

Guide to the Maxwell E. Foster Papers

YCAL MSS 662



by Beinecke staff

2007-05-15

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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 |
| Maxwell E. Foster (1901-1983) | 4 |
| Scope and Contents | 5 |
| Arrangement | 5 |
| Collection Contents | 6 |
| May 2000 Acquisition, 1918-1982 | 6 |
| July 2000 Acquisition, 1809-1925 | 7 |
| Twisleton, Parkman, and Vaughan Family Papers | 7 |
| September 2003 Acquisition, 1928 October 16 | 10 |
| August 2005 Acquisition, undated | 11 |
| 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: YCAL MSS 662

CREATOR: Foster, Maxwell E., 1901-1983

TITLE: Maxwell E. Foster papers

DATES: 1809-1982

BULK DATES: 1850-1923

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6.63 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: Chiefly in English; some materials in French and Spanish.

SUMMARY: The papers consist of letters to Foster and material relating to the Parkman, Twisleton, and Vaughan families. Correspondents include James Latimer McLane, Jr., Charlton MacVeagh, Ellery Sedgwick, Anne Shiras, and others. Material relating to the Parkman, Twisleton, and Vaughan families include correspondence, financial and legal records, documents, and notebooks.

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

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.fosterm>.

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.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired primarily through purchase from Serendipity Books on the Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund, 2000. For more information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Maxwell E. Foster 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.

Preferred Citation

Maxwell E. Foster Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and in some instances minimal organization. Various acquisitions associated with the collection have not been merged and organized as a whole. Each acquisition is described separately in the contents list below, identified according to month and year of acquisition.

The finding aid for this collection is compiled from individual preliminary lists for each acquisition that were created at or around the time of receipt by the library. The preliminary lists were migrated to comply with current archival descriptive standards and merged into a single file in 2007-2008. As part of the migration, modifications were made to the formatting of individual lists; however, the content of the lists was neither modified nor verified.

As a rule, descriptive information found in the Collection Contents section is drawn in large part from information supplied with the collection 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 are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Former call numbers: Uncat MSS 61, Uncat MSS 89, Uncat Za File 674, and Uncat Za File 700.

Maxwell E. Foster (1901-1983)

Maxwell E. Foster was born 27 August 1901 in Manchester, Massachusetts to Reginald and Harriet (Lawrence) Foster. He was raised in Boston and educated at Groton, Yale University (1923), and Harvard Law School (1926). After passing the bar, Foster joined the Boston firm of Choate, Hall & Stewart, later becoming a partner in the firm. In 1942, he joined the Office of Price Administration (OPA) and later transferred to the Board of Economic Welfare. Later in life, he devoted himself to research in languages and literature. His literary publications include the posthumous *The Play Behind the Play: Hamlet and Quarto One* (1991).

Biographical information taken from printed obituary in collection.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of letters to Maxwell E. Foster and material relating to the Parkman, Twisleton, and Vaughan families. Correspondents include James Latimer McLane, Jr., Charlton MacVeagh, Ellery Sedgwick, Anne Shiras, and others. Materials relating to the Parkman, Twisleton, and Vaughan families include correspondence, financial and legal records, documents, and notebooks.

Arrangement

Organized into four groupings by date of acquisition: May 2000 Acquisition, July 2000 Acquisition, September 2003 Acquisition, and August 2005 Acquisition.

Collection Contents

May 2000 Acquisition, 1918-1982

0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

May 2000 Acquisition consists of letters to Foster from James Latimer McLane, Jr., Charlie MacVeagh, Jr., Charlton MacVeagh, Ellery Sedgwick and others, with the bulk of the letters dating from his undergraduate years at Yale University. Includes one letter from Foster to Charlton MacVeagh.

Former call number: Uncat MSS 89.

Purchased from Serendipity Books on the Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund.

Arranged alphabetically.

| | | |
|-----|---|-----------------------|
| b.1 | Foster, [Harriet (Lawrence)?] | undated |
| b.1 | McLane, James Latimer <i>23 Folders</i> | 1918-1922, undated |
| b.1 | MacVeagh, Charlie | 1919 November 12 |
| b.1 | MacVeagh, Charlton <i>23 Folders</i> | 1919-1923, undated |
| b.2 | Sedgwick, Ellery; Sedgwick, Shawn | 1919-1920, undated |
| b.2 | First name only | undated |
| b.2 | Unsorted correspondence <i>2 Folders</i> | 1919-1982, undated |
| b.2 | Printed ephemera | 1926, 1957 |

July 2000 Acquisition, 1809-1925*6 linear feet (6 boxes)*

July 2000 Acquisition consists of papers relating to the Parkman, Twisleton, and Vaughan families. The papers, dating chiefly from the 19th century, include correspondence, writings, financial records, photographs, and other material.

Former call number: Uncat MSS 61.

Purchased from Serendipity Books on the Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund.

Twisleton, Parkman, and Vaughan Family Papers

| | | |
|------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 3 | Abbot, Myra [Margaret] | 1809-1813 |
| b. 3 | Agassiz, Elizabeth | 1898 |
| b. 3 | Benjamin, S. S. | 1874 |
| b. 3 | Bliss, E. A. | undated |
| b. 3 | Bowditch, H. | undated |
| b. 3 | Bruen, Mary | undated |
| b. 3 | Bullard, Louisa A. | 1851 |
| b. 3 | Cabot, Bunny Elizabeth Dwight <i>2 Folders</i> | [circa 1840-1859] |
| b. 3 | Carlyle, Jane | undated |
| b. 3 | Coolidge, Sally T. | 1868, undated |
| b. 3 | "Cora" | undated |
| b. 3 | [Curran, M.?.] | 1848 |
| b. 3 | Curtis, Mary F. | 1848 |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Chapman | 1863 |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Edmund | 1815-1847 |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Edward [Thug Boy] | 1847-1862 |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Elizabeth and Mary | undated |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Mary E. | 1846-1848 |
| b. 3 | Dwight, D. | undated |
| b. 3 | Dwight, Mary and Edmund | 1823-1857, undated |
| b. 3 | Eliot, E. L. and Mary | undated |
| b. 3 | Eliot, Samuel A. | 1857 |
| b. 3 | Ellis, Ms. | 1862 |

Twisleton, Parkman, and Vaughan Family Papers (continued)

| | | |
|------|--|-------------------------------|
| b. 3 | Emerson, George B., Lucy and R. W. | 1848-1859, undated |
| b. 3 | Ford, Richard | [1854] |
| b. 3 | [French and Spanish letters] | 1855 |
| b. 3 | Gardiner, Mary C. | undated |
| b. 3 | Gisborne, Emily | undated |
| b. 3 | Green [in Rome] | 1859 |
| b. 3 | Guild, Eliza, Harriet, S. Eliot and Mary S. | undated |
| b. 3 | Hale, George S. and E. P. | undated |
| b. 3 | Henson, Madeline | 1858 |
| b. 3 | Howard, Lissie B. | 1850 |
| b. 3 | Jackson, Maria and Marianne | undated |
| b. 3 | Leigh, Ms. and Caroline | undated |
| b. 3 | "Lilly" | 1859 |
| b. 3 | Lodge, Henry Cabot | 1894 |
| b. 3 | Loring, William Caleb, Mary, and Jane L. | undated |
| b. 3 | Lowndes, Sarah B. | 1831 |
| b. 3 | MacIntosh, Mary | undated |
| b. 3 | Mills, Anna, Arthur, Charles, Achilles <i>2 Folders</i> | 1841-1849, undated |
| b. 3 | Minot, Kate and William | [circa 1890] |
| b. 3 | Morrison, Samuel Eliot | 1925 |
| b. 3 | Norton, Catherine E. | undated |
| b. 3 | Parker, Emily | 1862 |
| b. 3 | Parkman, Mary E. <i>10 Folders</i> | [circa 1850-1899] |
| b. 4 | Parkman family <i>6 Folders</i> | [circa 1894-1899, undated] |
| b. 4 | Perkins, Fanny | undated |
| b. 4 | Perkins, Mary | undated |
| b. 4 | "Sally" | 1849 |
| b. 4 | "Sarah" [Sarah Parkman Coolidge?] | 1855-1860 |

Twisleton, Parkman, and Vaughan Family Papers (continued)

| | | |
|------|--|-----------------------|
| b. 4 | "Saye and Sele" | 1854 |
| b. 4 | Sedgwick, E. B. and Charles | 1831 |
| b. 4 | Shaw, Mary L. | undated |
| b. 4 | "Shelton" | 1842 |
| b. 4 | Sturgis, Sue | undated |
| b. 4 | Thayer, Caroline C. | 1850 |
| b. 4 | Thomas, Lucinda O. | undated |
| b. 4 | Ticknor, Anna E. | undated |
| b. 4 | Ticknor, George | 1857, undated |
| b. 4 | Tilton, Mrs. Abram | undated |
| b. 4 | Trowbridge, H. S. | undated |
| b. 4 | Twisleton, Caroline | undated |
| b. 4 | Twisleton, Edward | undated |
| b. 4 | Twisleton, Edward Turner Boyd | 1855 |
| b. 4 | Twisleton, Ellen Dwight <i>4 Folders</i> | 1858-1860, undated |
| b. 4 | Vaughan, S. | 1836 |
| b. 4 | Vaughan family <i>3 Folders</i> | [circa 1870-1925] |
| b. 4 | Wadsworth, E. A. | 1850 |
| b. 4 | Ware, John | 1851 |
| b. 4 | Unsorted correspondence, manuscripts, notes, bills, and receipts <i>5 Folders</i> | [circa 1857-1903] |
| b. 4 | Diary | 1862 |
| b. 5 | Vaughan family: unsorted correspondence <i>14 Folders</i> | [circa 1888-1907] |
| b. 6 | Vaughan family: unsorted correspondence <i>18 Folders</i> | [circa 1866-1924] |
| b. 7 | Vaughan family: unsorted correspondence <i>16 Folders</i> | [circa 1886-1907] |
| b. 8 | Vaughan family: unsorted correspondence <i>14 Folders</i> | [circa 1886-1907] |

September 2003 Acquisition, 1928 October 16

September 2003 Acquisition consists of a single typed letter signed to Foster from Anne Shiras.

Former call number: Uncat Za File 674.

Gift of Peter B. Howard and Matt Needle.

b. 8

Shiras, Anne

1928 October 16

August 2005 Acquisition, undated

August 2005 Acquisition consists of two autograph letters signed from Jane Carlyle to Mrs. Parkman.

Former call number: Uncat Za File 700.

Gift of Peter B. Howard.

b. 8

Carlyle, Jane to Mrs. Parkman

undated

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

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Foster, Maxwell E., 1901-1983
MacVeagh, Charlton, 1901-
McLane, James Latimer, 1898-
Sedgwick, Ellery, 1872-1960
Shiras, Anne

Families

Parkman family
Twisleton family
Vaughan family