

# Guide to the Greville Rickard Papers

MS 1227



compiled by John Espy

December 1980

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1227

**CREATOR:** Rickard, Greville, 1889-1956

**TITLE:** Greville Rickard papers

**DATES:** 1917-1956

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, papers, writings and miscellanea of Greville Rickard, a graduate of Yale University, 1912, Sheffield Scientific School.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1227>

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## 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.1227>.

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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Raymond M. Holmes and Mrs. Wyndham K. White, 1956.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Greville Rickard Papers (MS 1227). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Greville Rickard received a bachelor of science degree from Sheffield Scientific School at Yale in 1912.

Greville Rickard. Rick has become somewhat of a legend in the Class-they call him the Iron Man. He was 66 years old when he died in El Paso, Tex. Grev was born in Denver, Colo., and that was where he was buried. After graduating with the class of 1912, he then graduated from the Yale Architectural School and for 12 years thereafter was employed in various architects' offices in Denver. In 1923 he established his own practice in New York and climbed to considerable fame, receiving the Architectural Gold Medal Award of the Fifth Avenue Association and a similar award from the Greenwich Real Estate Board for the finest residence, etc.

Grev was a bachelor and a wanderer. He was an enigma to his friends. He would build up a splendid practice with profitable clients then suddenly close his doors and go off for months on a hiking trip thru Spain or Mexico. When his funds ran out he'd come back, open up, build anew and then suddenly indulge his itching foot. In World War I he served with the Army engineers, rising to be chief of the camouflage unit in France. In World War II, too old to get back in, he acquired the same job as chief of the camouflage unit of the Office of Civilian Defense and kept up his contacts with that division of preparedness. Six years ago Rick suffered a stroke. Being practically alone in the world, he had a hard time until Jerry Holmes came to his rescue, and if ever there was a tale of loving service and brotherly solicitude, the faithful support of Jerry tops them all. Bereft of money, sick and helpless, confused in mind, it has been a pitiful situation-one which should be quietly filed away without comment, except that your Secretary is just ornery enough to report a few details, of which he is justly very proud, as it proves the lasting solidarity of his Class. Jerry Holmes appealed to certain of his classmates-I will not divulge their names-and for months they contributed towards the support of this unfortunate brother classmate. At the last, a series of hernia operations, became necessary-on top of all his other afflictions. Dave Bull came to the rescue-had Rick brought up to Presbyterian Hospital in New York and stood by all thru in ways that only a top physician in New York can do.

When everything possible had been done it was finally decided to fly Grev out to El Paso, for certain personal reasons, and that is where he passed on from a final stroke on May 3, 1956. Grev was a strange sort of man, the friend of all-a genius in his way-an accomplished pianist, a talented artist, a true Bohemian who lived only for the present. Who knows which is right-to live for each day-or to live getting ready for retirement. It is food for thought, to see how many of our classmates state in their questionnaires that they are now retired-or about to retire. I wonder whether they will be able to cram into the few years remaining to them, the enjoyment and daily zest that Grev had over his long span. Can they now be as care-free as he has always been? One sure bet is that they won't take with them any more of the material things than Grev did, when they take off-so maybe the message Grev leaves us is a good one-"The time to be happy is now and the place to be happy is here."

From *Yale Alumni Magazine* XIX.9 (June 1956), 43-44.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, papers, writings and miscellanea of Greville Rickard, a graduate of Yale University, 1912, Sheffield Scientific School.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-2	Architecture projects correspondence and legal documents	1924-1956
b. 1, f. 3	Christian Science correspondence and documents	Circa 1954-1955
b. 1, f. 4	Diary and correspondence relating to trips in England and New England	1930-1954
	Neville, Amelia Ransome, <i>The Fantastic City</i>	
b. 1, f. 5	Correspondence with Virginia Brastowe relating to publication	1928-1933
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence and legal documents relating to publication	1931-1949
	Personal and financial correspondence and bills	
b. 1, f. 7-13	General	1924-1956
b. 1, f. 14-15	Collateral Discount Corporation	Circa 1920-1956
b. 1, f. 16	Personal correspondence relating to genealogy	1917-1955
b. 1, f. 17	Photograph of unidentified men	Circa 1940s-1956
	Writings, and correspondence with publishers	
b. 1, f. 18	Bibliographic material	Circa 1940s-1956
	<i>Mexico: Land of Contrast</i>	
b. 1, f. 19	General	1946-1951
b. 1, f. 20	Bibliography	Circa 1950s
b. 1, f. 21	Typescript draft	1951 July 5
b. 1, f. 22	"My House-What Style?," typescript English	Circa 1940s-1956
b. 1, f. 23	Poems	Circa 1940s-1956
b. 1, f. 24	Review of J. Frederick Kelly, <i>Early American Meeting-Houses</i>	1948
	<i>The Saint and the Flivver</i>	
b. 1, f. 25	Alternate title: <i>Guns Under Cover</i>	1918-1955
b. 1, f. 26	World War I reminiscences	Circa 1940s
b. 1, f. 27	"Sidelight on Herbert Hoover," typescript English	Circa 1940s
	<i>Spanish Horizons</i>	
b. 2, f. 1-3	General	1932-1956

Spanish Horizons (continued)

b. 2, f. 4	Drafts of chapters	Circa 1950s
b. 2, f. 5	Typescript draft	1953 January
b. 2, f. 6	"Suprise in Barreime," typescript and drawings English	Circa 1940s-1956
b. 2, f. 7	<i>Zounds! It's Zany!</i> typescripts	Circa 1940s-1956

## **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**

Architecture  
Christian Science  
Travelers -- Great Britain  
Travelers -- United States

### **Geographic Names**

Europe  
Great Britain

### **Names**

Neville, Amelia Ransome, 1837-1927  
Rickard, Greville, 1889-1956

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University -- Students