

# Guide to the John Masefield Collection

GEN MSS 288



by Beinecke Staff

July 1997

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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:** GEN MSS 288

**CREATOR:** Masfield, John, 1878-1967

**TITLE:** John Masfield collection

**DATES:** 1903-1963

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.84 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Contains letters from Masfield to various people, including Florence Hardy (mainly about her husband, Thomas Hardy), Joyce King, Elkin Mathews, and C. K. Ogden; manuscripts of poems by Masfield; photographs of Masfield; and articles about him.

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

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## 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.mase>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

Ongoing collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. Type of accession (gift or purchase) and date of acquisition is noted in the box-and-folder list. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 3 contains Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The John Masefield Collection 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.

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## Preferred Citation

John Masefield Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from previously existing cards in the Manuscripts Catalog, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. If the collection also contains unlisted or unsorted material, it has been noted in the box-and-folder list. This finding aid will be updated periodically to account for new materials that may be added to the collection. The date of the most recent update is noted on the title page. For information on material that may have been added since the last update, please consult the Public Service Desk.

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## Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts and other papers, by or pertaining to John Masefield, which the library has chosen to group and list as an artificial collection.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Letters from John Masefield, 1936 Feb 17

b. 1, f. 1	TNS to Mrs. George Pierce Baker, Cirencester, [England] Gift, 1945.	1936 Feb 17
b. 1, f. 2	AL to Mr. Christy, Oxford	n.d.
b. 1, f. 3	TLS to Mrs. Davies, Abingdon Removed from: <i>A Macbeth Production</i> by John Masefield (London, 1945). Purchase, 1977.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 4	ALS to Mrs. Goode, Cholsey, Berks Encloses poem, "Creed," holograph. Gift, 1963.	1915 Jun 14
b. 1, f. 5	ALS to Mr. Gosse, Cholsey, Berks	1918 May 19
b. 1, f. 6	2 ALS to Geoffrey Handley-Taylor, Abingdon, Berks Gift, 1959.	1959, n.d.
b. 1, f. 7	6 ALS to Mrs. Thomas Hardy, Boars Hill, Oxford Most of the letters refer to Thomas Hardy. Gift, 1958.	1921-28, n.d.
b. 1, f. 8	ANS to Mrs. [Oliver] Herford, Lollingdon, Cholsey, Berks Enclosing a manuscript copy of his poem, "August 1914," with an inscription to the Herfords and an original tail-piece drawing. Purchase, 1937.	1916 Jul 28
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to President Hamilton Holt of Rollins College, Abingdon Gift, 1977.	1949 Feb 7
b. 1, f. 10-15	111 ALS and 7 TLS to Joyce King Accompanied by two holograph poems by Masefield; one holograph poem possibly by Masefield; holograph notes for the Malvern Festival; typescript of an article about King; two photographs of King; and one photograph of Masefield inscribed to King, 1952 Nov 15. Purchase, 1973.	1951-62, n.d.
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to Mr. Marsh, Lollingdon, Cholsey, Berks Accompanied by ALS to Mrs. Marsh, Congress Hotel and Annex, Chicago, 1918 Apr 10. Purchase, 1956.	1916 Jul 7
b. 1, f. 17	APcS to Elkin Mathews, 30, Maida Hill West, W. Removed from: <i>Ballads and Poems</i> by John Masefield (1910).	1910 Jun 23
b. 1, f. 18	ALS to Elkin Mathews, 18 Porter Place, W. Enclosing "A June Twilight" and "Midsummer Night," holograph poems. Accompanied by holograph note by Masefield; and clipping of "Roadways" and "To the Spring Flowers." Gift, 1992.	
b. 1, f. 19	ALS to Lady Mary Murray, Cholsey, Berks Removed from: <i>The Battle of the Somme</i> by John Masefield (London: William Heinemann, 1919).	1916 Apr 27
b. 1, f. 20	ALS to Mr. Neilson, Hill Crest, Boar's Hill, Oxford	1922 Mar 31

b. 1, f. 21	ALS to [M. Moyca] Newell, Abingdon Removed from: <i>The Conway</i> by John Masefield (London, 1953). Gift, 1962.	[1953]
b. 1, f. 22	3 ALS and 1 APcS to C. K. Ogden Purchase, 1976.	1917-20
b. 1, f. 23	LS to F. C. Owlett in an unidentified hand Gift, 1943.	[1930 Oct 11]
b. 1, f. 24	ANS to William Lyon Phelps, New York City Removed from: <i>Sonnets</i> by John Masefield (New York, 1916). Accompanied by an article, including portrait of John Masefield, written by Edward Alden Jewell, which appeared in the <i>New York Tribune</i> , 1916 Jan 23. Gift, 1943.	1916 Feb 28
b. 1, f. 25-27	21 ALS and 3 Christmas cards to Mrs. Edward Bliss Reed To Elizabeth Reed. Accompanied by photograph of Masefield in army uniform. Gift, 1965.	1916-63, n.d.
b. 1, f. 28	2 ALS to William T. Reed Accompanied by manuscript leaf containing the private code used by Masefield and Reed. Gift, 1965.	1916, n.d.
b. 1, f. 29	ALS to Sir William Watson, Oxford With envelope. Purchase, 1948.	1930 Dec 2
b. 1, f. 30	ALS to an unidentified recipient, London Gift, 1938.	1916 Dec 18
b. 1, f. 31	ALS to "Dear sir," Hill Crest, Boar's Hill, Oxford Removed from: <i>The Widow in the Bye Street</i> (London, 1912).	1921 Jan 2
b. 1, f. 32	ALS to "Dear Jasper," Boar's Hill, Oxford Removed from: <i>Salt-Water Ballads</i> by John Masefield (London: Grant Richards, 1902).	Dec 28

**Series II: Writings of John Masefield, n.d.**

b. 1, f. 33	[The gods have put this sorrow upon our souls...] Poem, holograph. Gift, 1994.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 34	"Ships" Corrected galley proof of poem. Purchase, 1942.	1912
b. 1, f. 35	"Sonnet" Printed version. Gift, 1994.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 36	[We fought in the grass [and] the uplands the whole of a summer's day...] Poem, holograph. Gift, 1994.	n.d.

**Series III: Other, n.d.**

b. 1, f. 37	Color photograph of Sir John Lavery's portrait of Masefield, done around 1937 Original portrait is the property of Mr. Corliss Lamont, New York City. Gift.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 38	"John Masefield, O.M. The Queen's Poet Laureate: A Bibliography and Eighty- First Birthday Tribute" compiled by Geoffrey Handley-Taylor Printed prospectus. Accompanied by clipping. Gift, 1994.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 39	"Mr. John Masefield" by Ashley Gibson Galley proof, corrected. Gift, 1994.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 40	Portrait of Masefield Signed by Masefield. Gift, 1944.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 40	Printed version of manuscript sheet music composed by Rolanda Ronal for Masefield's poem, "A Hundred Years Ago" Gift, 1959.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 41	Signature Second page of letter inscribed "With all best wishes to you." Removed from: <i>Good Friday and Other Poems</i> (New York: Macmillan, 1916). Gift, 1962.	n.d.
b. 2, f. 42	Manuscript leaf containing the private code used by Masefield and William Reed Framed. Gift, 1965.	n.d.



## Restricted Fragile Papers

Box 3 contains Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. 3, f. 44	Box 1, folder 21
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b. 3, f. 45	Box 1, folder 24
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b. 3, f. 46	Box 1, folder 38
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b. 3, f. 47	Box 1, folder 39
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## **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**

Authors, English -- Archives

### **Names**

Hardy, Florence Emily, 1879-1937

Hardy, Thomas, 1840-1928

King, Joyce

Masefield, John, 1878-1967

Mathews, Elkin, 1851-1921

Ogden, C. K. (Charles Kay), 1889-1957