

Guide to the Yale Collection of American Literature Portrait File

YCAL MSS 1345



by Brooke McManus

September 2021

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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 1345

TITLE: Yale Collection of American Literature portrait file

DATES: 1842-1980

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.33 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Portraits primarily depicting prominent nineteenth and twentieth century American writers, artists, and photographers, as well as scientists, educators, social reformers, and statesmen. Included are images of Joel Barlow, William Cullen Bryant, Hart Crane, James Dwight Dana, T. S. Eliot, Max Ewing, Robert Frost, H. D., Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sinclair Lewis, Dorothy Parker, Wendell Phillips, Frank Stockton, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Robert Penn Warren, Noah Webster, and John Greenleaf Whittier. A small number of portraits document British and European figures. The collection also contains a few group portraits and images of art, buildings, and landscapes, as well as non-photographic materials, such as clippings, correspondence, notes, and pamphlets. Among the visual formats found in the collection are prints, cabinet cards, cartes-de-visite, engravings, etchings, postcards, photogravures, sketches, silhouettes, a small amount of negatives, and print reproductions of portraits. Photographers represented include Carl Van Vechten, Brady's National Photographic Portrait Galleries, Ernest Knee, and Edwin Rosskam.

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

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.ycalportrait>.

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

This collection was assembled by the library in the 20th century from materials acquired at various times and from various sources. Source information may be recorded on the folder or on individual items.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Yale Collection of American Literature Portrait File 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

Yale Collection of American Literature Portrait File. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

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 as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Folder titles in brackets were supplied by staff during processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Scope and Contents

Portraits primarily depicting prominent nineteenth and twentieth century American writers, artists, and photographers, as well as scientists, educators, social reformers, and statesmen. Included are images of Joel Barlow, William Cullen Bryant, Hart Crane, James Dwight Dana, T. S. Eliot, Max Ewing, Robert Frost, H. D., Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sinclair Lewis, Dorothy Parker, Wendell Phillips, Frank Stockton, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Robert Penn Warren, Noah Webster, and John Greenleaf Whittier. A small number of portraits document British and European figures. The collection also contains a few group portraits and images of art, buildings, and landscapes, as well as non-photographic materials, such as clippings, correspondence, notes, and pamphlets. Among the visual formats found in the collection are prints, cabinet cards, cartes-de-visite, engravings, etchings, postcards, photogravures, sketches, silhouettes, a small

amount of negatives, and print reproductions of portraits. Photographers represented include Carl Van Vechten, Brady's National Photographic Portrait Galleries, Ernest Knee, and Edwin Roskam.

Arrangement

Arranged in alphabetical order by surname.

Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Addams, Jane	1924
b. 1, f. 2	Alcott, Amos Bronson Includes a photograph of a Frank Edwin Ellwell bust of Louisa May Alcott in the National Portrait Gallery.	circa 1880, 1968
b. 1, f. 3	Anderson, Karl	undated
b. 1, f. 4	Bacon, Josephine Daskam	1916, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Barlow, Joel	1886, 1945
b. 1, f. 6	Barnes, Djuna	undated
b. 1, f. 7	Beach, Rex	1930
b. 1, f. 8	Beckwith, J. Carroll	1890
b. 1, f. 9	Bianchi, Martha Dickinson	1902–1903
b. 3, f. 101	Boyesen, Hjalmar Hjorth	undated
b. 1, f. 10	Brooks, Van Wyck	1940–1963
b. 1, f. 11	Brown, Charles Brockden	undated
b. 1, f. 12	Bryant, William Cullen Includes several group portraits, one with Peter Cooper, and another with George Bancroft, George H. Baker, and Bayard Taylor in Mathew Brady's Washington, D.C. studio.	1850-1872, undated
b. 3, f. 102	Bryant, William Cullen	undated
b. 1, f. 13	Buntline, Ned	undated
b. 1, f. 14	Burroughs, John	1899–1921
b. 3, f. 103	Burroughs, John	undated
b. 1, f. 15	Bynner, Witter	1933, undated
b. 3, f. 104	Bynner, Witter	1915
b. 3, f. 105	Cable, George W.	undated
b. 1, f. 16	Cather, Willa	undated
b. 1, f. 17	Child, Lydia Marie	1867
b. 1, f. 18	Clarke, James Freeman	undated
b. 1, f. 19	Cortissoz, Royal	undated
b. 3, f. 106	Cortissoz, Royal	undated
b. 1, f. 20	Crane, Hart	1932

b. 3, f. 107	Crane, Stephen	undated
b. 3, f. 108	Crawford, F. Marion	undated
b. 1, f. 21	Dana, James Dwight	undated
b. 1, f. 22	Davis, Richard Harding	1896
b. 1, f. 23	De Forest, John William, and Harriet Shepard De Forest	1868-1892, undated
b. 1, f. 24	Dell, Floyd	1921, undated
b. 3, f. 109	Dell, Floyd	1934
b. 1, f. 25	Dunlap, William	undated
b. 3, f. 110	Dunlap, William	1897
b. 3, f. 111	Eliot, T. S.	1964
b. 1, f. 26	Evans, Donald	circa 1915
b. 4, f. 142	Ewing, Max	1932-1934
b. 1, f. 27	Farrell, James T.	circa 1934
b. 1, f. 28	Faulkner, William One photograph of Faulkner, and film stills from "The Story of Temple Drake" and "Today We Live," which were based on stories by Faulkner.	1933, undated
b. 1, f. 29	Fawcett, Edgar	undated
b. 1, f. 30	Field, Eugene	1895, undated
b. 1, f. 31	Fields, James Thomas	undated
b. 3, f. 112	Foster, Stephen Collins	undated
b. 1, f. 32	Frost, Frances	circa 1947
b. 1, f. 33	Frost, Robert	circa 1900
b. 3, f. 113	Frost, Robert	undated
b. 3, f. 114	Gabrilowitsch, Ossip	undated
b. 1, f. 34	Gilder, Richard Watson	1909
b. 1, f. 35	Grant, Robert	undated
b. 3, f. 115	Greenough, Horatio	undated
b. 1, f. 36	Guiney, Louise Imogen	1901
b. 3, f. 116	Hamilton, Andrew	1869
b. 1, f. 37	Harding, Bertita	undated

b. 3, f. 117	Harmon, William E.	undated
b. 2, f. 38	Hawthorne, Nathaniel	circa 1860s-1898, undated
b. 3, f. 118	Hawthorne, Nathaniel	undated
b. 2, f. 39	H. D.	undated
b. 2, f. 40	Hearn, Lafcadio	undated
b. 2, f. 41	Holmes, Oliver Wendell	undated
b. 3, f. 119	Holmes, Oliver Wendell	undated
b. 2, f. 42	Howard, Bronson	undated
b. 2, f. 43	Howells, William Dean	undated
b. 3, f. 120	Howells, William Dean	undated
b. 3, f. 121	Hutton, Laurence	undated
b. 3, f. 122	Jewett, Sarah Orne	undated
b. 2, f. 44	Johnston, R. W.	undated
b. 2, f. 45	Krutch, Joseph Wood	circa 1968
b. 2, f. 46	Leland, Charles Godfrey	undated
b. 3, f. 123	Leland, Charles Godfrey	undated
b. 2, f. 47	Leonard, William Edwin	1923
b. 4, f. 143	Lewis, Sinclair	1927
b. 2, f. 48	Lindsay, Vachel	circa 1920
b. 2, f. 49	Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth	1882-1929, undated
b. 3, f. 124	Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth	1879, undated
b. 2, f. 50	Longfellow, Samuel	undated
b. 2, f. 51	Lowell, James Russell	undated
b. 3, f. 125	Lowell, James Russell	1883-1889, undated
b. 2, f. 52	Mabie, Hamilton Wright	undated
b. 2, f. 53	Markham, Edwin	1911-1936
b. 3, f. 126	Masters, Madeline Probably the daughter of poet Edgar Lee Masters.	circa 1910s

b. 2, f. 54	Melville, Herman	undated
b. 2, f. 55	Michener, James A.	1952–1956
b. 2, f. 56	Minnigerode, Meade	1937
b. 3, f. 127	Mitchell, S. Weir	undated
b. 2, f. 57	Morris, George Pope	undated
b. 4, f. 144	Mott, Howard	1903
b. 2, f. 58	Munroe, Kirk	undated
b. 2, f. 59	Norris, Charles Gilman Sketch by James Montgomery Flagg.	undated
b. 2, f. 60	Padgett, Paul	1980
b. 2, f. 61	Parker, Dorothy	undated
b. 3, f. 128	Parker, Sir Gilbert	undated
b. 2, f. 62	Parker, Sir Gilbert	undated
b. 2, f. 63	Parkman, Francis	1873
b. 2, f. 64	Pearsall, William Booth Photograph is inscribed by Pearsall to "Dr. Geo. Grant with cordial remembrances." Pearsall was an Irish dentist and amateur artist; the inscription may refer to Dr. George Franklin Grant, a Boston dentist and the first Black faculty member at Harvard University.	circa 1880s
b. 2, f. 65	Peirce, Waldo	1930, undated
b. 2, f. 66	Pennell, Joseph	1904
b. 3, f. 129	Percival, James Gates	undated
b. 2, f. 67	Phillips, Wendell	circa 1860s-1870s
b. 2, f. 68	Poe, Edgar Allen Includes a photograph of Poe's gravesite by Carl Van Vechten.	1934, undated
b. 2, f. 69	Prokosch, Frederic	circa 1933
b. 2, f. 70	Quinn, Mary Bernetta	1977
b. 2, f. 71	Reed, John	1915, undated
b. 3, f. 130	Reed, John	undated
b. 2, f. 72	Reedy, William Marion	undated
b. 3, f. 131	Repplier, Agnes	undated
b. 2, f. 73	Rexroth, Kenneth	1976

b. 2, f. 74	Riley, James Whitcomb	undated
b. 3, f. 132	Riley, James Whitcomb	undated
b. 2, f. 75	Rinehart, Mary Roberts	1922–1939
b. 2, f. 76	Roberts, Elizabeth Madox	undated
b. 2, f. 77	Robinson, Edwin Arlington	1916–1933
b. 3, f. 133	Roskam, Edwin. Photograph of unidentified African American woman in Washington, D.C.	1942
b. 3, f. 134	Sarkadi, Leo S. "Gail" [original etching]	undated
b. 2, f. 78	Sinclair, Upton	1939–1960
b. 3, f. 135	Spofford, Harriet Prescott	undated
b. 2, f. 79	Stedman, Edward Clarence	1901
b. 2, f. 80	Steinbeck, John	1942–1955
b. 2, f. 81	Sterling, George	circa 1913, undated
b. 3, f. 136	Stewart, Donald Ogden Signed ZB, most likely artist Zadia Bertrand.	undated
b. 2, f. 82	Still, James	1963–1964
b. 3, f. 137	Stockton, Frank R.	undated
b. 2, f. 83	Stowe, Harriet Beecher, and Calvin E. Beecher Includes photographs by Carl Van Vechten of Stowe's home in Cincinnati, with two Black children sitting on the steps leading up to the house, and of her house in Brunswick, Maine, where <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> was written.	1859–1936
b. 4, f. 145	Stowe, Harriet Beecher, and Calvin E. Beecher	1892
b. 2, f. 84	Straight, Michael Whitney	circa 1943-1960
b. 2, f. 85	Strange, Michael	undated
b. 2, f. 86	Struther, Jan	1946–1953
b. 2, f. 87	Swift, Julian	1929
b. 2, f. 88	Swift, Kay	undated
b. 2, f. 89	Swiggett, Howard	1955
b. 2, f. 90	Taylor, Bayard	undated
b. 2, f. 91	Thurber, James	1940–1954
b. 2, f. 92	Torrence, Ridgely	circa 1909
b. 2, f. 93	Van Druten, John	undated

b. 2, f. 94	Warren, Robert Penn	undated
b. 2, f. 95	Webster, Noah	circa 1842-1873
b. 3, f. 138	Webster, Noah	undated
b. 2, f. 96	Whittier, John Greenleaf	1878-1892
b. 3, f. 139	Whittier, John Greenleaf	1883, undated
b. 2, f. 97	Wiggin, Kate Douglas Smith	1880, undated
b. 3, f. 140	Wilkins, Mary E.	undated
b. 3, f. 141	Winter, William	undated
b. 2, f. 98	Wister, Owen	undated
b. 2, f. 99	Wolfe, Thomas	1937-1960
b. 2, f. 100	Woolson, Constance Fenimore	1887

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

Abolitionists -- United States
Artists, American
Authors, American
Composers -- United States
Dramatists, American
Educators -- United States
Musicians -- United States
Photographers -- United States
Poets, American
Portrait photography
Scientists -- United States
Screenwriters -- United States
Social reformers -- United States
Statesmen -- United States
Women authors, American
Women poets, American

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, 1811-1896 -- Portraits
Warren, Robert Penn, 1905-1989 -- Portraits
Webster, Noah, 1758-1843 -- Portraits
Whittier, John Greenleaf, 1807-1892 -- Portraits

Genres / Formats

Cabinet photographs
Cartes-de-visite (card photographs)
Engravings (prints)
Etchings (prints)
Negatives (photographs)
Photographic postcards
Photographic prints
Silhouettes
Sketches
Studio portraits

Names

Barlow, Joel, 1754-1812 -- Portraits
Bryant, William Cullen, 1794-1878 -- Portraits
Crane, Hart, 1899-1932 -- Portraits
Dana, James Dwight, 1813-1895 -- Portraits
Eliot, T. S. (Thomas Stearns), 1888-1965 -- Portraits
Ewing, Max -- Portraits
Frost, Robert, 1874-1963 -- Portraits
H. D. (Hilda Doolittle), 1886-1961 -- Portraits
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894 -- Portraits
Lewis, Sinclair, 1885-1951 -- Portraits
Parker, Dorothy, 1893-1967 -- Portraits
Phillips, Wendell, 1811-1884 -- Portraits
Stockton, Frank R., 1834-1902 -- Portraits