

# Guide to the Robert Dudley French Papers

MS 1264



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

January 2002

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1264

**CREATOR:** French, Robert Dudley, 1888-1954

**TITLE:** Robert Dudley French papers

**DATES:** 1857-1983

**BULK DATES:** 1921-1954

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, writings, research notes, teaching materials, printed matter, a diary, a scrapbook, and photographs (1922-1952) comprise the papers. The teaching materials and the research notes reflect French's interest in Chaucer. A portion of the correspondence concerns Memorial Quadrangle at Yale, about which he published a book in 1929. There is also a substantial number of letters from students at Jonathan Edwards College, of which he was master from 1930 to 1953. Other correspondents are Robert Bates, John Philip Marchant and Emerson Tuttle.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1264>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1264>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

- b. box
- f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Dwight Blakeslee, 1981; gift of Bernard Lytton, 2001.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Robert Dudley French Papers (MS 1264). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robert Dudley French (1888-1954): professor of English; A.B., Yale, 1910, A.M., 1914, Ph.D., 1920; instructor in English, Yale, 1914-1919, assistant professor, 1919-1926, associate professor, 1926-1930, professor and master of Jonathan Edwards College, 1930-1953.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, writings, research notes, teaching materials, printed matter, a diary, a scrapbook, and photographs (1922-1952) comprise the papers. The teaching materials and the research notes reflect French's interest in Chaucer. A portion of the correspondence concerns Memorial Quadrangle at Yale, about which he published a book in 1929. There is also a substantial number of letters from students at Jonathan Edwards College, of which he was master from 1930 to 1953. Other correspondents are Robert Bates, John Philip Marchant and Emerson Tuttle.

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1857-1955

(2 boxes)

Preliminary Inventory by Tina Fagas, 1981 Apr

Received from: Dwight Blakesee, 1981 Jul 14

	Correspondence	1929-1930, 1936, 1938, 1950, undated
b. 1	Bates, Robert	undated
b. 1	Jonathan Edwards students	1943-1951, undated
b. 1	Lowell Lectures	1934
b. 1	Marchant, John Philip	1940-1945
b. 1	Memorial Quadrangle	1921-1930, undated
b. 1	Personal-Retirement	1946-1954
b. 1	Tuttle, Emerson	1944
b. 1	Emerson Tuttle Memorial	1946 May 29
	Writings, Lectures and Research Materials	
b. 1	<i>House of Fame</i> English	1930-1932
b. 1	Bibliographies, Course Materials	1930-1936, undated
b. 1	Lowell Lectures	1937
b. 1	English 112	1938-1940
b. 1	Chaucer: Miscellaneous Notes	1939-1940, 1946
b. 1	English 31	1939-1940
b. 1	English II: Chaucer	1941-1942
b. 1	English 30a	1941-1942
b. 1	English 30 and 31 [11 folders]	1944-1952
b. 1	Lecture Notes	1950
b. 1	English 30 [2 folders]	1950-1951
b. 1	<i>The Diary of a Wandering Philosopher</i>	1954

## Writings, Lectures and Research Materials (continued)

b. 1	Canturbury Tales, Croft Classics Text Collection	undated
b. 1	Canturbury Tales, Framing	undated
b. 1	Chaucer: For Investigation	undated
b. 1	Chaucer: Pronunciation	undated
b. 1	Curtis, J.T., [ed.] <i>The Vision of Piers Plowman</i>	undated
b. 1	English 30	undated
b. 1	Lectures on Sundry Occasions	undated
b. 1	Manuscript	undated
b. 1	Notes on the Jacobite Journal	undated
b. 1	Passus VI [2 folders]	undated
b. 1	St. Thomas: <i>Summa Cantro Gentiles</i>	undated
b. 1	<i>Somnecasia</i> or <i>The House of Sleep</i>	undated
b. 1	<i>Troilus and Criseyde</i>	undated
b. 1	W.L.H. # 107	undated
b. 1	Work in Progress	undated
b. 1	Writings by others	1928, undated
b. 1	Class lists of Jonathan Edwards	1953-1955
b. 1	Estate of Patricia C. Means	1937-1941
b. 1	Material relating to Avon Old Farms	1929-1930
b. 1	Drawings	undated
b. 1	Osborn, R.C., Drawings	1926-1927
	Printed Matter	
b. 1	College Plan	1929-1930
b. 1	Clippings	1929-1946, undated
b. 1	Memorabilia	1930-1946
b. 1	Birth and Wedding Announcements of Jonathan Edwards Students	1948-1950, undated
b. 1	Chaucer: Equatorie of the Planets	1952
b. 1	Chaucer: Research Report No. 14 Committee on Research and Bibliography of the Chaucer Group of the Modern Language Association of America	1953
b. 1	Diary	[undated]

## Printed Matter (continued)

b. 2	Retirement	1953
b. 2	Obituaries	1954
b. 2	Scrapbook	1857-1910
b. 2	Photographs [4 folders]	1922-1952, undated

**Accession 2002-M-035: Additional Material**

## Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	Family, 1946, n.d.
b. 1, f. 2	Curtis, Edward Ely, 1946-1948
b. 1, f. 3	Goldberger, Paul, 1983
b. 1, f. 4	Menner, Robert J., 1939
b. 1, f. 5-6	Retirement [Congratulatory letters, clippings], 1953
b. 1, f. 7	Tinker, Chauncey Brewster, 1946, n.d.
b. 1, f. 8	White, Helen, 1930, n.d.
b. 1, f. 9	Unidentified, 1926-1949
b. 1, f. 10	Humor, n.d.
b. 1, f. 11	Memorabilia, 1941-1942
b. 1, f. 12	Photographs [Jonathan Edwards College], n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	Writings of others, 1928, 1941



## **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.

### **Geographic Names**

Memorial Quadrangle (Yale University)

### **Genres / Formats**

Diaries

Scrapbooks

### **Subjects**

Educators

### **Names**

Bates, Robert Chapman, 1901-1942

Chaucer, Geoffrey, -1400

French, Robert Dudley, 1888-1954

Marchant, John Philip

Tuttle, H. E. (Henry Emerson), 1890-1946

### **Corporate Bodies**

Jonathan Edwards College (Yale University)

Yale University. Department of English

Yale University -- Faculty

Yale University -- Students