

# Guide to the Nelson Hayes Papers

YCAL MSS 386



by Michael L. Forstrom

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## 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:** YCAL MSS 386

**CREATOR:** Hayes, Nelson, 1903-1971

**TITLE:** Nelson Hayes Papers

**DATES:** 1913-1973

**BULK DATES:** 1925-1973

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 14.8 linear feet (37 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Nelson Hayes papers contain correspondence, writings, journals, and other materials documenting the personal and professional life of author Nelson Hayes.

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

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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.hayes>.

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

Gift of Hayes estate, 1973.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Nelson Hayes 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

Nelson Hayes Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Preliminary processing was done to the Nelson Hayes papers at an unknown date. During reprocessing of the collection in 2010, the arrangement of correspondence and writings was largely preserved in Series I and II respectively; journals were moved from the writings into a separate series (Series III); unsorted writings were added at the end of the alphabetical sequence in the Writings series (Series II); and subject files were moved into a new Personal Papers series (Series IV).

Formerly classed as Za Hayes.

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## Nelson Hayes (1903-)

Nelson Hayes was born October 9, 1903, in Trépied, Pas de Calais, France, son of Chester Coleman and Henrietta (Andrews) Hayes. He attended the Hotchkiss School and Yale (class of 1925) before marrying Emmy Katherine Clason on December 28, 1925. Hayes's professional employment included work as a secretary and assistant treasurer at Lockwood Manufacturing Co. in South Norwalk, CT (1925-1930), a real estate broker in South Norwalk, CT (1934-1955), and an investment executive in Roxbury, VT (1955-).

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## Scope and Contents

The Nelson Hayes papers contain correspondence, writings, journals, and other materials documenting the personal and professional life of author Nelson Hayes. Materials throughout the collection also document Hayes's special interest in the Caribbean. For example, subject files located in the Correspondence and Personal Papers series, writings, and journals contain clippings, personal observations and commentary, and photographs relating to the Caribbean. Specific writings set in the Caribbean include "Caribbean Junket", *Dildo Cay*, and "Spanceled". Otherwise, the bulk of the general correspondence in the collection is with Hayes's wife, mother, and two daughters. Correspondence relating to writings consists chiefly of letters from editors about novels, short stories, articles, and other writings. The Writings series contains research files and drafts for various forms of work, such as articles, poems, short stories, and published and unpublished novels. There are typescript copies of Hayes's journals, including research for writings, lists of illustrations, and indices, dating from 1950 to 1970; journals are bound with original correspondence, photographs, and clippings dating from 1922 to 1973. Personal Papers contain a calendar, clippings, and notebooks.

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## Arrangement

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence, 1915-1973. II. Writings, 1920-1973. III. Journals, undated. IV. Personal Papers, 1971.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1915-1973

6.67 linear feet (16 boxes)

General correspondence includes family, personal, and professional correspondence. The bulk of the correspondence is with Hayes's wife ("Emmy"), mother, and two daughters ("Ilse" and "Larrier"). There are also subject files on "Public Issues" and the "Virgin Islands" containing correspondence and clippings.

Correspondence Relating to Writings, arranged alphabetically, consists chiefly of letters from editors about novels, short stories, articles, and other writings. There is also correspondence with literary agents and fan mail. The largest group of letters relates to Hayes's best-known novel *Dildo Cay*.

The correspondence contains some newspaper clippings, notes, and writings.

Additional correspondence can be found among the journals in Series III.

Organized into two subseries: General Correspondence and Correspondence Relating to Writings.

#### General Correspondence

|      |                                                    |           |
|------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| b. 1 | Andrews, C. B.<br><i>2 Folders</i>                 | 1925-1953 |
| b. 1 | Davies, A. Mervyn                                  | 1936-1939 |
| b. 1 | Dickson, Lovat                                     | 1935-1939 |
| b. 1 | Dupuch, Sir Etienne                                | 1968-1971 |
| b. 1 | Giovine, Larrier H. (daughter)                     | 1953-1957 |
| b. 2 | Giovine, Larrier H. (daughter)<br><i>6 Folders</i> | 1943-1971 |
| b. 3 | Giovine, Larrier H. (daughter)<br><i>6 Folders</i> | 1957-1971 |
| b. 4 | Giovine, Larrier H. (daughter)<br><i>4 Folders</i> | 1963-1970 |
| b. 4 | Goddard, George McGill Hayes                       | 1967-1971 |
| b. 5 | Goddard, Elizabeth Hayes                           | 1962-1966 |
| b. 5 | Govoni, Ilse Hayes (daughter)<br><i>4 Folders</i>  | 1942-1949 |
| b. 6 | Govoni, Ilse Hayes (daughter)<br><i>9 Folders</i>  | 1950-1959 |
| b. 7 | Govoni, Ilse Hayes (daughter)<br><i>7 Folders</i>  | 1960-1971 |
| b. 8 | Hayes, Chester C.<br><i>5 Folders</i>              | 1915-1947 |
| b. 9 | Hayes, Chester C.                                  | 1937-1948 |

## General Correspondence (continued)

|                                     |                                           |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 9                                | Hayes, Emmy (wife)<br><i>3 Folders</i>    | 1923-1933             |
| b. 10                               | Hayes, Emmy (wife)<br><i>5 Folders</i>    | 1931-1950             |
| b. 11                               | Hayes, Emmy (wife)<br><i>5 Folders</i>    | 1949-1973             |
| b. 11                               | Hayes, Dr. George<br><i>2 Folders</i>     | 1925-1953             |
| b. 11                               | Hayes (General)                           | 1936-1941             |
| b. 12                               | Hayes, H. A. (mother)<br><i>5 Folders</i> | 1919-1936             |
| b. 13                               | Hayes, H. A. (mother)<br><i>2 Folders</i> | 1952-1961             |
| b. 13                               | Hayes, Posie Hammond<br><i>2 Folders</i>  | 1920-1972             |
| b. 13                               | Hayes Goddard, Elizabeth                  | 1962-1972             |
| b. 13                               | Public Issues<br><i>2 Folders</i>         | 1943-1971,<br>undated |
| b. 13                               | Virgin Islands                            | 1934                  |
| Correspondence Relating to Writings |                                           |                       |
| b. 13                               | Agents and Magazines                      | 1951-1958             |
| b. 13                               | Articles                                  | 1965-1970             |
| b. 13                               | Autob. Journal                            | 1971                  |
| b. 13                               | "Beauty at a Bargain"                     | 1948-1951             |
| b. 13                               | <i>The Bermudian</i>                      | 1932-1934             |
| b. 14                               | "Blockade"                                | 1930-1940             |
| b. 14                               | "A Bout With a Bear"                      | 1950-1951             |
| b. 14                               | "A Cabin in the Wilderness"               | 1947-1951             |
| b. 14                               | <i>Destiny of an Indian Village</i>       | 1933-1945             |
| b. 14                               | <i>Dildo Cay</i><br><i>7 Folders</i>      | 1939-1950             |
| b. 14                               | "First Buck"                              | 1948-1949             |
| b. 14                               | <i>Guns and Hunting</i>                   | 1966-1970             |
| b. 14                               | Hayes, Nelson                             | 1930                  |

## Correspondence Relating to Writings (continued)

|       |                                                 |                  |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| b. 14 | Houghton Mifflin Co.                            | 1936-1946        |
| b. 15 | Houghton Mifflin Co.                            | 1936-1946        |
| b. 15 | "An Island of Our Own"<br><i>3 Folders</i>      | 1963-1970        |
| b. 15 | Magazines                                       | 1947-1951        |
| b. 15 | "Marcus Aurelius"                               | 1968-1971        |
| b. 15 | "Mayday in March"                               | 1968-1971        |
| b. 15 | Meador, Frank                                   | 1947-1948        |
| b. 15 | "The Nature of the Beast"                       | 1968-1970        |
| b. 15 | "Operation Hemorrhoids"                         | 1949-1950        |
| b. 15 | Otis, Elizabeth (agent)                         | 1946-1947        |
| b. 15 | "Point of Departure"                            | 1965-1967        |
| b. 15 | Portraits, Inc.                                 | 1953 February 18 |
| b. 15 | Prominent people                                | 1928-1949        |
| b. 15 | <i>The Roof of the Wind</i><br><i>3 Folders</i> | 1961-1968        |
| b. 15 | Saunders, Marion (agent)                        | 1943-1947        |
| b. 15 | Shipway, George                                 | 1969-1971        |
| b. 15 | "Small Fry"                                     | 1950-1951        |
| b. 16 | "Spanceled"                                     | 1947-1951        |
| b. 16 | "Stronghold of Sail"                            | 1971             |
| b. 16 | <i>Vermont Life</i>                             | 1954             |
| b. 16 | "The Weaning of Laura Treat"                    | 1947-1951        |
| b. 16 | <i>The Writer</i>                               | 1954             |
| b. 16 | <i>Yachting</i><br><i>4 Folders</i>             | 1955-1961        |
| b. 16 | Writing (miscellaneous)<br><i>14 Folders</i>    | 1933, undated    |

**Series II: Writings, 1920-1973***5.63 linear feet (14 boxes)*

Series II, Writings, contains research files and drafts for various forms of work, such as articles, poems, short stories, and published and unpublished novels. Aside from early notes and poems dating from Hayes's time as a student at Yale, most writings date from the early 1930s to early 1970s.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

|       |                                                   |                  |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| b. 17 | "Afloat and Ashore"                               | undated          |
| b. 17 | "An Afternoon With Dr. Beebe"                     | 1973 December    |
| b. 17 | "America Acquitted"                               | 1931 November    |
| b. 17 | "As a Matter of Fact"                             | 1932 February    |
| b. 17 | "Bid For Freedom"<br><i>3 Folders</i>             | undated          |
| b. 17 | Block prints<br><i>3 Folders</i>                  | undated          |
| b. 17 | <i>Blockade</i><br><i>2 Folders</i>               | 1933, undated    |
| b. 18 | "Brass-Wing"                                      | 1973 December    |
| b. 18 | Church Story                                      | 1967 April 16    |
| b. 18 | "The Dedication of St. Anne's"                    | 1968 November 24 |
| b. 18 | "The Enemy Within"                                | 1970 August 29   |
| b. 18 | <i>Five Novels Monthly</i> story                  | 1931 October     |
| b. 18 | "Four O'Clock Needle"                             | 1932             |
| b. 18 | "Going Through"                                   | 1932 March       |
| b. 18 | "His Own Funeral"                                 | 1931 August      |
| b. 18 | "An Island of Our Own"<br><i>6 Folders</i>        | undated          |
|       | "Caribbean Junket"<br>Stored in: Oversize, Box 37 | 1940             |
| b. 19 | "An Island of Our Own"<br><i>1 Folder</i>         | undated          |
| b. 19 | "Last Stand in Vermont"                           | 1940             |
| b. 19 | "The Last of El Porvenir"                         | 1931 February    |
| b. 19 | "Log Cabin"                                       | 1947             |
| b. 19 | "The Man Who Wouldn't Work"                       | 1931 August      |



|       |                                                      |                       |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 20 | "Marcus Aurelius"<br><i>6 Folders</i>                | 1964-1970,<br>undated |
| b. 21 | "A Mayday in March"                                  | undated               |
| b. 21 | "Murder on Noomea"                                   | 1930                  |
| b. 21 | "Nature of the Beast"                                | 1971                  |
| b. 21 | Notes for New Stories                                | 1954, undated         |
| b. 21 | "The Old Woman and the Sea"                          | 1955                  |
| b. 21 | "On Cruising the Bahamas"                            | undated               |
| b. 21 | "On the Rebound"                                     | undated               |
| b. 21 | "Operation Hemorrhoids"                              | 1973 December         |
| b. 21 | "Our Master 85"                                      | undated               |
| b. 21 | "The Pequot Captives"                                | undated               |
| b. 21 | Poems, Early                                         | 1923-1926             |
| b. 21 | "Point of Departure"                                 | undated               |
| b. 21 | Reviews                                              | 1935-1940             |
| b. 21 | <i>Rhapsody in Andros</i><br><i>2 Folders</i>        | 1952                  |
| b. 21 | "Rhythmic Variation and the Natural Manner in Prose" | undated               |
| b. 22 | <i>The Roof of the Wind</i><br><i>3 Folders</i>      | 1955-1960             |
| b. 22 | "Small Fry"<br><i>2 Folders</i>                      | 1951, undated         |
| b. 23 | "Spanceled"<br><i>4 Folders</i>                      | 1939-1958,<br>undated |
| b. 24 | "Spanceled"<br><i>2 Folders</i>                      | 1950-1951             |
| b. 25 | "Spanceled"<br><i>2 Folders</i>                      | 1956-1957             |
| b. 26 | "Spanceled"<br><i>2 Folders</i>                      | 1961, 1963            |
| b. 26 | "Squid"                                              | 1930 August 7         |
| b. 27 | "A Stranger's Sojourn"<br><i>3 Folders</i>           | 1970-1971             |
| b. 28 | "A Stranger's Sojourn"                               | 1972                  |

|       |                                            |                       |
|-------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 28 | "The Surest Way to Get Your Buck"          | undated               |
| b. 28 | "T. E. W. B. T."                           | undated               |
| b. 28 | "Unearthed"<br><i>2 Folders</i>            | 1931-1932             |
| b. 29 | "The Way of a Man"                         | 1931 February         |
| b. 29 | "The Weaning of Laura Treat"               | 1952                  |
| b. 29 | "What Would You Have Done?"                | undated               |
| b. 29 | "What's Wrong"                             | 1963-1964             |
| b. 29 | "White Lies"                               | 1930                  |
| b. 29 | "Whitetails"                               | undated               |
| b. 29 | "Why My Mother Remarried"                  | 1931 July             |
| b. 29 | "The Winner"                               | undated               |
| b. 29 | "Woodcock"                                 | 1966                  |
| b. 29 | Fragments, notes, etc.<br><i>3 Folders</i> | 1920-1925,<br>undated |

**Series III: Journals, 1950-1973***2.29 linear feet (6 boxes)*

Series III, Journals, contains typescript copies of Hayes's journals covering the period from 1950 to 1970. Journals include research for writings, lists of illustrations, and indices, and are bound with original correspondence, photographs, and clippings dating from 1922 to 1973. Volumes are numbered in chronological order, with individual titles listed in folder headings below. The dates of the period covered are given in brackets, though inscriptions suggest that copies may have been made at a later date.

Arranged chronologically.

|       |                                                     |             |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| b. 30 | I-II. Crisis in Paradise<br><i>2 Folders</i>        | [1950-1951] |
| b. 30 | III. Rhapsody in Andros                             | [1951]      |
| b. 31 | IV. Rhapsody in Andros                              | [1951-1952] |
| b. 31 | V. Interlude                                        | [1953]      |
| b. 31 | VI. The Sea Beast Adventure                         | [1953-1954] |
| b. 32 | VII-IX. The Sea Beast Adventure<br><i>3 Folders</i> | [1953-1954] |
| b. 33 | X. The Difficult Baby Box                           | [1956-1957] |
| b. 33 | XI. Ordeal By Storm                                 | [1951-1960] |
| b. 34 | XII. Ordeal by Storm                                | [1960-1967] |
| b. 34 | XIII. The Enemy Within                              | [1965-1970] |
| b. 35 | XIV. Afterglow                                      | [1970-1973] |

**Series IV: Personal Papers, 1913-1971**

*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

Series IV, Personal Papers, contains a calendar, clippings or subject files on the Bahamas and the West, and notebooks. Additional clippings on "Public Issues" and the "Virgin Islands" can be found with general correspondence in Series I.

Arranged alphabetically by topic.

|       |                        |                          |
|-------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| b. 36 | Calendar               | undated                  |
| b. 36 | Clippings<br>2 Folders | 1971                     |
| b. 36 | Notebooks              | [circa 1913],<br>undated |

**Oversize**  
*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

|       |                    |      |
|-------|--------------------|------|
| b. 37 | "Caribbean Junket" | 1940 |
|-------|--------------------|------|

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## **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**

American literature -- 20th Century  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

### **Genres / Formats**

Photographic prints

### **Occupations**

Authors

### **Names**

Hayes, Nelson, 1903-1971