

# Guide to the James King Bidwell Papers

MS 2044



compiled by Christy Tomecek

March 2016

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 2044

**CREATOR:** Bidwell, James K.

**TITLE:** James King Bidwell papers

**DATES:** 1952–1956

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** The material is in English.

**SUMMARY:** This collection mainly consists of correspondence written to James King Bidwell's parents, Howard King and Ruth Louella Kinney Bidwell, and to Marilyn Fox, Bidwell's future wife while an undergraduate student in Yale College from 1952 to 1956. Also included are photographs by Bidwell as well as their negatives. The correspondence is quite voluminous as Bidwell wrote several times a week to his parents and later to Fox. The correspondence discusses his daily activities, such as the classes he took, the amount of time he studied, and the various shows he worked on with the Yale Dramatic Association (Dramat), as a stagehand and set builder. The photographs he took are mainly of the Yale University campus and his dormitory room in Timothy Dwight residential college. He also took some photographs of himself and his roommates.

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## Requesting Instructions

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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 James King Bidwell, 2015.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright for unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by James King Bidwell, whether such works are at Yale or physically located elsewhere in the world, was transferred to Yale University. These materials may be used for non-commercial purposes without seeking permission from Yale University as the copyright holder. For other uses of these materials, please contact [beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu). Copyright status for other 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.

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### Preferred Citation

James King Bidwell Papers (MS 2044). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

James King Bidwell was born on February 2, 1934 in Pontiac, Michigan, the son of Howard King and Ruth Louella Kinney Bidwell. He attended Yale College from 1952 to 1956 and belonged to the Timothy Dwight residential college. He majored in mathematics. He also served on the staff of Timothy Dwight from 1953 to 1954, worked for the Department of Mathematics from 1954 to 1956, served as co-chair of the Sophomore Counseling Committee from 1955 to 1956, and was a member of the Yale Dramatic Association (Dramat) from 1953 to 1956. He met his future wife, Marilyn Marion Fox, during this time period. They married on June 28, 1958. His son Paul K. Bidwell was born in 1961. After graduating from Yale, he received a MS in Education in 1957 from the University of Illinois and became an secondary school math teacher. He then graduated from the University of Michigan in 1968 with a Ph.D in mathematics education. He later became a professor of mathematics at Central Michigan University, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1997.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection mainly consists of correspondence written to James King Bidwell's parents, Howard King and Ruth Louella Kinney Bidwell, and to Marilyn Fox, Bidwell's future wife while an undergraduate student in Yale College from 1952 to 1956. Also included are photographs by Bidwell as well as their negatives. The correspondence is quite voluminous as Bidwell wrote several times a week to his parents and later to Fox. The correspondence discusses his daily activities, such as the classes he took, the amount of time he studied, and the various shows he worked on with the Yale Dramatic Association (Dramat), as a stagehand and set builder. The photographs he took are mainly of the Yale University campus and his dormitory room in Timothy Dwight residential college. He also took some photographs of himself and his roommates.

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## Arrangement

This collection is arranged by document type.

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## Collection Contents

Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1-2	Freshman year	1952–1953
b. 1, f. 3-4	Sophomore year	1953–1954
b. 1, f. 5-6	Junior year	1954–1955
b. 1, f. 7	Senior year	1955–1956
b. 1, f. 8	Photographs and negatives	1952–1956
b. 2	Photographs [digital] 2016-M-0044-0001 1 DVD-R  As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access	

## **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.

### **Corporate Bodies**

Timothy Dwight College (Yale University)

Yale College (1887- ). Class of 1956

Yale University -- Students