

# Guide to the Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries

GEN MSS 886



by Karen Spicher

2007-05-15

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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 886

**CREATOR:** Croom-Johnson, Norman

**TITLE:** Norman Croom-Johnson diaries

**DATES:** 1886-1962

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 34.41 linear feet (89 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries consist of 217 autograph manuscript volumes, including 211 diaries with daily entries, 1905 January 1-1962 August 7; three volumes containing lists of theater, concerts, and other events attended by Croom-Johnson, 1901-1960; and three volumes containing a daily log of his residences and travels, 1886-1962. Early volumes are copies made by Croom-Johnson from his original diaries, with additional notes made at the time of copying. Entries concern Croom-Johnson's personal and professional life, travel, political events, the Savile Club, and interests in literature, theater and music. Each volume ends with a list of events attended by Croom-Johnson, noting dates, venues, and performers. Affixed to pages are materials relating to the diary entries, including newspaper clippings concerning legal cases, political events, and sports events; newspaper clippings of theater and music reviews; theater and concert programs; illustrated postcards from his travels; letters to Croom-Johnson; and photographs of him, his family, and friends.

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

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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.croom>.

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

Formerly owned by Clarissa Bell, 1962-1963, and the Savile Club, 1963-2003. Purchased from Maggs Brothers on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2003.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Yale University purchased literary rights, including copyright, from Maggs Brothers in 2003, when the Diaries were acquired by the Library. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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### Preferred Citation

Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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### Processing Information

This collection was formerly classed as Uncat Mss 540 and was formerly titled Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries, Scrapbooks, Travelogues. In 2005, the collection received a preliminary level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization. A preliminary finding aid was compiled from lists created at the time of receipt by the Library. Folder titles were based on information provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles were not verified against the contents of folders.

In 2012, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including rehousing and reorganization. The collection was reclassified, folder titles were revised, and containers were renumbered.

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## Norman Croom-Johnson (1886-1962)

Norman Croom-Johnson, British solicitor. Croom-Johnson practiced law in London and was a member of the Savile Club, 1920-1962. He began his diary in Wrexham, Wales, on 1905 January 1, and continued writing daily entries until several weeks before his death in London on 1962 September 13.

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## Scope and Contents

The Norman Croom-Johnson Diaries consist of 217 autograph manuscript volumes, including 211 diaries with daily entries, 1905 January 1-1962 August 7; three volumes containing lists of theater, concerts, and other events attended by Croom-Johnson, 1901-1960; and three volumes containing a daily log of his residences and travels, 1886-1962. Early volumes are copies made by Croom-Johnson from his original diaries, with additional notes made at the time of copying. Entries concern Croom-Johnson's personal and professional life, travel, political events, the Savile Club, and interests in literature, theater and music. Each volume ends with a list of events attended by Croom-Johnson, noting dates, venues, and performers. Affixed to pages are materials relating to the diary entries, including newspaper clippings concerning legal cases, political events, and sports events; newspaper clippings of theater and music reviews; theater and

concert programs; illustrated postcards from his travels; letters to Croom-Johnson; and photographs of him, his family, and friends.

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## Collection Contents

### Diaries, 1886-1962

34.41 linear feet (89 boxes)

Diaries are arranged chronologically, followed by other volumes.

b.1	Diary	1905 January 1- December 31
b.1	Diary	1906 January 1- July 10
b.1	Diary	1906 July 11- December 31
b.2	Diary	1907 January 1- June 30
b.2	Diary	1907 July 1- December 31
b.2	Diary	1908 January 1- May 31
b.3	Diary	1908 August 13-26
b.3	Diary	1908 June 1- August 12, August 27- December 31
b.3	Diary	1909 January 1- July 30
b.4	Diary	1909 July 31- December 31
b.4	Diary	1910 January 1- March 22
b.4	Diary	1910 March 23- May 31
b.5	Diary	1910 August 7-23
b.5	Diary	1910 June 1- August 6, August 23- December 31
b.5	Diary	1911 January 1- April 11
b.6	Diary	1911 April 12-19

b. 6	Diary	1911 April 20- August 25
b. 6	Diary	1911 August 26- December 31
b. 7	Diary	1912 January 1- June 30
b. 7	Diary	1912 July 1- December 31
b. 7	Diary	1913 January 1- May 31
b. 8	Diary	1913 June 1- September 15
b. 8	Diary	1913 September 16-December 31
b. 8	Diary	1914 January 1- June 30
b. 9	Diary	1914 July 1- December 31
b. 9	Diary	1915 January 1- December 31
b. 9	Diary	1916 January 1- December 31
b. 10	Diary	1917 January 1- December 31
b. 10	Diary	1918 January 1- December 31
b. 10	Accompanying material	1918 January 1- December 31
b. 11	Diary	1919 January 1- December 31
b. 12	Diary	1920 January 1- December 31
b. 12	Diary	1921 January 1- December 31
b. 13	Diary	1922 January 1-August 17, September 18- December 31
b. 13	Diary. Holiday tour to Switzerland and the Dolomites	1922 August 18- September 17

b. 14	Diary	1923 January 1–August 21, September 17– December 31
b. 15	Diary. Holiday tour in the Dolomites	1923 August 18– September 17
b. 15	Diary	1924 January 1– August 9
b. 15	Diary	1924 August 10– December 31
b. 16	Diary	1925 January 1– June 30
b. 16	Diary	1925 July 1– December 31
b. 17	Diary	1926 January 1– April 30
b. 17	Diary	1926 May 1– August 21, September 23– December 31
b. 17	Diary. Holiday at Saint-Jean-de-Luz	1926 August 22– September 22
b. 18	Diary	1927 January 1– May 31
b. 18	Diary. Mediterranean Cruise on R.M.S. Oronsay	1927 September 9–October 1
b. 19	Diary	1927 June 1– September 8, October 2– December 31
b. 19	Diary	1928 January 1– August 23
b. 20	Diary	1928 August 24– December 31
b. 21	Diary	1929 January 1– August 31
b. 21	Diary	1929 September 1–December 31
b. 21	Diary	1931 January 1– August 5
b. 22	Diary	1931 August 6– December 31



b. 22	Diary	1932 January 1- July 31
b. 22	Diary	1932 August 1- December 31
b. 23	Diary	1933 January 1- December 31
b. 23	Diary	1934 January 1- July 31
b. 24	Diary	1934 August 1- December 31
b. 25	Diary	1935 January 1- July 31
b. 25	Diary	1935 August 1- December 31
b. 25	Diary	1936 January 1- June 30
b. 26	Diary	1936 July 1- December 31
b. 26	Diary	1937 January 1- June 30
b. 26	Diary	1937 July 1- December 31
b. 27	Diary	1938 January 1- May 31
b. 27	Diary. Holiday journal	1938 August 29- September 25
b. 28	Diary	1938 June 1- December 31
b. 28	Diary	1939 January 1- July 2
b. 29	Diary	1939 July 3- December 31
b. 29	Diary	1940 January 1- May 30
b. 30	Diary	1940 May 31- September 26
b. 30	Diary	1940 September 27-December 31
b. 30	Diary	1941 January 1- June 30

b. 31	Diary	1941 July 1- December 31
b. 31	Diary	1942 January 1- June 30
b. 32	Diary	1942 July 1- September 6
b. 32	Diary	1942 September 7-December 31
b. 32	Diary	1943 January 1- April 29
b. 33	Diary	1943 April 30- August 27
b. 33	Diary	1943 August 28- December 31
b. 34	Diary	1944 January 1- May 31
b. 34	Diary	1944 June 1- August 31
b. 34	Accompanying material	1944 June 1- August 31
b. 34	Diary	1944 September 1-December 31
b. 35	Diary	1945 January 1- May 31
b. 35	Diary	1945 June 1- August 31
b. 35	Diary	1945 September 1-December 31
b. 36	Diary	1946 January 1- April 30
b. 36	Diary	1946 May 1- June 27, July 18- August 30
b. 37	Diary. Holiday journal: Denmark and Sweden	1946 June 28- July 6
b. 37	Diary. Holiday journal: Denmark and Sweden	1946 July 7-17
b. 38	Diary	1946 August 31- December 31

b. 38	Diary	1947 January 1-February 4, February 17- April 30
b. 39	Diary. Switzerland	1947 February 5-16
b. 40	Diary	1947 May 1- August 26
b. 40	Diary. Holiday journal: Holland and Belgium	1947 August 27-31
b. 40	Diary. Holiday journal: Holland and Belgium	1947 September 1-8
b. 41	Diary. Holiday journal: Holland and Belgium	1947 September 9-16
b. 41	Diary	1947 September 17-December 31
b. 41	Diary	1948 January 1- April 30
b. 42	Diary	1948 May 1- September 1
b. 42	Diary. France	1948 September 2-12
b. 43	Diary. France	1948 September 13-20
b. 43	Diary	1948 September 21-December 31
b. 43	Diary	1949 January 1- April 25
b. 44	Diary. Holland	1949 April 26- May 1
b. 44	Diary	1949 May 2- July 4, July 22- August 31
b. 44	Diary. France	1949 July 5-12
b. 45	Diary. France	1949 July 18-21
b. 46	Diary	1949 September 1-October 6, October 18- December 31
b. 46	Diary. Ireland	1949 October 7-17

b. 46	Diary	1950 January 1– March 28, April 14–30
b. 47	Diary. Italy (Milan)	1950 March 29– April 3
b. 47	Diary. Italy (Florence and Siena)	1950 April 4–7
b. 47	Diary. Italy	1950 April 8–13
b. 48	Diary	1950 May 1– September 2
b. 48	Diary. Austria	1950 September 3–13
b. 49	Diary. Austria	1950 September 14–23
b. 50	Diary	1950 September 24–December 31
b. 50	Diary	1951 January 1– March 31
b. 51	Diary	1951 April 1– May 15, June 1– August 20
b. 51	Diary. France	1951 May 16–23
b. 52	Diary. France	1951 May 24–31
b. 53	Diary	1951 August 21–September 26, October 11– November 2
b. 53	Diary. Paris	1951 September 27–October 3
b. 53	Diary. Paris	1951 October 4–10
b. 54	Diary	1951 November 3–December 31
b. 54	Diary	1952 January 1– March 31
b. 54	Diary	1952 April 1– May 9, June 4– August 10
b. 55	Diary. Italy	1952 May 10–27
b. 55	Diary. Italy	1952 May 28– June 3

b. 55	Diary	1952 August 11- 20, September 12-November 1
b. 56	Diary. Scotland	1952 August 30- September 5
b. 56	Diary. Scotland	1952 September 6-11
b. 56	Diary	1952 November 2-December 31
b. 57	Diary	1953 January 1- February 28
b. 57	Diary	1953 March 1- April 30
b. 57	Diary	1953 May 1-June 30
b. 58	Diary	1953 July 1- September 11
b. 58	Diary. Italy	1953 September 12-19
b. 58	Diary. Italy	1953 September 20-24
b. 59	Diary. Italy	1953 September 25-28
b. 59	Diary	1953 September 29-December 31
b. 59	Diary	1954 January 1- February 28
b. 60	Diary	1954 March 1- May 31
b. 60	Diary	1954 June 1- September 4
b. 60	Diary. Italy	1954 September 5-14
b. 61	Diary. Italy	1954 September 15-21
b. 61	Diary. Italy	1954 September 22-29
b. 61	Diary. Italy	1954 September 30-October 4

b. 62	Diary	1954 October 5- December 31
b. 62	Diary	1955 January 1- April 3
b. 62	Diary	1955 April 4- May 15
b. 63	Diary	1955 May 16- June 26, July 15- September 1
b. 63	Diary	1955 June 27- July 4
b. 63	Diary	1955 July 4-9
b. 64	Diary	1955 July 10-14
b. 64	Diary	1955 September 2-24, October 2- December 31
b. 64	Diary. Italy	1955 September 25-October 10
b. 65	Diary	1956 January 1- March 31
b. 65	Diary	1956 April 1-May 31
b. 66	Diary	1956 June 1-August 2, August 19-31
b. 66	Diary. Yugoslavia	1956 August 3-10
b. 66	Diary. Yugoslavia	1956 August 11-18
b. 67	Diary. Spain	1956 September 29-October 4
b. 67	Diary. Spain	1956 October 5-9
b. 67	Diary. Spain	1956 October 10-15
b. 68	Diary	1956 September 1-28, October 16-December 31
b. 68	Diary	1957 January 1- March 31

b. 68	Diary	1957 April 1-May 12
b. 69	Diary. Normandy and Brittany	1957 May 13-22
b. 69	Diary. Normandy and Brittany	1957 May 23-June 5
b. 69	Diary	1957 June 6-August 30
b. 70	Diary. Holiday in Italy	1957 September 13-19
b. 71	Diary. Holiday in Italy	1957 September 20-25
b. 71	Diary. Holiday in Italy	1957 September 26-30
b. 72	Diary	1957 August 31-September 12, October 1-December 31
b. 73	Diary	1958 January 1-March 31
b. 73	Diary	1958 April 1-May 31
b. 74	Diary	1958 June 1-August 15
b. 75	Diary. S.S. Hermes, Hellenic Cruise	1958 August 26-31
b. 75	Diary. S.S. Hermes, Hellenic Cruise	1958 September 1-7
b. 75	Diary. S.S. Hermes, Hellenic Cruise	1958 September 8-13
b. 76	Diary	1958 August 16-25, September 14-December 31
b. 76	Diary	1959 January 1-March 26
b. 76	Diary. Belgium	1959 March 27-31
b. 77	Diary	1959 April 1-May 31
b. 77	Diary	1959 June 1-July 31

b. 77	Diary	1959 August 1-October 5, December 11-31
b. 78	Diary. India	1959 October 6-20
b. 78	Diary. India	1959 October 21- November 10
b. 79	Diary. India	1959 November 11-December 4
b. 80	Diary. India	1959 December 5-10
b. 80	Diary	1960 January 1- April 4
b. 80	Diary. Greece	1960 April 5-9
b. 81	Diary. Greece	1960 April 10-14
b. 81	Diary. Greece	1960 April 15-19
b. 81	Diary. Greece	1960 April 20-23
b. 82	Diary	1960 April 24- July 31
b. 82	Diary	1960 August 1- November 4, November 27- December 31
b. 82	Diary. Tenerife and Spain	1960 November 5-14
b. 83	Diary. Tenerife and Spain	1960 November 15-26
b. 83	Diary	1961 January 1- March 27
b. 83	Diary. Spain	1961 March 28- April 5
b. 84	Diary. Spain	1961 April 6-8
b. 84	Diary. Spain	1961 April 9-17
b. 84	Diary	1961 April 18- July 27
b. 85	Diary	1961 July 28- September 7, September 25- December 31



b. 85	Diary. Bavaria and Austria	1961 September 8-13
b. 86	Diary. Bavaria and Austria	1961 September 14-18
b. 86	Diary. Bavaria and Austria	1961 September 19-24
b. 87	Diary	1962 January 1- April 17
b. 87	Diary	1962 April 18- August 7
b. 87	Accompanying material	1962 April 18- August 7
b. 88	"Record of Plays, Operas, Ballets, Concerts, Films, etc., Seen"	1901-1923
b. 88	"Record of Plays, Operas, Ballets, Concerts, Films, etc., Seen"	1924-1946
b. 88	"Record of Plays, Operas, Ballets, Concerts, Films, etc., Seen"	1947-1960
b. 88	"Record of Places Lived in or Visited"	1886-1937
b. 89	"Places Visited"	1938-1946
b. 89	Log of residences and travels	1905 January- 1962 September 12
b. 89	Unidentified	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**

Lawyers -- Great Britain  
Music -- Great Britain  
Theater -- Great Britain

### **Geographic Names**

Great Britain -- Politics and government -- 20th Century  
Great Britain -- Social life and customs -- 20th Century

### **Genres / Formats**

Diaries -- Great Britain -- 20th Century  
Ephemera (general object genre) -- Great Britain -- 20th Century  
Photographs -- Great Britain -- 20th Century

### **Occupations**

Lawyers -- Great Britain -- 20th Century

### **Names**

Bell, Clarissa -- Ownership  
Croom-Johnson, Norman

### **Corporate Bodies**

Savile Club  
Savile Club -- Ownership