

Guide to the Ralph Bates Papers

GEN MSS 1013



by Karen Spicher

2013 December

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

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1013

CREATOR: Bates, Ralph, 1899-2000

TITLE: Ralph Bates Papers

DATES: 1930-2002

BULK DATES: 1960-1995

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5.64 linear feet (14 boxes)

LANGUAGE: Chiefly in English, with some materials in Arabic.

SUMMARY: The Papers contain correspondence with literary colleagues and family, most 1960s-1990s; drafts and reviews of novels and short stories, 1960s-2000; writings of others about Bates, most 1980s-1990s; audiocassettes of lectures by Bates about literature, 1960s-1970s, and interviews with him about his life and writings, 1980s; personal papers, including biographical information and legal documents, 1930s-1970s; a few photographs and documents concerning his International Brigade service during the Spanish Civil War; and materials relating to Jonathan Bates's imprisonment in Syria, 1972-1974, including correspondence with American and Syrian officials, legal documents, notes, and clippings.

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

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.batesr>.

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
■■■■■ item barcode

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from William Reese Co. on the George Henry Nettleton Fund, 2003.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Boxes 13-14 (audiocassettes): Use of originals is restricted. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Ralph Bates 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

Ralph Bates Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Former call number: Uncat Mss 431. In 2013, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization. Most folder titles were based on information provided by the vendor, while some were assigned by Library staff. Folder titles were not verified against contents.

Ralph Bates (1899-2000)

English author; wrote novels about Spain; served with Republican forces in the Spanish Civil War; professor of creative writing and English literature at New York University, 1947-1966; later lived in Naxos, Greece. Bates was married to Eve Salzman; their son Jonathan Bates was imprisoned in Syria on charges of espionage, 1972-1974.

Scope and Contents

The Papers contain correspondence with literary colleagues and family, most 1960s-1990s; drafts and reviews of novels and short stories, 1960s-2000; writings of others about Bates, most 1980s-1990s; audiocassettes of lectures by Bates about literature, 1960s-1970s, and interviews with him about his life and writings, 1980s; personal papers, including biographical information and legal documents, 1930s-1970s; a few photographs and documents concerning his International Brigade service during the Spanish Civil War; and materials relating to Jonathan Bates's imprisonment in Syria, 1972-1974, including correspondence with American and Syrian officials, legal documents, notes, and clippings.

Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Correspondence, 1960s-1990s. II. Writings, 1964-2000. III. Writings of Others, 1943-1996. IV. Personal Papers, 1930-2002. V. Papers Relating to Jonathan Bates's Imprisonment in Syria, 1972-1974.

Collection Contents

Correspondence, 1960s-1990s

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Contains incoming correspondence, with some outgoing drafts and carbons, and some third-party correspondence of Eve Salzman. Some letters are accompanied by writings of others.

See also additional correspondence in the Writing series and the Papers Relating to Jonathan Bates's Imprisonment in Syria series.

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent name, followed by unsorted correspondence.

b. 1, f. 1	Bates, Jonathan See also: Papers Relating to Jonathan Bates's Imprisonment	1977-1989, undated
b. 1, f. 2	Behrend, Hanna	1984-1991, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Chatto & Windus	1988-1989
b. 1, f. 4	Hart-Davis, Rupert	1982, 1984
b. 1, f. 5	Klaus, H. Gustav Includes letter from Bates to Klaus about Stephen Spender	1979-1988
b. 1, f. 6	Manetti, Daniela	1987
b. 1, f. 7	Miró, Micheline	1988-1994, undated
b. 1, f. 8	Oxford University Press	1998 June 23
b. 1, f. 9	Rollyson, Carl E. (Carl Edmund)	1992-1994
b. 1, f. 10	Ross, Alan	1988
b. 1, f. 11	West, Rebecca	1982
b. 1, f. 12-15	Unsorted	1960s-1990s

Writings, 1964-2000, undated

3.13 linear feet (7.5 boxes)

Writings listed by title include drafts and reviews of novels; drafts and printed clippings of short stories and poems; and an audio recording of a short story draft. Some unpublished writings are listed under working titles. Other writings include unidentified short stories and unsorted review of novels.

Boxes 13 and 14 contain audiovisual material (audiocassettes). Restricted fragile. Reference copies are available upon request. Consult Access Services for further information.

Arranged alphabetically by title, followed by lectures, arranged chronologically; other writings, arranged by genre; and unsorted writings.

b. 2, f. 16-20	"Aquarius." Typescript photocopy "Working title"
b. 2, f. 21	"Beer Song." Autograph manuscript
b. 2, f. 22	"The Burning Corn" (short story). Printed, with revisions
b. 2, f. 23-25	"Conquistidor" (novel). Autograph manuscript
b. 3, f. 26	"Conversations in Mexico" (article). Printed
b. 3, f. 27	"Death of a Virgin" (novella). Printed
b. 3, f. 28	<i>The Dolphin in the Wood</i> (novel). Clippings of reviews
b. 3, f. 29	"Elly Constantinos." Autograph manuscript Also titled: "Eleni Konstantinos"
b. 3, f. 30-34	<i>The Fields of Paradise</i> (novel). Notes and drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript
b. 4, f. 35	<i>The Fields of Paradise</i> (novel). Clippings of reviews
b. 4, f. 36	"Flight into Egypt" (short story). Drafts, computer printout
b. 4, f. 37	"The Heart Pierced Through" (short story). Printed
b. 4, f. 38	"The Haunted Man" (novella). Autograph manuscript and typescript, revised
b. 4, f. 39-42	"In Shining Naxos" (memoir). Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, revised
b. 5, f. 43-46	"In Shining Naxos" (memoir). Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, revised
b. 5, f. 47-48	"The Journey to Mount Diadem" (novel). Drafts, autograph manuscript and typescript, revised
b. 6, f. 49-50	"Journey to the Sandalwood Forest" (novel). Typescript carbon, revised
b. 6, f. 51	<i>Lean Men</i> (novel). Clippings of reviews
b. 6, f. 52-53	"The Little She-Elephant" (short story). Printed
b. 6, f. 54	"Manhattan Underground" (novella). Drafts, typescript, revised

b. 13, f. 55, ■■■■ 39002099369382	Bates' "Maria", 1st version <i>1 Audiocassette 01:26:30 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> High background noise can be heard on the tape. Silence from 47:54-50:04 and again from 1:08:40-1:25:38. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369382a.u.mp3 The case reads, "His last attempt to write, or create a story, dictated to Jonathan Bates, early in 2000. Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	2000
b. 6, f. 56	"Maria's Story" (short story). Computer printout, revised	
b. 6, f. 57	<i>The Olive Field</i> (novel). Printed excerpts, photocopy	
b. 6, f. 58	<i>The Olive Field</i> (novel). Clippings of reviews	
b. 6, f. 59-62	"Peter Cavallini." Typescript, revised	
b. 7, f. 63	<i>Rainbow Fish</i> (novel). Clippings of reviews	
b. 7, f. 64	<i>Sirocco and Other Stories</i> (short story collection). Book jackets, photocopy	
b. 7, f. 65-66	<i>Sirocco and Other Stories</i> (short story collection). Clippings of reviews	
b. 7, f. 67	<i>The Undiscoverables and Other Stories</i> (short story collection). Clippings of reviews	
b. 7, f. 68	"The Winged Mountain" (collection of poems). Computer printout	
	Lectures Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies are available upon request. Consult Access Services for further information.	
b. 13, f. 69, ■■■■ 39002099369390	Audio-Forum. "The House of Atreus & the Great Chain of Evil" (1 of 2) <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:15 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static can be heard on the tape. A high amount of hiss is on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369390a.u.mp3 Given at the University of California, Santa Cruz Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1968
b. 13, f. 70, ■■■■ 39002099369408	Audio-Forum. "The House of Atreus & the Great Chain of Evil" (2 of 2) <i>1 Audiocassette 00:46:59 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static and a high amount of hiss can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369408a.u.mp3 Given at the University of California, Santa Cruz Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1968

Lectures (continued)

b. 13, f. 71, [REDACTED] 39002099369416	Audio-Forum Sound Seminars. "Odysseus: The Eternal Optimist and Searcher for Truth" <i>1 Audiocassette 01:24:31 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static and a high amount of hiss can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369416a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1970
b. 13, f. 72, [REDACTED] 39002099369424	"A Weekend in Hell" I, New York University, Tarrytown (1 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:29:52 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] genmss101339002099369424a.u.mp3 Seminar on hell as a subject in the arts. Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1967 April 15-16
b. 13, f. 73, [REDACTED] 39002099369432	"A Weekend in Hell" II, 1, New York University, Tarrytown (2 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:14:09 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static and buzz can be heard on the tape. The program is distorted at times. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369432a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1967 April 15-16
b. 13, f. 74, [REDACTED] 39002099369457	"A Weekend in Hell" II, 2, New York University, Tarrytown (3 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 00:45:29 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Static can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369457a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1967 April 15-16
b. 13, f. 75, [REDACTED] 39002099369440	"A Weekend in Hell" III, New York University, Tarrytown (4 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:23:18 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] genmss101339002099369440a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1967 April 15-16
b. 13, f. 76, [REDACTED] 39002099369465	"Greek Tragedy: Origins and Development". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (1 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:06:30 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] genmss101339002099369465a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1964
b. 13, f. 77, [REDACTED] 39002099369473	"Aeschylus". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (2 of 4) <i>1 Audiocassette 01:03:30 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] genmss101339002099369473a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated

Lectures (continued)

- | | | |
|--|---|---------|
| b. 13, f. 78, [REDACTED]
39002099369481 | <p>"Sophocles". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (3 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette</i>
 There is silence on the tape from 00:03-01:02. A high amount of hum can be heard.
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369481a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | undated |
| b. 13, f. 79, [REDACTED]
39002099369499 | <p>"Euripides". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (4 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette 01:07:28 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369499a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | undated |
| b. 14, f. 80, [REDACTED]
39002099369507 | <p>"The Epic in Literature". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (1 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette 00:56:17 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
 Static and buzz can be heard on the tape.
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369507a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | 1964 |
| b. 14, f. 81, [REDACTED]
39002099369515 | <p>"Paradise Lost" and "The Aeneid". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (2 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette 01:11:07 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
 The program is distorted at times. Static and a high amount of hum can be heard on the tape. A high amount of hiss is on the tape.
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369515a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | 1964 |
| b. 14, f. 82, [REDACTED]
39002099369523 | <p>"The Aeneid". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (3 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette 01:21:23 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369523a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | 1964 |
| b. 14, f. 83, [REDACTED]
39002099369531 | <p>"The Odyssey: A Modern Sequel". Lecture Series. Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y, New York City (4 of 4)
 <i>1 Audiocassette 01:04:12 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i>
 A high amount of hiss can be heard on the tape.
 [Aviary] genmss101339002099369531a.u.mp3
 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.</p> | 1964 |

Other Writings

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| b. 7, f. 84-85 | Lists of writings |
| b. 7, f. 86 | Short stories |
| b. 7, f. 87-88 | Short stories. German translations by Hanna Behrend |

Other Writings (continued)

b. 8, f. 89-92 Unsorted

b. 8, f. 93 Unsorted reviews

Writings of Others, 1943-1996, undated*1.04 linear feet (2.5 boxes)*

b. 8, f. 94	Manetti, Daniela. Academic thesis on writings of Ralph Bates. Printed In Italian.	1980s
b. 9, f. 95-96	Miró, Micheline. <i>Le mexique et la litterature anglaise de Lawrence a Lowry</i> . Dissertation, printed	1988
b. 10, f. 97	Miró, Micheline. <i>Le mexique et la litterature anglaise de Lawrence a Lowry</i> . Dissertation, printed	1988
b. 10, f. 98-99	Miró, Micheline. "Nouvelles d'Espagne par Ralph Bates." Computer printout	1996
b. 10, f. 100-102	Articles about Ralph Bates. Clippings and photocopies	1978-1991, undated
b. 10, f. 103-104	Unsorted	1943-1995, undated

Personal Papers, 1930-2002, undated*0.63 linear feet (1.5 boxes)*

Includes biographical information and obituaries; audiocassettes of interviews with Bates; identification documents; and an International Brigade discharge document and photographs relating to his service in the Spanish Civil War.

Box 14 contains audiovisual material (audiocassettes). Restricted fragile. Reference copies are available upon request. Consult Access Services for further information.

b. 11, f. 105	Audio-Forum	undated
b. 14	Biographical audiotape recordings: conversations with Daniela Manetti, Fiesole, Italy <i>10 Audiocassettes</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies are available upon request. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 106, ■■■ 39002099369549	One <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:13 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> A high amount of background noise can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369549a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 107, ■■■ 39002099369556	Two <i>1 Audiocassette 00:47:52 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> The program is distorted at times. High background noise can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369556a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 108, ■■■ 39002099369564	Three <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:03 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> High background noise can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369564a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 109, ■■■ 39002099369572	Four <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:10 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> A high amount of background noise can be heard on the tape. A buzz in the program can be heard. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369572a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 110, ■■■ 39002099369580	Five <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:35 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> High background noise can be heard. Static and buzz can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369580a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989

Biographical audiotape recordings: conversations with Daniela Ma [...] (continued)

b. 14, f. 111, ■■■ 39002099369598	Six <i>1 Audiocassette 00:48:27 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> High background noise can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369598a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 112, ■■■ 39002099369606	Seven <i>1 Audiocassette 00:47:39 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> High background noise can be heard on the tape. The audio, at times, sounds unclear or hollow. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369606a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 113, ■■■ 39002099369614	Eight <i>1 Audiocassette 01:02:37 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> [Aviary] genmss101339002099369614a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 114, ■■■ 39002099369622	Nine <i>1 Audiocassette 01:30:30 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> The program is distorted at times. High background noise can be heard on the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369622a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 115, ■■■ 39002099369630	Ten <i>1 Audiocassette 01:13:54 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> The program is distorted at times. High background noise can be heard on the tape. The right channel was recorded at a lower level for the last 28 minutes of the tape. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369630a.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1988-1989
b. 14, f. 116, ■■■ 39002099369648	Ralph Bates: Recollections, Conversation with son Jonathan <i>1 Audiocassette 00:58:37 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> A high amount of hum is on the tape. A high amount of background noise can be heard. [Aviary] genmss101339002099369648.u.mp3 Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies are available upon request. Consult Access Services for further information. Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1989 December
b. 11, f. 117	Other biographical information	1981-2002, undated
b. 11, f. 118	Identification documents	1930-1973, undated

b. 11, f. 119-120	Kunst und Macht (exhibition, Deutsches Historisches Museum) Includes photographs of Ralph Bates. Includes letters from Peter Hillebrand.	1996
b. 11, f. 121	Obituaries	2000-2001
b. 11, f. 122	Spain Includes photographs of Ralph Bates in Spain, 1936-1938	1936-1938, undated

Papers Relating to Jonathan Bates's Imprisonment in Syria, 1972-1974, undated

0.42 linear feet (1.5 boxes)

Most materials are in English; a few are in Arabic.

Also see correspondence with Jonathan Bates in the Correspondence series.

Arranged roughly chronologically.

b. 11, f. 123-130 Correspondence and other papers

1972-1974,
undated

b. 12, f. 131-133 Correspondence and other papers

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, English -- 20th Century -- Archives
Prisoners -- Syria

Geographic Names

Spain -- History -- Civil War, 1936-1939
Spain -- History -- Civil War, 1936-1939 --
Literature and the war
Spain -- History -- Civil War, 1936-1939 --
Participation, British
Spain -- History -- Civil War, 1936-1939 --
Personal narratives, British
Syria -- Foreign relations -- United States
United States -- Foreign relations -- Syria

Genres / Formats

Audiocassettes -- United States -- 20th
Century
Audiovisual materials -- United States -- 20th
Century
Photographs -- 20th Century

Occupations

Authors -- England -- 20th Century

Names

Bates, Jonathan, 1942-
Bates, Ralph, 1899-2000
Behrend, Hanna, 1933-
Hart-Davis, Rupert, 1907-1999
Klaus, H. Gustav, 1944-
Ross, Alan, 1922-2001
Salzman, Eve
West, Rebecca, 1892-1983