1923-circa 1945. III. Other papers, 1883-1939.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Zane Grey correspondence, 1933-1938

5.42 linear feet (6 boxes)

Series I contains letters from Zane Grey to Lola Gornall, many of them enclosing photographs and annotated clippings; a few enclose dried plants. Many of the letters are written partially or entirely in code. A copy of a key to this code created by the dealer is filed at the end of the undated correspondence.

Arranged roughly chronologically by year.

b. 1	1933-1934 30 Folders	1933-1934
b. 2	1934-1935 33 Folders	1934-1935
b. 3	1935-1936 29 Folders	1935-1936
b. 4	1937-1938, undated 28 Folders	1937-1938, undated
b. 5	Undated 31 Folders	Undated
b. 6	Undated 13 Folders	Undated

**Series II: Writings, 1923-circa 1945***0.5 linear feet*

Series II consists chiefly of drafts of poems by Lola Gornall, but also includes some published versions of individual poems as well as correspondence and clippings documenting her career.

b. 7	"King's Cross Nights", draft, typescript	undated
b. 7	"New Zealand Nursury Rhymes", draft, typescript	undated
b. 7	"Sing a Song of Sydney", specimen copy	undated
b. 7	Untitled, "To every child -- everywhere", draft, typescript	undated
b. 7	Poems, drafts, typescript	undated
b. 7	Poems, published versions clipped from periodicals	undated
b. 7	Correspondence and clippings <i>2 Folders</i>	1923-circa 1945

**Series III: Other Papers, 1883-1944***0.5 linear feet*

The series contains photographs, clippings and ephemera, much of it likely sent to Gornall by Zane Grey; Zane Grey's 1935 engagement calendar; inscribed books; and the Gornall family bible, which includes genealogical information.

b. 7	Photograph of Lola Gornall	
b. 7	Photographs of Zane Grey	
b. 7	Zane Grey "Ready Reference Dairy"	1935
b. 7	Clippings and ephemera <i>3 Folders</i>	
b. 7	Books inscribed to Gornall from Grey and others <i>8 Folders</i> Includes one book inscribed to Gornall's nephew, the poet Maurice Clough.	1923-1944
b. 7	Gornall family bible <i>2 Folders</i>	1883-1939



## **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, American -- 20th Century  
Authors, Australian -- 20th Century -- Archives

### **Genres / Formats**

Ciphers (codes)  
Photographic prints

### **Occupations**

Authors

### **Names**

Gornall, Lola, 1884-1969  
Grey, Zane, 1872-1939