

Thomas Wolfe:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Wolfe, Thomas, 1900-1938
Title:	Thomas Wolfe Collection
Dates:	1917-1961, undated
Extent:	3 boxes (1.05 linear feet), 5 galley folders (gf)
Abstract:	Includes several manuscripts and letters by the American novelist Thomas Wolfe, but largely consists of correspondence and research materials gathered together by George Riley Preston during compilation of his <i>Thomas Wolfe: A Bibliography</i> (1943). Preston's correspondents include Wolfe associates, writers on Wolfe, other bibliographers, and publishers, including Belinda Dobson Jelliffe, William J. McElwee, Maxwell Perkins, Raymond Thompson, Richard Gaither Walser, Mabel Wolfe Wheaton, William B. Wisdom, and Julia Elizabeth Wolfe.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-4573
Language:	English, Italian, and French
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Michael Ramsey, 2011 Note: This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

- Autobiographical statement, signed typescript with extensive handwritten revisions, 6 pages, 7 May 1936 (New York City). For Georges Schreiber's Portraits and self-portraits, 1936. Included with this: brief typescript biographical material **Container**
1.1
- A Cullenden of Virginia, typescript, 6 pages, undated.
- London tower, carbon typescript / copy, 4 pages, 19 July 1925.
- Poems, typescript / copy, 4 pages, 1917-1919. Excerpts from The University of North Carolina Magazine. Contents: A field in Flanders (poem); To France (poem); The Challenge (poem); To Rupert Brooke (poem); The drammer (poem).
- Return, typescript, 3 pages, 16 May 1937.
- The story of a novel, galley proofs, 21 pages, February no year. **Container** gf
1
- The streets of Durham, or dirty work at the cross roads: a tragedy in three muddy acts, carbon typescript / copy, 6 pages, 18 November 1919. **Container**
1.1
- Travel notes, handwritten manuscript, 43 pages, various incomplete dates. **Container**
1.2
- The web and the rock:
- Galley proofs, approximately 290 pages, undated. **Container** gf
2-3
- 3 galley proofs / incomplete, approximately 60 pages, 1939. **Container**
1.3-5
- Chapter 8, People of the night, typescript / galley / copy, 11 pages, undated. **Container**
1.1
- Chapter 8, People of the night, galley proof, pages 58-64. **Container** gf
4
- The years of wandering in many lands and cities, 2 dummies, undated. **Container**
1.6
- You can't go home again (broadcast); adapted by Claris A. Ross, typescript / duplicated pages, 46 pages, 18 December 1949. Episode number 67. **Container**
1.7

Letters:

TL / copy, 2 TL / copies / fragments to unidentified recipients, June 1935, undated.

Container
1.8

TPC / copies to Bernstein, Aline Frankau, undated.

TccL to Boyd, Madeleine Elise Reynier, 8 January 1929.

2 ALS to Dashiell, Alfred S. "Fritz," undated. From the Hanley Collection.

2 TL / copies, TPC / copy to Jelliffe, Belinda Dobson, 4 January and 6 March 1935, undated.

TL / copy to McCoy, George W., undated.

ALS, AL / copy to Perkins, Maxwell Evarts, 17 May 1930, 12 April 1938.

AL / photostat to Ruggles, Daniel Blaisdell, Mrs., 9 July 1935. Written on this: J. F. Maw, TL / photostat to Mrs. Ruggles.

Miscellaneous:**Container**
1.9

Unidentified author. Books and authors, re Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 2 pages, 14 April 1937 (New York Times Book Review).

Unidentified author. Brevity to be goal of Thomas Wolfe, 2 typescripts / copies, 2 pages each, 5 July 1935 (The New York Times).

Unidentified author. Carolina playbook describes Tom Wolfe as Chapel Hill actor, typescript / copy / excerpt, 1 page, undated.

Unidentified author. Contents of A stone, a leaf, a door, with source of each item, typescript, 2 pages, undated. Included with this: newspaper clipping. Removed from AC-L W832s 1945.

Unidentified author. Introduction to the Italian translation, by Maria Martone, of One of the girls in our party, by Thomas Wolfe, typescript, 1 page; 2 typescripts / English translations, 1 page each; undated. Translation of Wolfe's story in L'italiano for February-March 1939.

Unidentified author. Literary mass-production, re Thomas Wolfe, 2 typescripts / copies, 1 page each, 6 May 1935 (New York Times editorial).

Unidentified author. Not Wolfe's literary agent, typescript / copy, 1 page, 16 September 1935 (New York Times).

Unidentified author. Notes on Look homeward, angel, handwritten manuscript references to book, 5 pages, undated. Removed from AC-L W832Gwat 1957 copy 4.

Unidentified author. Spring fiction, re Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 1 page, undated.

Unidentified author. Stock in trade, re Of time and the river by Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 2 pages, 23 December 1935 (New York Times editorial).

Unidentified author. Wolfe must testify, typescript / copy, 1 page, 9 October 1935 (New York Times).

Unidentified author. TccL to Wolfe, Fred W., 14 January 1931. Removed from AC-L W832of 1935 copy 4.

Adams, Franklin Pierce, 1881-1960. From the Conning tower, re Of time and the river by Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 1 page, 9 March 1935 (New York Herald Tribune).

Adams, Marguerite Janvrin, 1889- . TLS to Preston, 10 June 1946. Removed from PS 3501 D288 G637 HRC.

Aker, John Edwards. 2 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 3 December and 28 December 1945.

Albrecht, W. P. TLS to Preston, George Riley, 6 November 1950.

Alicat Book Shop. ALS Florence Harsratoff to Preston, George Riley, 21 August 1943.

Alsterlund, B. TLS to Preston, George Riley, 27 June 1947. Letterhead: American Notes and Queries.

Aswell, Edward C. The last journey, the longest, the best (foreword), galley sheets / **Container**
incomplete, 2 pages, 1949. gf 5

Aswell, Edward C. 3 TLS to Preston, George, 1941-1949. **Container 1.9**

Bigart, Homer. Thomas Wolfe at 35 is tired of being a legend, typescript / copy, 3 pages, undated. Published in The New York Herald Tribune.

Bishop, John Peale, 1892-1944. TL / copy to Kohler, Mr., 16 May 1939.

Blanck, Jacob. TLS to unidentified recipient Nate re Wolfe edition, 11 May 1943. Removed from 11 May 1943.

Boesen, Charles S. ALS, TL / copy, 3 APCS, telegram to Preston, George Riley, 1942-1957, undated.

Bonnier (Albert) Publishing House, TL to Preston, George Riley, 20 April 1938.

Boyd, Madeleine Elie Reynier. The discovery of a genius, re Thomas Wolfe, typescript with few handwritten emendations, 24 pages; carbon typescript, 22 pages; undated. **Container**
1.10-11

Calpai, Letterio. Drawing of an angel, woodcut sketch with handwritten inscription on verso, 1947. "From the Angel portfolio." **Container**
1.9

Chamberlain, John, 1903-. Books of the times, re Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, 2 typescripts / copies, 3 pages each, 8 March and 12 March 1935. Published in the New York Times. **Container**
1.12

Columbia Broadcasting System. Invitation to learning, discussion of Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, carbon typescript, 15 pages, 4 August 1946. Participants: John D. Morse, Maxwell Geismar, and Hamilton Basso. Included with this: TLS Doris G. Lockhoff to George R. Preston, 3 September 1946. **Container**
1.9

Columbia Broadcasting System. Invitation to learning, discussion of You can't go home again, carbon typescript, 16 pages, 18 December 1949. Participants: John Mason Brown, Alfred Kazin, and Maxwell Geismar.

Cowan, Janet. ALS to Preston, George Riley, 3 August 1946.

Cronin, Archibald Joseph, 1896- . A book in which a man reveals his soul and writes with his soul, re Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 2 pages, undated. Published in the New York Sun.

Delakas, Daniel L. TL / copy to Cohn, M. A. re Thomas Wolfe, la France et les romanciers français, 25 November 1950. Included with this: mimeo announcement of book. Removed from AC-L W832Gde 1950.

Det Kgl. Bibliotek. TL copy librarian Morgens Haugsted to Pusey, William W., 24 August 1946.

Dickson, Frank A., 1911- . TLS to Boesen, Charles S., 14 March 1950.
Letterhead: Anderson Independent Tribune; Anderson Daily Mail.

Dodd, Martha, 1908- . Through embassy eyes (excerpt), typescript, 5 pages, 1939.

Editions Stock. TL / copy Andre Bay to Pusey, William W., 5 September 1947 (Paris). In French.

Eugene Field Society. FLS John George Hartwig to Preston, George Riley, 18 November 1943.

Evropský Literární Klub. 2 TLS Jiří Pober to Preston, George Riley, 18 July and 5 September 1938. Included with this: Orbis. TPCS to Preston, George Riley, 27 June 1938.

Fadiman, Clifton, 1904- . Review of Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 4 pages, 9 March 1935 (New Yorker). **Container 2.1**

Flaccus, Kimball, 1911- . Letter to Thomas Wolfe (poem), typescript, 3 pages, 13 May 1939 (Scholastic).

Friedman, Bernard Harper, 1926- . Tom Wolfe, American, handwritten manuscript, 22 pages, 31 January 1947. Competition paper for an English course. **Container 2.2**

Hall, Jay. 4 TLS to Preston, George R., 1946. **Container 2.1**

Hanson, Henry. Books, article re Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 1 page, undated.

Harvard University. Harvard College. Library. TLS William A. Jackson to Preston, George Riley, 23 January 1942.

Hay, Sara Henderson, 1906- . Once more, ye laurels (for Thomas Wolfe)..., signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

Helsinki. University. Library. TL / copy librarian Paul Nyberg to Pursey, William. W., 6 September 1946.

Hoagland, C. TL / fragment to Preston, George R., 3 June 1943. Handwritten note in hand of Preston.

House of Books, Ltd. TLS Marguerite A. Cohn to Boesen, Charles, 21 June 1943.

House of Books, Ltd. TPC to Guffey, Don Carlos re Wolfe edition, 4 October 1939. Removed from AC-L W832fa 1939.

Jack, P. M. Obituary of Thomas Wolfe, carbon typescript, 5 pages, undated.

Jelliffe, Belinda Dobson, 1892- . TL, TPC to Preston, George Riley, 27 May and 4 June 1943.

Jenson Press. TLS Charles Emory Schwamb? to Preston, George Riley, 24 July 1942.

Johnston, E. D. 4 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 1953. Letterhead: Limestone College.

Jones, Dan Burne. TPCS to Preston, George Riley, 16 February 1953.

Kenison, Frank R. TLS to Preston, George Riley, 13 February 1950. Letterhead: The State of New Hampshire; Supreme Court.

Loggins, Vernon, 1893- . I hear America: Thomas Wolfe, typescript / copy, 5 pages, undated.

Lomax, Elizabeth:

Look homeward, angel (broadcast), mimeo radio script, 14 episodes, approximately 154 pages, undated. Voice of America: American speaks through her books series. **Container** 2.3

Look homeward angel: Farewell to Altamont (broadcast), mimeo radio script, 21 pages, undated. El Radioteatro de America. **Container** 2.4

Of time and the river (broadcast), mimeo radio script, 7 episodes, approximately 98 pages, 1 January - 25 February 1947. **Container** 2.5

Of time and the river (broadcast), mimeo radio script, 42 pages, 18-24 March, 1947. Radioteatro de America. **Container** 2.6

McCoy, George W. 4 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 1937-1950. Letterhead: Asheville Citizen-Times Co. **Container** 2.1

Managan, James T. 3 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 1943, undated.

Marian. TLS to Preston, George Riley, 8 April no year.

Maynard, Arthur. APCS to Maynard, Helen, 5 December 1940. Removed from AC-L W832fro 1935 copy 3.

Muller, Herbert Joseph, 1905- . Modern fiction: a study of values (excerpt), typescript / copy, 7 pages, 1937.

National Society of Autograph Collectors. TLS E. B. Long to Preston, George Riley, 1 April 1948. **Container 2.7**

North Carolina. University. 2 TLS Mary L. Thornton to Preston, George Riley, 20 February and 2 March 1942.

Nowell, Elizabeth. TLS to Yohalem, George, 10 June 1938.

Oslo. University. Library. TL / copy director W. Munthe to Pusey, William W., 9 September 1946.

Potter, Jack. TLS to Preston, George Riley, re Thomas Wolfe books, 2 January 1950. Removed from AC-L W8932fro 1935 copy 5.

Preston, George Riley, 1900- :

Review of The enigma of Thomas Wolfe, edited by Richard Walser, typescript / incomplete, 3 pages; carbon typescript / incomplete, 3 pages; carbon typescript, 4 pages; undated. **Container 2.7**

Thomas Wolfe: a bibliography:

Composite typed and carbon copy manuscript with few handwritten emendations and handwritten printer's markings, 67 pages, undated. **Container 2.8**

Carbon copy typescript with handwritten emendations, 67 pages, undated. Includes photograph of Wolfe used for frontispiece. **Container 2.9**

Miscellaneous notes, handwritten, typed, and printed materials, about 82 pages including clippings, various dates. **Container 2.10**

TccL to Aker, John Edwards, 18 December 1945. **Container 2.7**

TLS to Heinemann, William, 22 May 1938.

TccL to Jelliffe, Belinda, 1 June 1943.

2 TccL to McElwee, William J., 14 June 1942, 4 March 1943. Included with this: Thomas Wolfe: a bibliography, foreword, carbon typescript, undated.

TccL to Pober, Jiří (Evropský Literární Klub), 2 August 1938.

Agreement with Harold Moulton, signed typescript, 1 page, 18 July 1943.

Pusey, William W. 4 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 1948.

Research Associates. Thomas Clayton Wolfe, 1900-1938 (bibliography), typescript, 6 pages, undated.

Ritten House Publishers. ALS, 12 TLS, 3 telegrams William J. McElwee to Preston, George Riley, 1941-1942, undated. **Container**
2.11

Romaine, Lawrence B., 1900- . TLS to Preston, George Riley, 31 December 1946. **Container**
2.7

Royal Library of Stockholm. Library. TL / copy Ruben Erickson to Pusey, William W., 22 July 1946.

Ruttle, Shaw and Wetherill, Inc. TLS Edward H. Fritsche to Preston, George Riley, 18 March 1943.

Scribner's (Charles) Sons. TLS managing editor Alfred Dashiell to Yohalem, Nina re Wolfe short stories, 9 June 1933.

Scribner's (Charles) Sons. 2 TLS Maxwell E. Perkins to Preston, George Riley, 12 January and 18 March 1942.

Terzian, Annette. ALS to Preston, George Riley, 20 March 1944.

Thomas Wolfe Memorial Association. 3 TLS, 12 FL to Preston, George Riley, 1948-1955, undated. **Container**
2.12

Thompson, Raymond. Persons entangled in the Wolfe web, typescript, 4 pages, circa 1943. Alphabetical list with annotations. **Container**
2.7

Thompson, Raymond. 7 ALS, AL / incomplete, 2 APCS, 40 TLS, telegram to Preston, George Riley, 1941-1945, undated. **Container**
3.1

U. S. Library of Congress. Copyright Office. Certificate of copyright registration for Thomas Wolfe: a bibliography by George R. Preston, printed document with typed insertions, 1 page, 1943. Included with this: FL to George R. Preston, 20 August 1943. **Container**
2.7

Vanderbilt, S. Thomas Wolfe cuts 2d book to 450,000 words, carbon typescript, 4 pages, 18 February 1935.

Van Doren, Mark, 1894- . The autobiographical novel: Wolfe, typescript / copy, 1 page, 11 October 1937. Lecture at the New School for Social Research.

Wainwright, Alexander D. 4 ALS to Preston, George Riley, 1947-1949.

Walser, Richard Gaither, 1908- .

4 ALS, 11 TLS, 5 APCS, 3 APCI, 5 TPCS, 2 TPC to Preston, George Riley, 1949-1961, undated. **Container**
3.2

TLS, APCS to Preston, George Riley, 9 March and 23 March 1950. Removed from AC-L W832Gad 1950. **Container**
2.7

TLS to Preston, George Riley re The strange case of Thomas Wolfe, 7 July 1950. Removed from AC-L W832Ghe 1949.

TLS to Preston, George Riley, 3 February 1955. Removed from AC-L W832S 1945 copy 3.

2 APCS, APCI, 3 TPCS to Preston, George Riley, 1960-1961. Removed from AC-L N832G2a.t 1961.

Westlake, Neda. 2 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 8 November 1948, undated.

Wheaton, Mabel Wolfe. 3 ALS, 2 AL / fragments, 2 APCS, 2 Christmas cards to Preston, George Riley, 1946-1947, undated. **Container**
3.3

Wheelock, John Hall, 1886- . Typescript / memo to Randall re source of extract from Wolfe letter, 15 June 1950. Included with this: typescript / copy of extract. Removed from AC-L W832GR 1943 copy 3. **Container**
2.7

Whittlesey House. TL / copy editor-in-chief Edward C. Aswell to Pusey, William W., 20 October 1947.

Wilhoit, R. L. TLS to Boesen, Charles S., 22 August 1947.

Williams, Mildred K. TLS to Preston, George R., 16 February 1942.

Wisdom, William B. 2 ALS, 3 TLS to Preston, George Riley, 1941-1942, undated. Included with this: Thomas Wolfe, TL / copy to Madeleine Boyd, 8 January 1929. **Container**
3.4

Wolfe, Julia Elizabeth Westall, 1860-1945. ALS, APCS to Preston, George Riley, 14 April 1942, 1 November 1943. **Container**
2.7

Wolfe, Thomas, 1900-1938. Check to Hill Top Liquor Store, 10 June 1936.

Wolfe, Thomas, 1900-1938. Inscriptions for Kimball Flaccus and Madeleine Boyd, written in books, signed handwritten manuscript / photographic copy, 1 page; carbon typescript / copy, 1 page; 5 January 1929, 5 December 1935.

Zeydel, Walter H. 2 ALS to Preston, George Riley, 5 November and 11 November 1943.

Zobeltitz, Hans Casper Anton Konstantin von, 1883- . Review of Of time and the river, by Thomas Wolfe, carbon typescript, 1 page, 1936 (Monthly Magazine).

Zobeltitz, Hans Casper Anton Konstantin von, 1883- . Review of Von zeit und strom, newspaper clipping with typed transcription, undated. Removed from AC-L W832ofTGs 1936 vol. 1.

Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date