

# Guide to the Victoria Sackville-West Papers

OSB MSS 222



by Beinecke staff

December 2020

P. O. Box 208330  
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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:** OSB MSS 222

**CREATOR:** Sackville, Victoria Josephine Sackville-West, Lady, 1862-1936 , author

**TITLE:** Victoria Sackville-West papers

**DATES:** 1865-1984

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 11.68 linear feet (21 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of correspondence, legal papers, personal papers, photographs, and artwork by or relating to Victoria Sackville-West, Lady Sackville, her daughter Vita Sackville-West, and other members of the Sackville-West family. Correspondents include Victoria's husband Lionel Sackville-West, Edwin Lutyens, Vita Sackville-West, Harold Nicolson, and Edward VII. The collection also includes third-party letters to Vita Sackville-West, Harold Nicolson, and Nigel Nicolson. The bulk of the legal papers relate to a trial concerning the Sackville-West inheritance and Knole House, the family home. Artwork includes sketches by Edwin Lutyens, Harold Nicolson, and Nigel Nicolson.

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

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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.victoriasw>.

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

Purchased from Joan Winterkorn on the James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection Fund, 2017.

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Victoria Sackville-West 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Victoria Sackville-West Papers. James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## Related Materials

Vita Sackville-West Papers (GEN MSS 925), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Harold Nicolson Papers (GEN MSS 614), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Victoria Sackville-West

Victoria Sackville-West, Lady Sackville, (1862-1937), was the daughter of Lionel Sackville-West, 2nd Baron Sackville and a Spanish dancer known as "Pepita de Oliva." Victoria married her first cousin, Lionel Edward Sackville-West, 3rd Baron Sackville, in 1892. Their daughter was the poet, novelist, and gardener Vita Sackville-West, who was married to British politician and writer Harold Nicolson.

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## Content Description

The collection consists of correspondence, legal papers, personal papers, photographs, and artwork by or relating to Victoria Sackville-West, Lady Sackville, her daughter Vita Sackville-West, and other members of the Sackville-West family. Correspondents include Victoria's husband Lionel Sackville-West, Edwin Lutyens, Vita Sackville-West, Harold Nicolson, and Edward VII. The collection also includes third-party letters to Vita Sackville-West, Harold Nicolson, and Nigel Nicolson. The bulk of the legal papers relate to a trial concerning the Sackville-West inheritance and Knole House, the family home. Artwork includes sketches by Edwin Lutyens, Harold Nicolson, and Nigel Nicolson.

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## Arrangement

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence, 1889-1984. II. Legal papers, 1865-1936. III. Personal papers, 1872-1952. IV. Photographics, artwork, and clippings, 1908-1970.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1889–1984

3.55 linear feet (9 boxes)

Correspondence includes letters to Lady Sackville from family members, William Astor, Edwin Lutyens, and others; letters from Lady Sackville to Vita Sackville-West, letters from others to Vita Sackville-West, and letters to Harold Nicolson and Nigel Nicolson.

Correspondence is organized into four subseries: Letters to Lady Sackville, 1889-1935; Lady Sackville letters to Vita Sackville-West, 1914-1931; Letters to Vita Sackville-West, circa 1911-1937; and Other correspondence, 1912-1984.

	Letters to Lady Sackville Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.	1889–1935
b. 1	General, A-Z 5 Folders	1913–1935
b. 1	Astor, William 4 Folders	1895–1914
b. 1	Churchill, Winston	1932
b. 1	Lutyens, Sir Edwin 2 Folders	1918–1925
b. 1	Mellon, Andrew	1932
b. 1	Prince of Wales [Edward VII] 2 Folders	circa 1889–1896
b. 1	Sackville-West, Lionel	1911
b. 1	Sackville-West, Vita	1922–1923
b. 1	Salanson, Gabriel	1890
b. 1	Spring-Rice, Cecil	1889
	Lady Sackville letters to Vita Sackville-West Arranged chronologically.	1914–1931
b. 2	1914	1914
b. 2	1915	1915
b. 2	1916 5 Folders	1916
b. 3	1917 5 Folders	1917
b. 3	1918	1918
b. 3	circa 1920 2 Folders	circa 1920

## Lady Sackville letters to Vita Sackville-West (continued)

b. 4	1921 <i>3 Folders</i>	1921
b. 4	1911–1912 <i>3 Folders</i>	1911–1912
b. 5	1922 <i>6 Folders</i>	1922
b. 6	1923	1923
b. 6	1924 <i>2 Folders</i>	1924
b. 6	1925 <i>3 Folders</i>	1925
b. 6	1926–1927 <i>2 Folders</i>	1926–1927
b. 6	1930–1931	1930–1931
b. 7	undated <i>4 Folders</i>	undated
	Letters to Vita Sackville-West Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.	circa 1911–1937
b. 8	General, A-Z <i>7 Folders</i>	circa 1911–1924, undated
b. 8	Campbell, Mary Garmen	1927
b. 8	Grosvenor, Rosamund	circa 1914–1916
b. 8	Lutyens, Sir Edwin	1919–1937
b. 9	Mallet, Louis	1915–1930
b. 9	Nicolson, Lady Mary	1916
b. 9	Sackville-West, Lionel <i>3 Folders</i>	1914–1918
	Other correspondence	1912–1984
b. 9	Lady Sackville letters to Harold Nicolson	1912, 1932
b. 9	General correspondence to Harold Nicolson <i>2 Folders</i>	1916–1927
b. 9	General correspondence to Nigel Nicolson	1928
b. 9	General correspondence to Nigel Nicolson <i>2 Folders</i>	1972–1984

**Series II: Legal papers, 1865–1936***6.67 linear feet (8 boxes)*

Includes correspondence, court papers, and newspaper clippings relating to the Sackville-West inheritance trial and other lawsuits.

Organized into two subseries: Inheritance trial papers, 1865-1936; and Other legal papers, 1931-1933.

	Inheritance trial papers	1865–1936
	Organized into three subseries: Correspondence, 1880-1936; Court papers, 1879-1909, undated; and Other inheritance trial papers, 1865-1910.	
	Correspondence	1880–1936
b. 10	General, A to Z <i>2 Folders</i>	1880–1913
b. 10	General, A-Z, regarding Lionel Sackville-West's death	1908
b. 10	de Beon, Count Henri	1901
b. 10	Pegat, J.	1891–1894
b. 10	Pemberton, Percy Leigh <i>4 Folders</i>	1890–1908
b. 10	Sackville-West, Amalia <i>2 Folders</i>	1896–1936
b. 10	Sackville-West, Henry	1888–1908
b. 10	Sackville-West, Lionel	1910
b. 10	Sackville-West, Max <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 10	Salanson, Flora <i>3 Folders</i>	1899–1908
b. 10	Smith, F. E.	1913
	Court papers	1879-1909, undated
b. 11	1879	1879
b. 11	1896–1897 <i>6 Folders</i>	1896–1897
b. 12 (oversize)	1897	1897
b. 13	circa 1901–1903 <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1901–1903
b. 13	circa 1908–1909	circa 1908–1909
b. 13	undated <i>4 Folders</i>	undated

## Inheritance trial papers &gt; Court papers (continued)

b. 14 (oversize)	undated	undated
	Other inheritance trial papers	1865-1910
b. 15	Baptism certificate of Ida Margaret Page	1865
b. 15	Birth certificate of Lionel Sackville-West	1867
b. 15	List of Knole jewels prepared by Amalia Sackville-West	1892
b. 15	Newspaper clippings <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1910
b. 15	Telegrams	1903
	Other legal papers	1931-1933
b. 16	General correspondence	1932
b. 16	Harry Wynne Nicholl vs Victoria Sackville-West, deposition	1933
b. 17 (oversize)	Libel lawsuit	1931



**Series III: Personal papers, 1872–1952***0.83 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Personal papers include Lady Sackville's diary, papers related to the Murchison letter, wills, a list of wedding presents, a deed, and other personal papers.

b. 18	Lady Sackville's diary and related notes <i>2 Folders</i>	1916
b. 18	<i>Society in Washington</i> , book	1887
b. 18	<i>Ulysses</i> , book and related correspondence <i>2 Folders</i>	1927, 1934
b. 19	Deed	1872
b. 19	List of Victoria and Lionel Sackville-West's wedding presents	1890
b. 19	Lady Sackville's marriage dispensations	undated
b. 19	Invoice	1916
b. 19	Driving permits	1926, 1952, 1952
b. 19	Lady Sackville's wills	1930, undated
b. 19	Inventory for sale of White Lodge contents	1936–1937
b. 19	Correspondence related to Murchison letter	1888
b. 19	Murchison letter, newspaper clippings <i>2 Folders</i>	1888
b. 19	J. Chamberlain's engagement, newspaper clippings	1888

**Series IV: Photographs, artwork, and clippings, 1908–1970***.63 linear feet (2 boxes)*

This series consists of photographs of Lady Sackville, Lord Sackville in Egypt, and others; sketches by Edwin Lutyens, Harold Nicolson, and Nigel Nicolson; and clippings related to Lady Sackville, Lord Sackville, and Edwin Lutyens.

b. 20	Photographic prints of airships, other	1916, undated
b. 20	Photographic prints of Lord Sackville in Egypt <i>5 Folders</i>	1916–1918, undated
b. 20	Photographic prints of Lady Sackville, child	undated
b. 20	Newspaper clippings relating to Lord Sackville	1916
b. 21	Newspaper clippings, miscellany, related to Edwin Lutyens	1921, undated
b. 21	Photocopy of "Lutyens's Cenotaph"	1989
b. 21	Sir Edwin Lutyens sketches <i>3 Folders</i>	circa 1918
b. 21	Sketch, mounted	1922
b. 21	Harold Nicolson drawing	undated
b. 21	Nigel Nicolson pencil drawings	circa 1923
b. 21	Newspaper clippings <i>3 Folders</i>	1908–1913
b. 21	Magazine clipping	1970

## **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**

Inheritance and succession -- Great Britain

### **Genres / Formats**

Photographs  
Sketches

### **Names**

Edward VII, King of Great Britain, 1841-1910  
Lutyens, Edwin Landseer, Sir, 1869-1944  
Nicolson, Harold, 1886-1968  
Nicolson, Nigel  
Sackville, Lionel Edward Sackville-West, Baron,  
1867-1928  
Sackville, Victoria Josephine Sackville-West,  
Lady, 1862-1936  
Sackville-West, V. (Victoria), 1892-1962

### **Families**

Sackville family

### **Corporate Body**

Knole House (Kent, England)