

Louis Umfreville Wilkinson:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Wilkinson, Louis Umfreville, 1881-1966
Title:	Louis Umfreville Wilkinson Collection
Dates:	1916-1960
Extent:	7 document boxes (2.94 linear feet) and 4 galley folders (gf)
Abstract:	Sixty-seven holograph notebooks chiefly relating to his published fiction and non-fiction make up the bulk of the Louis Wilkinson Collection.
RLIN Record #	TXRC02-A6
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-4521
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research. Part or all of this collection is housed off-site and may require up to three business days notice for access in the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Please contact the Center before requesting this material: reference@hrc.utexas.edu

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Purchases, 1967-1977 (R3456, R7675)
Processed by:	Chelsea S. Dinsmore, 2002, updated by Betsy Nitsch, 2012
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

Louis Umfreville Wilkinson was born in 1881, the only son of a clergyman. He attended Radley School where he struck up a correspondence with Oscar Wilde, then imprisoned in Reading Goal. He attended Oxford for four semesters before being "sent down" for blasphemousness in 1901. He next went to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his degree and published his first novel in 1905. Also at Cambridge he made a group of lifelong friends including Llewelyn Powys, J.C. Squire, Ronald Storrs, and Ralph Strauss. Powys' two brothers, John Cowper and Theodore Francis, also became close friends.

Throughout his life Wilkinson wrote autobiographical and satirical novels, publishing them under the pseudonym Louis Marlow. He supported himself largely through writing, though he also took to the lecture circuit on occasion. He was married four times and upon his death in 1966 he had two surviving children.

Scope and Contents

Sixty-seven holograph notebooks chiefly relating to his published fiction and non-fiction make up the bulk of the Louis Wilkinson Collection, 1916-1958. The collection is organized into three series: Series I. Works, 1934-1952 (2 boxes); Series II. Aleister Crowley's Estate, 1947-1960 (2 folders); and Series III. Notebooks, 1916-1958 (5 boxes).

Series I contains typescripts and page proofs for *The Devil in Crystal*, *Forth, Beast!*, *Seven Friends*, and *Welsh Ambassadors*. Also present are galley proofs for *The Letters of Llewelyn Powys*. Representing Wilkinson's biography of Lord George Sackville, *Sackville of Drayton*, are typescripts, page and galley proofs, drafts of the appendix and indices, and correspondence regarding publication of the book. Correspondents are listed in the Index of Correspondence at the end of this guide.

The second series is composed of correspondence regarding Wilkinson's duties as an executor of Aleister Crowley's estate. All correspondents are listed in the Index of Correspondence at the end of this guide.

Series III contains 67 notebooks in which Wilkinson wrote drafts for his novels, drafted letters, jotted down lines of poetry, and noted shopping and expense lists. The notebooks have been listed under the titles to which they chiefly relate, where possible. Notebooks that do not contain identifiable titles have been placed at the end of the collection.

Related Material

Other materials associated with Louis Wilkinson may be found in the following manuscript collections at the Ransom Center:

- British Sexological Society
- Bennet, Arnold
- Crowley, Aleister
- Dick, Kay
- Harris, Frank
- Hopkins, Kenneth
- Lehmann, John
- Meredith, George
- Morrell, Ottoline Violet
- Anne, Lady
- PEN
- Powys, John Cowper
- Powys, Llewelyn
- Powys, Theodore Francis
- Shaw, George Bernard
- Symons, Alphonse James Albert

Index Terms

Correspondents

Germer, Karl Johannes.

Sackville, Nigel Victor Stopford, 1901-.

Subjects

Crowley, Aleister, 1875-1947.

Marlow, Louis, 1881-1966.

Powys, John Cowper, 1872-1963.

Powys, Llewelyn, 1884-1939.

Powys, Theodore Francis, 1875-1953.

Autobiography.

Wilkinson, Louis Umfreville, 1881-1966

Authors, English.

Document Types

Galley proofs.

Notebooks.

I. Works, 1934-1952

The Devil in Crystal (1943)

Typescript with author revisions, some page duplications, 161pp, undated **Box 1**
Folder
1-2

Page proofs with author revisions, 118pp, undated **Folder 3**

Forth, Beast! (1946)

Typescript with heavy author revisions and additional pages of an earlier draft, 350pp **Box 1**
Folder
4-5

Page proofs, with author revisions and notes, 199pp **Folder 6**

The Letters of Llewelyn Powys (1943), galley proofs **Container gf 1**

Sackville of Drayton (1948)

Loose pages, holograph and typescript notes with author revisions and comments **Box 1**
Folder
7

Typescript with author revisions and comments, 345pp **Folder 8**

Appendix, typescript with author revisions, 39pp **Folder 9**

Index, typescript with author revisions, 15pp **Box 2**
Folder 1

Indices and errata sheets, typescript with author revisions, 44pp **Folder 2**

Page proofs with author revisions, 28pp **Folder**
3

Galley proofs, with author revisions, 290pp **Folder 4-5**

Galley proofs, two uncut sets **Container gf 2-3**

Wilkinson, Louis Umfreville, 1881-1966

Correspondence, 1934-1952

Box 2 Folder 6

Seven Friends(1953), typescript with author revisions, 164pp

Container
2.7, gf 4

Welsh Ambassadors (1935)

Notes and loose notebook pages with first draft notes with author revisions, 93pp

Box 2
Folder
8

Page proofs with heavy author revisions, 283pp

Folder 9

Wilkinson, Louis Umfreville, 1881-1966

II. Aleister Crowley's Estate, 1947-1960

Letters from Karl J. Germer

Box 2 Folder 10

Letters from lawyers, associates and Wilkinson

Folder 11

III. Notebooks, 1916-1968

<i>Brute Gods</i> , six notebooks	Box 3 Folder 1
<i>The Buffoon</i> , four notebooks	Folder 2
<i>A Chaste Man</i> , four notebooks	Folder 3
<i>Devil in Crystal</i> , four notebooks	Folder 4
<i>Fool's Quarter Day</i> , twelve notebooks	Box 4 Folder 1-3
<i>Forth, Beast!</i> , five notebooks	Box 5 Folder 1
<i>The Lion Took Fright</i> , four notebooks	Folder 2
<i>Love By Accident</i> , four notebooks	Folder 3-4
<i>Mr. Amberthwaite</i> , three notebooks	Box 6 Folder 1
<i>Sackville of Drayton</i> , three notebooks	Folder 2
<i>Seven Friends</i> , six notebooks	Folder 3
<i>Swan's Milk</i> , six notebooks and one loose page	Box 7 Folder 1
<i>Two Made Their Bed</i> , three notebooks	Folder 2
Unidentified, nine notebooks, two include material re Aleister Crowley and one seems to hold part of an untitled and unfinished novel	Folder 3

Louis Wilkinson Collection--Index of Correspondents

Names in **bold** appear in the RLIN record.

- Board of Trade, Dept. of Official Receivers--2.11
- Braby & Waller, Solicitors--2.11
- Cassazza, Alice--2.11
- Clark, Denis--2.11
- Cowtan & Sons, Ltd--2.11
- Curtis Brown, Ltd.--2.6
- Davy, Clark (see also *The Observer*)--2.6
- Denny & Co., Solicitors--2.11
- Denny, Henry Littleton Lyster, b. 1878--2.6
- Elwin, Malcolm, 1902- --2.6
- Eyre & Spottiswoode--2.6
- Gardner, G. B.--2.11
- **Germer, Karl Johannes**--2.10
- Home & van Thal, Ltd.--2.6
- Lloyds Bank--2.11
- MacDonald, & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.--2.6
- Menneer, Idle & Brackette--2.11
- Murray, John--2.6
- National City Bank--2.11
- *The Observer*--2.6
- Renier, Anne--2.6
- **Sackville, Nigel Victor Stopford, 1901-** --2.6
- Sackville-West V. (Victoria), 1892-1962--2.6
- W.A. Guy, Ltd.--2.11
- W. J. W. Hill--2.11
- Watson, H. F.--2.11

Bar Code List

- 1--059188000054570
- 2--059188000054581
- 3--059188000054592
- 4--059188000054606
- 5--059188000054617
- 6--059188000054628
- 7--059188000054639