

Guide to the Eleanor Chase Papers

YCAL MSS 748



by Andrea Benefiel and Lisa Conathan

2013

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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 748

CREATOR: Chase, Eleanor, 1903-1944

TITLE: Eleanor Chase papers

DATES: 1914-1996

BULK DATES: 1914-1944

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.67 linear feet (9 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers include correspondence, writings, photographs, and scrapbooks documenting the life and literary career of Eleanor Chase. Correspondence contains incoming letters to Eleanor Chase (1919 to 1943). Principal correspondents include W. Graham Robertson and Robert Benchley. Also included is one letter to Alexandra Fatio Taylor from Helen Keller, 1953. Writings consist chiefly of typescript drafts of novels, short stories, poetry, and drama, most of which were unpublished during Chase's lifetime. Photographs include portraits of Eleanor Chase and of literary critic Alexander Woolcott. Scrapbooks, which have been disbound, contain letters, photographs, and clippings related to Eleanor Chase, her writings, and her family.

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

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.chase>.

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
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Alexandra Taylor on the Eugene G. O'Neill Memorial Fund, 2000. Gift of Alexandra Taylor, 2003-2007.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Eleanor Chase 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

Eleanor Chase Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Former call numbers: Uncat MSS 25, Uncat MSS 972, Uncat Za File 609, Uncat Za File 673.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and arrangement, in 2013.

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.

Eleanor Chase (1903-1944)

Eleanor Chase Fatio, American novelist and socialite, was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on March 3, 1903 to Nia Sawyer and Charles Curry Chase. In 1928 she published her first novel, *Pennagan Place* (New York: J. H. Sears & Co.). Her second novel, *The Last of Wisdom* (New York: J. H. Sears & Co.) followed in 1932. Chase was a member of the Authors League and friend of Alexander Woolcott and Robert Benchley.

Eleanor Chase married the Swiss-born architect Maurice Fatio in 1929. The couple lived in New York and Palm Beach, Florida. She died on October 21, 1944 and was survived by her children, Alexandra Fatio Taylor and Maurice Pierre Fatio.

Additional biographical information can be found in *Eleanor of Palm Beach*, by Hubert Pryor ([Philadelphia, PA: Xlibris Corp., 2002).

Scope and Contents

The papers include correspondence, writings, photographs, and scrapbooks documenting the life and literary career of Eleanor Chase. Correspondence contains incoming letters to Eleanor Chase (1919 to 1943).

Principal correspondents include W. Graham Robertson and Robert Benchley. Also included is one letter to Alexandra Fatio Taylor from Helen Keller, 1953. Writings consist chiefly of typescript drafts of novels, short stories, poetry, and drama, most of which were unpublished during Chase's lifetime. Photographs include portraits of Eleanor Chase and of literary critic Alexander Woolcott. Scrapbooks, which have been disbound, contain letters, photographs, and clippings related to Eleanor Chase, her writings, and her family.

Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1919-1953. II. Writings, 1914-1944. III. Photographs and Scrapbooks, 1910-1996.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1919-1953

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Correspondence contains incoming letters to Eleanor Chase (1919 to 1943). Principal correspondents include W. Graham Robertson and Robert Benchley. Also included is one letter to Alexandra Fatio Taylor from Helen Keller, 1953.

Additional correspondence may be found in Scrapbooks (Series III.).

b. 1, f. 1-3	Chase, Eleanor	1919-1943
b. 1, f. 4	Taylor, Alexandra Fatio from Helen Keller	1953 October 20

Series II: Writings, 1914-1944*1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)*

Writings contain the autograph manuscript and typescript drafts and clippings of novels, short stories, poetry, and plays written by Eleanor Chase. A play adaptation of Chase's novel *Pennagan Place* written by Warren B. Duff is also included.

Additional writings may also be found in Scrapbooks listed below.

Organized into four subseries: Novels, Short Stories, Poetry, and Drama.

Novels

Arranged alphabetically by title.

b. 2, f. 5	"The Grove," bound typescript	undated
b. 2, f. 6-12	"The Moon Had a Golden Ring," typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 13-18	"The Moon Had a Golden Ring," typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 19	"Pennajam [sic] Place," chapter one, typescript draft	undated
Short Stories		
Arranged alphabetically by title.		
b. 3, f. 20	"Aftermath," typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 21	"Amends," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 22	"At Thy Sweet Voice," typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 23	"A Black Hat for Aunt Harriet," co-written with George Oppenheimer, typescript, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 24	"Doris," autograph manuscript	1924 December 7
b. 3, f. 25	"The Editor Is Not Responsible," typescript drafts	undated
b. 3, f. 26	"The Egoist," typescript drafts, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 27	"Enter Little Emily," typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 28	"Every Hyacinth the Garden Wears," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 29	"The Fall of the House of Hawkes," typescript drafts	undated
b. 3, f. 30	"Habit," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 3, f. 31	"Hide-Out," typescript drafts	undated
b. 3, f. 32	"His Chum," in the <i>Los Angeles Sunday Times</i> , newspaper clipping	1917 May 6
b. 3, f. 33	"His Heart to Hold," typescript	undated
b. 4, f. 34	"I Miss an Attic," typescript, with related clipping	1937; undated
b. 4, f. 35	"Making-Over Martie," typescript	undated

Short Stories (continued)

b. 4, f. 36	"The Marquis Buys a Rug," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 37	"Miss Finger and the Ministers," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 38	"Mrs. Ulysses," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 39	"Night-Shift," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 40	"Nothing To Do With It," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 41	"Object Lessons for Little Girls," typescript	undated
b. 4, f. 42	"One of the Crowd," typescript drafts	undated
b. 4, f. 43	"One of the Signers," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 44	"Pennagan Interlude," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 45	"Recess," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 46	"Seconds," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 47	"Something To Do," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 48	"The Son of the King of England," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 49	"Sonny Temple and Timothy Tucker," typescript	undated
b. 4, f. 50	"Thirty-Five," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 51	"Tivetson's Point of View," typescript, corrected	undated
b. 4, f. 52	"Values," typescript	undated
b. 4, f. 53	"Wedding Day," typescript, corrected	undated
<p>Poems</p> <p>Organized under two headings: Collected Poetry and Poems.</p> <p>Collected Poetry</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by title.</p>		
b. 4, f. 54	"Across the Way & Other Poems," typescript, with clipping	undated
b. 4, f. 55	"Arpeggio," autograph manuscript and typescript draft with clippings	1917, undated
b. 4, f. 56-57	"Heart Murmurs," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
<p>Poems</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by title.</p>		
b. 5, f. 58	"Ah, even then bemused by grief...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 59	"America is waking...," and "A new dress....," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated

Poems > Poems (continued)

b. 5, f. 60	"Anthony, Anthony...," "As every draft...," and "Autumn 1940...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 61	"The Canning Tower," newspaper clipping	undated
b. 5, f. 62	"Conscience is my counsellor...," and "Do you remember...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 63	"Does it prove...," "England...," and "Egypt's fair...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 64	"Forever...," "God knows...," and "Go softly...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 65	"Have you finished...," "How sweet a thing...," and "Here with twilight...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 66	"He loses another...," and "I cannot say of you...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 67	"I don't know what...," and "If I have smiled...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 68	"If I should suddenly...," and "I ran down the highway...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 69	"I had a ship...," "I cannot keep...," and "I always love...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 70	"I love within...," "I would be if...," "I live by prayer...," and "I've never been...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 71	"Knowing I love you...," "My heart...," and "My happiness...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 72	"My grandmother...," "Oh, plant a rose...," and "O, I'll be glad...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 73	"Once I made a...," "One shouldn't let...," and "Only one thing...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 74	"Paris on a...," "Parts are written...," and "Poem to Mother," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 75	"Right way or wrong way...," "So let me love you...," and "Strange what simple...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 76	"So we lie...," and "So if I say...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 77	"Solitude without...," "Too many times...," "This is at once...," and "They were so...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 78	"They cannot love...," "The wind blew wet...," and "The wind and the child...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 79	"The train gives...," "The summer still...," "There is this...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated

Poems > Poems (continued)

b. 5, f. 80	"There is no victory...," and "The colors of the world...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 81	"The morning dawned...," "The little leaves...," and "Trees in the spring...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 82	"Until the singing...," "Up the hill...," and "What if you had...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 83	"We shall not share...," "We might have loved...," and "We might mock...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 84	"Whatever gods are mine...," "What is life...," and "What strange obsession...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 85	"When I see the...," "When this is gone...," and "Where shall we look...," autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
b. 5, f. 86-88	Unsorted poems, autograph manuscript and typescript drafts	undated
Drama Arranged alphabetically by title.		
b. 5, f. 89	"I Came to Tell of Love," typescript	undated
b. 5, f. 90	"Marya," typescript	undated
b. 5, f. 91	"Those Who Marry," by Warren B. Duff, adapted from the novel <i>Pennagan Place</i> by Eleanor Chase, typescript, annotated	undated
b. 5, f. 92	Untitled play, typescript	undated

Series III: Photographs and Scrapbooks, 1910-1996*0.79 linear feet (4 boxes)*

Photographs and Scrapbooks contain black and white photographs of Eleanor Chase Fatio, literary critic Alexander Woolcott, and disbound scrapbooks containing letters, clippings and photographs relating to the life and family of Eleanor Chase Fatio.

Photographs		
b. 6, f. 93	Chase, Eleanor Also stored in Box 7, folder 97.	circa 1910-1937
b. 6, f. 94	Chase, Eleanor and Maurice Pierre Fatio, black and white photograph	1930
b. 6, f. 95	Woolcott, Alexander Also stored in Box 7, folder 98.	undated
b. 6, f. 96	Unidentified photographs of a woman and a dog, black and white photographs	undated
b. 7, f. 97-98	Oversize photographs	circa 1910-1937
Scrapbooks		
b. 8, f. 99-103	Scrapbook containing photographs, letters, and writings [disbound]	1914-1942
b. 9, f. 104-108	Scrapbook containing photographs, letters, and writings [disbound]	1934-1996

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
Scrapbooks

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Benchley, Robert, 1889-1945
Chase, Eleanor, 1903-1944
Fatio, Maurice, 1897-1943
Robertson, W. Graham
Woollcott, Alexander, 1887-1943