

Guide to the Donald Crossley Vining Papers

MS 524



compiled by Manuscripts and Archives Staff

July 1984

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition	4
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Associated Materials	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Collection Contents	5
Original accession	5
Accession 1999-M-067: Additional Material	6
Accession 1999-M-103: Additional Material	7
Accession 2001-M-006: Additional Material	8
Selected Search Terms	9

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

CALL NUMBER: MS 524

CREATOR: Vining, Donald, 1917-1998

TITLE: Donald Crossley Vining papers

DATES: 1926-1997

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4.38 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of the diaries of Donald Crossley Vining for the years 1932-1958 and for 1971-1985, as well as typed transcripts from his diaries for 1926-1927. The diaries provide a detailed account of the life of an intellectual, homosexual man in the 1940s and 1950s. Vining, who spent most of his adult life in New York, took a great interest in the arts, and his diaries contain descriptions of operas and plays which he attended; outlines of his current writing projects and theater activities; and details of his daily life and personal relationships. Typescripts of several one and two act plays are included in the papers.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0524>

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.0524>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to 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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Donald Vining, 1959-1960; gift of the Estate of Donald Vining, 1998-2000.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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.

Preferred Citation

Donald Crossley Vining Papers (MS 524). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Associated Materials

Donald Vining diaries, 1959-1970, are located at the American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming.

Biographical / Historical

Donald Crossley Vining was born on June 20, 1917, in Benton, Pennsylvania. He was educated at West Chester State College, Pennsylvania and at the Yale University School of Drama. In the late 1940s, he published numerous one-act plays for amateurs. Vining worked in the Development Office of Teachers College, Columbia University for thirty years, retiring in 1979 to begin a private publishing company, The Pepys Press, which specialized in diaries and journals. He published the autobiographical work, *A Gay Diary*. After retiring from publishing, Vining did free-lance writing for gay periodicals and a monthly column for *Diarist's Journal*. He died on January 24, 1998, in New York City.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of the diaries of Donald Crossley Vining for the years 1932-1958 and for 1971-1985, as well as typed transcripts from his diaries for 1926-1927. The diaries provide a detailed account of the life of an intellectual, homosexual man in the 1940s and 1950s. Vining, who spent most of his adult life in New York, took a great interest in the arts, and his diaries contain descriptions of operas and plays which he attended; outlines of his current writing projects and theater activities; and details of his daily life and personal relationships. Typescripts of several one and two act plays are included in the papers.

Arrangement

Arranged by accession.

Collection Contents

Original accession

Diaries

b. 1, f. 1-11	1926-1937 Apr
b. 2, f. 12-25	1937 May-1941
b. 3, f. 26-39	1942-1946 Aug
b. 4, f. 40-53	1946 Sep-1952 Jun
b. 5, f. 54-66	1952 Jul-1958

Accession 1999-M-067: Additional Material

Diaries		
b. 1, f. 1-10	1971-1975	1971-1975
b. 2, f. 11-20	1976-1980	1976-1980
b. 3, f. 21-30	1981-1985	1981-1985

Accession 1999-M-103: Additional Material

Plays [typescripts of one and two act plays], n.d.	
b. 1, f. 1	"Kin" English
b. 1, f. 2	"The Poor Dear" English
b. 1, f. 3	"Top Men" English
b. 1, f. 4	"Twosomes" English

Accession 2001-M-006: Additional Material

Diaries		
b. 1, f. 1-6	1986-1991	1986-1991
b. 2, f. 7-12	1992-1997	1992-1997

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

Actors
Gay men -- United States
Homosexuality
LGBTQ resource
Music
Theater

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs
New York (State)

Genres / Formats

Diaries

Occupations

Authors

Names

Vining, Donald, 1917-1998