

# Guide to the William Appleton Aiken Papers

MS 1093



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz and staff of Manuscripts and Archives

August 1983

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

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Collection Contents .....	6
Inventory, 1897, 1934–1949, undated .....	6
Accession 1993-M-070: Additional Material, 1891, 1919–1971, undated .....	8
Accession 2014-M-065: Additional Material, 1944–1945 .....	12
Selected Search Terms .....	13

---

## 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 1093

**CREATOR:** Aiken, William Appleton, 1907-1957

**TITLE:** William Appleton Aiken papers

**DATES:** 1891-1971

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 9.5 linear feet (21 boxes, 1 folio)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence, writings, research materials, and autograph letters relating to the literary work of William Appleton Aiken on the life of Daniel Fitch, second Earl of Nottingham. Also included are Aiken's personal papers including his diaries as an army intelligence officer in the Middle East during World War II and an exhibition scrapbook prepared by the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1093>

---

## 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.1093>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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 Mrs. William A. Aiken, 1959; acquired from Seaport Autographs, 1993 and Noushin Books & Co., 2014.

---

## 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

William Appleton Aiken Papers (MS 1093). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

---

## Biographical / Historical

WILLIAM APPLETON AIKEN. Professor of English and European history, Lehigh University; residence, 1324 Prospect Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. "Appy", who joined the Lehigh faculty as assistant professor of English history in 1941, was appointed associate professor of English and European history in February, 1946, and to a full professorship in January, 1949. He received an M.Litt. degree at Cambridge University in 1932 and a Ph.D. at Yale in 1939-both in English history-and was an instructor in history at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, from 1938 to 1940. He is a member of the social studies committee of the College Entrance Board Examinations of the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N.J., and secretary to the National Council of the American Friends of the Middle East. He belongs to the American Historical Association, the American Academy of Social and Political Science, the Archeological Institute of America, the Middle East Institute, and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. Appy edited *The Conduct of the Earl of Nottingham* (Yale University Press, 1941), arranged and edited *The Poems of Catullus* (Dutton, 1950), and is the author of an article on the Middle East in *This Week Magazine* in 1951 and of two articles on Cairo, published in *Egypt* in 1952.

From June, 1942, to February, 1946, he served in the Psychological Warfare Branch (first lieutenant to major)-in Washington most of the time, although he spent four months abroad (London and Cairo). Appy, who received a citation for distinguished service-or whatever you call that white and green ribbon"-has continued in the Reserve and in the past few years has attended the O.R.C. School. Command and General Staff Section, in Allentown, Pa.

Married on *June 2, 1938*, in New York City to Phyllis Almy Gallatin, he has three children: Timothy Buckingham, born June 23, 1940, in Mt. Kisco, N.Y., Penelope Gallatin on April 24, 1942, in Bethlehem, and David MacGregor on October 11, 1949, in New York.

(*History of the Class of 1929, Yale college, 25 Year Record*, pages 30-31)

---

## Scope and Contents

The papers of William Appleton Aiken consist of manuscripts, transcripts and photostatic copies of papers in British and American repositories, notes, correspondence, photographs, and other papers relating to Daniel Finch, second Earl of Nottingham, and his period. The bulk of the collection is research materials for Aiken's Yale doctoral thesis, *The Conduct of the Rt. Hon. Daniel Earl of Nottingham, By Himself* (1939; published in 1941 under the title, *The Conduct of the Earl of Nottingham*, and for other writings on related topics. The research materials have been left in Aiken's order.

Aiken's manuscripts are largely critical editions of writings by Nottingham and his contemporaries, although several short articles are also included. His correspondence consists of letters from Jasmine Finch

about her family's history, from Aiken's research assistant, A. May Osler, and from historians and scholars sending congratulations on the publication of his book. Included are Stuart W. Jackson, Wallace Notestein, Paul D. Moody, and George M. Trevelyan.

Also in the collection, although unrelated to the other materials, are two autograph letters of 1897, one from Cosima Wagner and the other from Hedwig Humperdinck, both addressed to Charles Joseph Dyer.

Also included are Aiken's personal papers including his diaries as an army intelligence officer in the Middle East during World War II and an exhibition scrapbook prepared by the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information.

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1897, 1934–1949, undated

4.5 linear feet (11 boxes)

b. 1, f. 1-3	Correspondence	1935-1942, 1949
	Short writings	
b. 1, f. 4	Adapted text of first act of Sedney's "Bellamira"	1941
b. 1, f. 5	"Daniel Finch and the Admiralty Commission, 1679-1684" English	undated
b. 1, f. 6	"The Many Worlds of Daniel Finch" English	undated
b. 1, f. 7	"Peer's Passage Across France: Glimpses of the Grand Tour in the Year 1772" English	undated
b. 1, f. 8	"Whig Oligarchs and American Colonies" English	undated
b. 1, f. 9	Drafts for an article on the opening of the Convention Parliament	undated
b. 1, f. 10	Notes for a lecture on Nottingham	undated
	Critical editions of historical papers	
b. 1, f. 11-12	"Characters of Four Noblemen in the Reign of William III" English	undated
b. 1, f. 13	"Memoirs in the Reigns of King Charles II, King James II, King William III and Queen Mary" English	undated
b. 2, f. 14-17	"Observations and Opinions of a Noble Lord in the Reign of King Charles II" English	undated
b. 2, f. 18	"Chp. II. Reflections Upon the Late Revolution, 1688" English	undated
b. 2, f. 19	"Chp. V. Discourse on the Peace, 1712 (The Madness of Party)" English	undated
b. 2, f. 20	"Part II: A Narrative of Events Naval and Political, 1689-1694" English	undated
	Research materials	
b. 3, f. 21-58	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 4, f. 59-93	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 5, f. 94-119	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 6, f. 120-143	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 7, f. 144-169	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]

## Research materials (continued)

b. 8, f. 170-204	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 9, f. 205-231	Transcripts, notes, and other materials	[ca. 1934-1941]
b. 9, f. 232-240	Inventories of original documents used	1934-1941, undated
b. 9, f. 241	"Chronological Outline" English	undated
b. 9, f. 242	"Outline: Eng. Const. Hist." English	undated
b. 9, f. 243	Photographs of Mss for thesis	[1939]
b. 9, f. 244	Photographs and miscellaneous items re: <i>Conduct of the Earl of Nottingham</i>	1941-1942
Autograph letters		
b. 9, f. 245	Humperdinek, Hedwig (Mrs. Engelbert)	1897 December 31
b. 9, f. 245	Wagner, Cosima (Mrs. Richard)	1897 April 11
b. 10-11	Card file	[ca. 1934-1941]

**Accession 1993-M-070: Additional Material, 1891, 1919–1971, undated***4 linear feet (8 boxes, 1 folio)*

Addition inventory by Carol King 1994 Oct

Received from: Acquired from Seaport Autographs, 1993 Apr 30

Family correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1-3	Clare College, England: family correspondence, printed material	[1930 Oct?]-1931
b. 1, f. 4-5	Family correspondence (removed from binder)	1933-1939
b. 1, f. 6	Letters from McMaster University, Ontario	1938 October-1939 October
b. 1, f. 7	Family correspondence	1940-1949, undated
b. 1, f. 8	"Letters to the Family": vol. III English	1948 April
b. 1, f. 9	"Letters to the Family" English	1948 May- September
b. 1, f. 10	Aiken, W.A. to Phyllis Aiken (Gallatin)	1935-1938, undated
b. 1, f. 11	"The Bounds of Convention": autobiographical letter to children English	1945 September 18
b. 1, f. 12-14	Aiken, Anna (aunt), (Mrs. Alfred Aiken)	1947 December 27-1957 September 17
b. 1, f. 15-17	Aiken, Phyllis (Mrs. William A. Aiken)	1953-1975, undated
b. 1, f. 18	Aiken, Timothy (son)	1954-1955, 1972
General correspondence/subject files		
b. 2, f. 19	A-F	
b. 2, f. 20	Bach Choir and Festival, (Bethlehem, PA)	1949, 1967, undated
b. 2, f. 21	Biographical materials	1957–1958, 1969, undated
b. 2, f. 22	Business/legal materials	1939, 1957, 1967, 1971
b. 2, f. 23	Clare College, England: applications	1928-1929, undated
b. 2, f. 24	Finances	1929–1939, 1959, undated



## General correspondence/subject files (continued)

b. 2, f. 25	Fulbright and Guggenheim awards	1954
b. 2, f. 26	G-L	
b. 2, f. 27	Genealogy	1891, 1946, undated
b. 2, f. 28	Groton School, Massachusetts; St. Paul's School, New Hampshire: applications	1919-1920
b. 2, f. 29	Joint Chiefs of Staff consultant position	1946 May 22– 1947 1947 May 1, undated
b. 2, f. 30	Labaree, Leonard W.: correspondence pertaining to the Yale University Press publication of W. A. Aiken's <i>The Conduct of the Earl of Nottingham</i>	1940-1941, undated
b. 2, f. 31	M-R	
b. 2, f. 32	McClenaghan, Worsfold	1934, undated
b. 2, f. 33	"New Strategy in the Middle East," by W. A. Aiken, NY Herald Tribune (with accompanying correspondence) English	1950-1951
b. 2, f. 34	"The New Statesman and Nation" and cover letter English	1951 October 20, 27, November 3, 20
b. 2, f. 35	Notestein, Wallace	1938-1941, 1947, 1950
b. 2, f. 36	S-T	
b. 2, f. 37	U-Z	
b. 2, f. 38	Unidentified	
b. 3, f. 38	History lecture notecards	undated
b. 4, f. 39-44	Lecture notes	1938, 1942, undated
b. 4, f. 45	Writings of W. A. Aiken	
b. 4, f. 45	Poetry selections	1925, undated
b. 4, f. 45	"A Great Pessimist: A Great Poet: A Discussion of Matthew Arnold and his Poetry" English	undated
b. 4, f. 45	Book review of <i>The Ugly Duchess</i> , by Feuchtwanger	undated
b. 4, f. 45	"The Biographies of Alexander Hamilton" English	undated
b. 4, f. 45	<i>The Admiralty in Conflict and Commission, 1679-1684</i>	undated

## Writings of W. A. Aiken (continued)

b. 5, f. 46	<i>The Conduct of the Rt. Hon. Daniel Earl of Nottingham by Himself</i> : PhD dissertation, annotated typescript	1938
b. 6, f. 47	<i>The Conduct of the Rt. Hon. Daniel Earl of Nottingham by Himself</i> : PhD dissertation typescript	1938
b. 6, f. 48	<i>The Conduct of the Earl of Nottingham</i> , Yale University Press, New Haven	1941
b. 6, f. 49	"Man so Various, or, the Conscience of Others" English	1957
b. 7, f. 50	<i>The Administration of Daniel Finch, Second Earl of Nottingham, as Secretary of State under Queen Anne, 1702-1704</i>	undated
Writings of others		
b. 7, f. 51	"Sun Rays and Moon Beams," by Mary Gallatin Hoppin English	undated
b. 7, f. 52	"Web of Days": selections by Barbara Leslie Jordan English	undated
b. 8, f. 53	Detailed description of the World War II diaries of W. A. Aiken, prepared by Norman F. Boas	1993
b. 8, f. 54	Lecture notes for intelligence training	1942 February-August
b. 8, f. 55	Wartime diary	1943 January 1-March 9
b. 8, f. 56	"Notes on a Diary" (7 diaries) English	1943 March 10-May 15
b. 8, f. 56	"Journal of a Trip to the Near and Middle East between Nov [Dec] 1943 and Feb 1944"	
b. 8, f. 57-58	Handwritten notes	1943 December 21-January 13, 1944 January 13-January 21
b. 8, f. 59-61	"Part I: Journey to London to Middle East": typescript of handwritten notes English	1943 November 4-1944 January 17
b. 8, f. 62	"Part II: Journey to Jerusalem": typescript of handwritten notes English	1944 January 18-23
b. 8, f. 63	"Part III: Contacts in Cairo": typescript of handwritten notes English	1944 January 24-February 13
b. 8, f. 63	"Part IV: London Revisited" (this part is missing) English	
b. 9, f. 64	Memorabilia/miscellany	1922, 1938-1954, 1963, undated
b. 9, f. 65-66	Diaries	1924, 1926

b. 9, f. 67	Aiken, Phyllis (Gallatin): address book, photograph case	undated
b. 9, f. 68-69	Photographs	1900s--(1950s-- 1960s), undated
b. 9, f. 70	Negatives, unidentified	Undated
	FOLIO	
b. 10	Oil painting of carnations, signed "Aiken"	undated

**Accession 2014-M-065: Additional Material, 1944-1945**

*1 linear foot (1 box)*

b. 1	Exhibition scrapbook prepared by the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information for presentation to the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department	1944-1945
------	---	-----------

---

---

## 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

Educators  
Historians  
Military intelligence  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Military intelligence

### Geographic Names

Europe  
Great Britain  
Great Britain -- Politics and government -- 18th century  
Middle East

### Genres / Formats

Autographs (manuscripts)

### Names

Aiken, William Appleton, 1907-1957  
Jackson, Stuart W. (Stuart Wells), 1875-  
Moody, Paul D. (Paul Dwight), 1879-1947  
Notestein, Wallace, 1878-1969  
Nottingham, Daniel Finch, Earl of, 1647-1730  
Osler, A. May  
Trevelyan, George Macaulay, 1876-1962

### Corporate Body

Lehigh University -- Faculty