Summary

Creator: Maugham, W. Somerset (William Somerset), 1874-1965

Title: William Somerset Maugham collection of papers

Date: 1897]-1964

Size: 746 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of typescripts, manuscripts, correspondence, and legal documents.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

Alternative Form Available: William Somerset Maugham's outgoing correspondence Available on microfilm as part of William S. Maugham collection of papers; service copy classmark: *Z-10384


Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Creator History

William Somerset Maugham was a British fiction and comedy writer, essayist, playwright, and literary critic.

Custodial History
The bulk of the materials was previously owned by W. T. H. Howe, the American Play Co., and the literary agency A. P. Watt and son.

Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of typescripts, manuscripts, correspondence, and legal documents. The typescripts and manuscripts include plays, short stories, novels, and other writings, as well as plays based on the author's works. Also included are agreements, forms, and statements from various theatrical agencies concerning the author. The correspondence consists of letters from the author, dating from [1897] to 1964, to Kate Mary Bruce, William Morris Colles, Violet Hunt, Edward Knoblock, Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Muriel Rukeyser, Clement King Shorter, Carl Van Vechten, the literary agency of A. P. Watt and Son, and others. Other letters, relating to the author, date from [1921] to 1956; the correspondents include Ian Fleming, Robert Graves, A. P. Watt and Son, the literary agency James B. Pinker and Son, and others. There are letters to Maugham from Shah Agha Khan, Felix Ferry, and Sir Stanley Unwin, dating from 1950 to [1954?].

Key Terms

Names
Maugham, W. Somerset (William Somerset), 1874-1965
Bruce, Kate Mary Maugham, 1897-
Colles, William Morris, 1855-1926
Ferry, Felix
Fleming, Ian, 1908-1964
Graves, Robert, 1895-1985
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)
Hunt, Violet, 1862-1942
Khan, Agha Mohammad Yahya, 1917-1980
Knoblock, Edward, 1874-1945
Marsh, Edward Howard, Sir, 1872-1953
Rukeyser, Muriel, 1913-1980
Shorter, Clement King, 1857-1926
Unwin, Stanley, Sir, 1884-1968
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964
A. P. Watt and Son
A. P. Watt and Son
American Play Company
James B. Pinker and Son
**Container List**

**Manuscripts and Typescripts**

Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Maugham

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cover of the American Play Co., no. 309 n.d. (46 p) (46 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With: Ms. note in unidentified hand at end: &quot;Not a picture story. J. K.&quot;; Published in the U. S. with title: East and West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Camel's back; [a play in three acts], The. Typescript (carbon) n.d. (120 p) (120 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the files of the American Play Co., no. 341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Explorer; a play in four acts, The. Typescript (carbon). Fastened in linen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cover of the American Play Co., no. 316 n.d. (111 p) (111 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Published London, W. Heinemann, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cased</td>
<td>Forever spring. Mimeographed novel. &quot;To be serialized by Red book in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall of 1941&quot; 1941 Sept. 26 (1 v) (1 v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Lady Frederick; a comedy in three acts. Stamped: &quot;Office of Alice Kauser.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fastened in linen cover of the American Play Co. n.d. (126 p) (126 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With ms. notes and stage directions in an unidentified hand. Published London, W. Heinemann, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Land of promise; a comedy in four acts, The. Typescript (carbon). Fastened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in linen cover of the American Play Co., no. 344 n.d. (116 p) (116 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Published London, Bickers &amp; son, 1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Mrs. Beamish; a comedy in three acts. Typescript with the author's ms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>corrections. Stamped on t.p.: R. Golding Bright. Fastened in linen cover of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the American Play Co. n.d. (108 p) (108 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With: Mrs. Beamish; a comedy in three acts. Under the circumstances. Later emended typescript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Mrs. Beamish; a comedy in three acts. Under the circumstances. Later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>typescript with ms. corrections in an unidentified hand. Stamped on t.p.: R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Golding Bright. Fastened in linen cover of the American Play Co. n.d. (120 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(120 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With: Mrs. Beamish; a comedy in three acts. Emended typescript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Night in June, A. Typescript (carbon) of short story n.d. (39 p) (39 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the files of the American Play Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>&quot;Noble Spaniard&quot;, The. Typescript (carbon) of play. Translation and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>adaptation of Grenet-Dancourt's three-act comedy Les gaites du veuvage.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fastened in linen cover of the American Play Co., no. 357 n.d. (100 p) (100 p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Our betters; a play in three acts. Fastened in linen cover of the American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Play Co., no. 407 n.d. (160 p) (160 p)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With name of cast and stage directions in an unidentified hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversize (+)</td>
<td>Penelope; a comedy in three acts. Typescript (carbon) n.d. (170 p) (170 p)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the files of the American Play Co., no. 361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Quartet]. Holograph draft for the introductory talk to the film version n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(5 p) (5 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With The razor's edge. Typescript (incomplete) with the author's ms.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>revisions, July 12-19, 1945, p. 106</td>
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</table>
Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)
Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Maugham (cont.)

Oversize (+)

Oversize (+)

Manuscript box

Oversize (+)
[Unattainable, The]. Caroline; a comedy in three acts. Typescript. Inscribed: "Return to Margaret Anglin" and "Return to Jane Broder" n.d. (95 p) (95 p) With ms. notes and stage directions in Margaret Anglin's (?) and an unidentified hand. Published London, Heinemann, 1923. From the files of the American Play Co., no. 409

Oversize (+)

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Maugham

Oversize (+)

Oversize (+)

Oversize (+)

Oversize (+)(Maugham)

Manuscript box (Maugham)
Darnborough, Antony. Typewritten memorandum to Sydney Box. Relates to the filming of W. S. Maugham's short story Ther verberg in Trio 1950 Feb. 16 (1 p) (1 p) Encloses note from the vicar of Grosvenor chapel refusing permission to film on premises. 1 l.

Oversize (+)(Maugham)

Manuscript box
Nash's Pall Mall magazine. Many happy returns! Holograph and typescript contributions by various authors to the 25th anniversary issue of Nash's. Detailed list of contents in folder 1 1934? (57 folders) (57 folders) Some contributions accompanied by correspondence. Published in Nash's, v. 93, no. 494 (July 1934) p. 58-59, 142-147
Manuscript box. Box 31
Wescott, Glenway. [Images of truth. Somerset Maugham and posterity]. Final typescript with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (38 p)
Published New York, Harper & Row [c1962]

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Aldington, Richard. TL (copy) to 1954 Aug. 29 (1 p)

Archer, William. TLS to 1948 Aug. 1 (1 p)
Archer, William. TLS to Feb. 20 (1 p)
Beerbohm, Max. ALS to 1928 Feb. (1)
Box, Sydney. TLS to 1950 Feb. 16 (1 p)
Bruce, Kate Mary. 75 ALS, 1 TLS, 1 telegram to. Supplied dates by Robin Maugham 1927 Mar. 3 - [1961 Oct. 20 (77 letters in 16 folders)]
Colles, William Morris. ALS to [1898] Nov. 10 (2 leaves)
Darnborough, Antony. TLS to 1948 Nov. 16 (1 p)
Doran, George H. ALS to n.d. (1 leaf)
Harper & Bros. TNS to. Mentions Edna St. Vincent Millay 1940 Oct. 18 (1 p)

Hunt, Violet. 11 ALS to n.d. (11 letters in 2 folders)
Knoblock, Edward. 12 ALS, 1 LS, 1 card, 10 TLS to 1914 Apr. 9 - [ca. 1930] June 24 (24 letters in 5 folders)
Land, Myrick. TLS to. Relates to disagreement with Hugh Walpole 1961 Sept. 6, 1962 Apr. 23 (1 leaf; 1 p)
Landau, [--?]. TLS to 1954 Nov. 3 (1 p)
Little, Fanny B. ALS to. Stamped April 29, 1925 by G. H. Doran co. 1925 Apr. 28 (1 p)
Lyons, Leonard. 1 ALS, 1 TLS, 8 TNS to 1946 Nov. 5 - 1963 Mar. 2 (10 letters in 2 folders)
Madden, Richard. TNS to May 14 (1 p)
Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. 33 ALS, 1 TLS to [1919?] July 5 - [1949] Apr. 24 (34 letters in 7 folders)
Guide to the
William Somerset Maugham collection of papers

Correspondence (cont.)
Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box

Manuscript box
Maugham, Robin. 2 ALS, 1 postcard to. Dates supplied by correspondent, one undated [1939] Nov. 20, [n.y.] Apr. 24 (3 p.; 1 leaf; 1 card) (3 p.; 1 leaf; 1 card)
With one envelope

Manuscript box
Mealand, Richard, of Nash's Pall Mall magazine, ALS to [1934] Apr. 15 (3 p.) (3 p.)
Includes his contribution to Nash's 25th anniversary issue

Manuscript box
Nichols, Beverly. 9 ALS, 1 TLS to n.d. (10 letters in 2 folders) (10 letters in 2 folders)

Manuscript box
Overton, Grant. 2 ALS, 4 TLS to 1926 Oct. 29 - 1928 Nov. 22 (6 letters) (6 letters)

Manuscript box

Manuscript box
Pinker and son, James B. LS, ALS, etc. to 1911, [n.d] (2 letters) (2 letters)

Manuscript box
Plomer, William. ALS (photocopy) to 1934 Sept. 30 (2 p.) (2 p)
 Came with Plomer's correspondence with Jacob Schwartz

Manuscript box
Rubin, Jane. 2 ALS, 8 TLS to 1951 June 3 - [n.y.] Jan. 20 (10 letters in 2 folders) (10 letters in 2 folders)
With: Maugham, W. S. TNS to Richard Madden, May 14 [n.y.] 1 p.

Manuscript box
Rukeyser, Muriel. 2 TLS to 1957 Apr. 27, 1962 Nov. 17 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)

Manuscript box
Shorter, Clement King. ALS to 1918 Feb. 8 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box
Smith, Frederick Stanley. 6 ALS, 1 TLS to 1923 Sept. 16] - 1935 Jan. 16 (7 letters) (7 letters)

Manuscript box
With reader's report by W. H. Chesson, 6 by Edward Garnett and one by Vaughan Nash

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to 1925 Sept. 2 (1 p) (1 p)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to 1925 Oct.? (1 p) (1 p)
With: Colefax, Sibyl (Halsey), lady. ALS to [Carl] Van Vechten. [Nov. 22, 1925]

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to 1928 May 25 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to 1931 Apr. 12 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to 1934 Aug. (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to 1934 Sept. 19 (3 p) (3 p)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to 1934 Nov. 9 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to 1936 Jan. 18 (1 p) (1 p)
B.

Manuscript box
[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to. On correspondence card 1936 Apr. 11 (1 card) (1 card)
B.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript box</th>
<th>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to</th>
<th>1936 May 19 (1 p) (1 p)</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to</td>
<td>1938 Feb. 25 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
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<td>B.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to. Introduces Maugham's nephew Robin</td>
<td>1938 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accompanied by letter from Robin Maugham to Carl Van Vechten; both letters in envelope postmarked Jan. 31, 1938. B.</td>
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<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carl. LS to</td>
<td>1939 Mar. 31 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>Van Vechten, Carl. Postal card to</td>
<td>1939 (1 card) (1 card)</td>
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<td>B.</td>
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<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carl. ALS to</td>
<td>[1940?] Aug. 21 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)</td>
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<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to</td>
<td>1941 Apr. 5 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
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<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to</td>
<td>1941 Nov. 17 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
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<td>B.</td>
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<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>[Van Vechten], Carlo [Carl]. ALS to</td>
<td>[1944?] Jan. 31 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>Watt and son, A. P. 10 ALS, 123 TLS, 1 telegram to</td>
<td>1947 Jan. 18 - 1964 May 9 (134 letters in 27 folders) (134 letters in 27 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enclosed in July 12, 1953: Ferry, Felix. TLS to W. S. Maugham, July 1, 1953. 2 p.; with AL (draft), signed W. P. Watt, TL signed Patricia Butler, and 15 TL (carbon) from Watt to Maugham</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>Wolfe, Humbert. ANS to</td>
<td>n.d. (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscript box (Maugham)</td>
<td>Agha Khan, Agha Sultan Mohammed Shah. ANS to [Maugham]</td>
<td>[1954?] June 3 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscript box (Maugham)</td>
<td>Ferry, Felix. TLS to Maugham 1953 July 1 (2 p) (2 p)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box (Maugham)</td>
<td>Unwin, Stanley, Sir. TLS to Maugham. Relates to Maugham's article on Augustus Hare 1950 Sept. 21 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>From the files of A. P. Watt and son</td>
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<td>Manuscript box (Bennett)</td>
<td>Bodkin, Thomas. TLS to Reginald Pound. Relates to Arnold Bennett, mentions W. S. Maugham 1953 Jan. 15 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box (Maugham)</td>
<td>Fleming, Ian. 2 TLS to A. P. Watt and son. Relate to W. S. Maugham 1954 May 14, 1954 May 24 (1 leaf; 1 p) (1 p; 1 p)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the files of A. P. Watt and son</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box</td>
<td>Graves, Robert. ALS, ANS, and postcard to A. P. Watt and son. Letter of Nov. 18, 1947 relates to W. S. Maugham [1921] Apr. 3 - 1947 Nov. 18 (1 p. each; 1 card) (1 p. each; 1 card)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Correspondence (cont.)
Related Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Jonas, Klaus W. 6 ALS and LS to Carl Van Vechten. Relate to Maugham
22 (7 letters) (7 letters)

Manuscript box
(Bennett)
Kelly, Sir Gerald Festus. TLS to Reginald Pound. Relates to Arnold
Bennett; mentions W. S. Maugham 1953 Jan. 26 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Kelly, Sir Gerald Festus. TLS, TNS to A. P. Watt & son. Letter of June 7th
quotes letter from W. S. Maugham to Kelly 1938 June 7, 1938 June 13 (1 p. each)
(1 p. each)
With carbons of two letters from Watt and three unrelated memoranda

Manuscript box
(Pinker, J. B., firm)
Letters, ALS, telegrams, etc. from various publishers, etc. to the firm of
James B. Pinker and son as literary agents from William Somerset
Maugham n.d. (60] letters) ([60] letters)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Letters, ALS, telegrams, etc. from various publishers, etc. to the firm of A.
P. Watt and son as literary agents for W. S. Maugham 1947 - 1956 (14 letters)
(14 letters)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Macmillan, Harold. TLS, TNS to A. P. Watt and son. Relate to W. S.
Maugham’s proposed selection of Rudyard Kipling’s stories 1951 Feb. 6, 1951
Feb. 21 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
From the files of A. P. Watt and son

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Queen, Ellery, pseud. TLS to Katharine Ulman. Relates to reprint rights to
W. Somerset Maugham’s The hairless Mexican 1954 June 16 (1 p) (1 p)
From the files of A. P. Watt and son

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Stern, Gladys Bronwyn. 3 ALS to Beverley Nichols. Mention John
Betjeman, John Van Druten and W. S. Maugham n.d. (3 letters) (3 letters)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
[Watt and son, A. P.] 2 typed memoranda, 1 miscellaneous piece relating
to W. S. Maugham 1949 - 1954 (3 items) (3 items)

Legal Documents

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreement (envelope only) between William Somerset Maugham and T.
Fisher Unwin 1899 Mar. 7 (1 item) (1 item)

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical
agencies concerning Maugham n.d. (163 folders) (163 folders)
From the files of the American Play Co.

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical
agencies concerning Maugham. Refers to his The moon and sixpence n.d. (1
folder) (1 folder)
From the files of the American Play Co.

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical
agencies concerning Maugham. Refers to his Our betters n.d. (1 folder) (1
folder)
From the files of the American Play Co.

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical
agencies concerning Maugham. Refers to his The sacred flame n.d. (1 folder)
(1 folder)
From the files of the American Play Co.

Manuscript box
(Maugham)
Agreements, correspondence, forms, statements from various theatrical
agencies concerning Maugham n.d. (6 folders) (6 folders)