



# ArchivesSpace

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## John Masefield papers4079651

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Masefield, John, 1878-1967
<b>Creator:</b>	Vernon, Barbara
<b>Title:</b>	John Masefield papers
<b>ID:</b>	4079651
<b>ID:</b>	MS#0848
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1912-1972
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 linear feet 11 boxes 2 oversize folders
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); John Masefield papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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English poet and author.

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## Summary

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Correspondence, manuscripts, art works, and printed materials by and about the English Poet Laureate John Masefield. Included are about 72 letters written by Masefield to his wife, Constance, from February through May 1917 when he was with the British Army in northern France. There are also letters from Masefield to Suzanne and Nicholas Fay, Jean Downs,

Michael and Mollie Hardwick, Thomas F. E. Kelly, Mrs. Robert Masefield, Lord Noel-Buxton, Ruth Robinson, Dorothy S. Rodwell, and others. In addition, there are autograph manuscripts of poems, manuscript notebooks with drafts of poems, related art work, and printed materials including several items relating to the poets's death. Also included are 90 letters and cards from Masefield to the ballerina Brangwen reflecting their close friendship

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## Arrangement

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Selected materials cataloged.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### Revision Description

EAD document created by CCR. Access restrictions to original letters from John to Constance Masefield were reviewed by CCR. The RBML decided to remove the restrictions because the original items are in good condition. Use of the typescript and photocopies is no longer required. 2020-10-22 2020-10-22

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

### **Conditions Governing Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Corliss Lamont, 1968-1989.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Carl Woodring, 1985.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Lamont, Corliss, 1968, 1970, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1981, 1989 and Carl Woodring, 1985. Method of acquisition--Gift and Purchase(544370; 09920F; 718578; 10449F; 297-25/1/82; 297-30/3/83; 297-12/16/86; 297-11/7/88); Date of acquisition--1968. Accession number--M-68.

### **Processing Information**

Processed 02/05/90.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Selected Related Material - at Columbia**

[Helen MacLachlan Papers](#), Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Poets, English
- English literature -- 20th century
- World War, 1914-1918
- Authors
- Masefield, Constance, -1960
- Fay, Suzanne
- Fay, Nicholas
- Downs, Jean
- Hardwick, Michael, 1924-1991
- Hardwick, Mollie
- Kelly, Thomas F. E
- Noel-Buxton, Noel Noel-Buxton, Baron, 1869-1948
- Robinson, Ruth
- Rodwell, Dorothy S
- Woodring, Carl, 1919-2009
- Irving, Laurence, 1897-1988
- Jefferson, Alan

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Correspondence

#### Subseries I.1: Cataloged Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
Betjeman, John	box 1
Binyon, Laurence	box 1
Bottomley, Gordon	box 1
Bowra, Sir (Cecil) Maurice	box 1
Gawsworth, John	box 1
Gibson, Wilfred	box 1
Gielgud, Sir John	box 1
Godfrey, M	box 1

Graves, Robert	box 1
Hardy, Thomas	box 1
Hassall, Christopher	box 1
Housman, Alfred Edward	box 1
Knight, George Richard Wilson	box 1
Knight, Dame Laura	box 1
Lamont, Florence (Mrs. Thomas W.)	box 1
Lamont, Thomas William	box 1
Leverson, Ada	box 1
MacClymont, Murray	box 1
Masefield, John, undated	box 1
Masefield, John, 1902-1955	box 2
Masefield, John (1956- ) - Z	box 3
Masefield, Judith	box 3
Morgan, Charles	box 3
Munnings, Sir Alfred J.	box 3
Murray, Gilbert	box 3
Nevinson, Henry W[oodd]	box 3
Sackville-West, Victoria Mary	box 3
Shaw, George Bernard	box 3
Sitwell, Sir Osbert	box 3
Synge, John Millington Wilson, Caroline	box 3
Yeats, George	box 3
Yeats, Jack Butler	box 3
Yeats, William Butler	box 3
Correspondence--Miscellaneous	box 3

### Subseries I.2: Other Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
Lamont, Corliss, 1925-1967	box 4

**Scope and Contents**

Correspondence with Corliss Lamont. Printed facsimile; 2 volumes.

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Vernon, Barbara, 1939-1959

box 4A

**Scope and Contents**

Letters of John Masefield to the ballerina Brangwen (Barbara Vernon).

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Masefield, Constance, 1917 February 26-May 24

box 5

**Scope and Contents**

Letters of John Masefield to his wife, Constance. The original letters, as well as a corrected typescript, and photocopies of the original correspondence, are in Box 5.

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## Series II: Cataloged Manuscripts and Documents

Title/Description	Instances
A - Masefield, John (A-K)	box 6
Masefield, John (L-N)	box 7
Masefield, John (O-Z) - Z	box 8

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## Series III: Materials Concerning the Production of *The Coming of Christ*, 1928-1972

**Scope and Contents**

Includes John Masefield and Carl Woodring materials related to productions, including correspondence and other materials.

### Subseries III.1: Cataloged Letters and Manuscripts

Title/Description	Instances
Irving, Laurence Henry Forster, 1972 May 10	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Wittersham [UK]. 1972 May 10; To Carl Woodring; a.l.s., 3p. (Re: the Wittersham production of <i>The</i>	



*Coming of Christ* by John Masefield in 1953  
December.)

Irving, Laurence Henry Forster, 1972 [December]	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Wittersham [UK]. 1972 [December]; To [Carl Woodring]; a.l.s., 1p. (on the verso of a mounted reproduction of his study for a picture of the final tableau of <i>The Coming of Christ</i> by John Masefield at Canterbury Cathedral in May of 1928: the picture is dedicated: "In memoriam GB [George Kennedy Allen Bell] JM [John Masefield] GH [Gustav Holst] CR [Charles Ricketts]"	
Irving, Laurence Henry Forster, 1953 November 28	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
<i>The Coming of Christ</i> ; plan; Wittersham Church. [Wittersham, UK]. 1953 November 28; a.ms., 2p. (Diagram of the Wittersham Church, used as the setting for the 1928 December production of <i>The Coming of Christ</i> by John Masefield)	
Jefferson, Alan, 1972 January 30	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Guildford [UK], 1972 January 30. To Carl Woodring, t.l.s., 1p. (with t.l. copy of a related letter, re: the Wittersham production of <i>The Coming of Christ</i> by John Masefield in 1953 December)	
Jefferson, Alan, 1972 May 9	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Guildford [UK], 1972 May 9; to Carl Woodring; a.l.s., 2p. (re: the Wittersham production of <i>The Coming of Christ</i> by John Masefield in 1953 December)	
Masefield, John, [1928]	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Boar's Hill [UK] [1928] To Charles de Sousa Ricketts; a.l.s., 1p. (re: the Canterbury production of <i>The Coming of Christ</i> by John Masefield, in 1928 May)	

### Subseries III.2: Uncataloged Items

Title/Description	Instances
<i>The Coming of Christ</i> , 1928	box 4

Physical Description: 4 items

### Scope and Contents

The Canterbury production in 1928 May. Printed, miscellaneous.

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*The Coming of Christ*, 1953 box 4

Physical Description: 4 items

### Scope and Contents

The Wittersham production in 1953 December. Programs and printed, miscellaneous.

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## Series IV: Other Materials

Title/Description	Instances
Art Works	box 9
Masefield's Gravestone at Westminster Abbey	box 9
Photographs	box 9
Printed Material--Centenary	box 9
Printed Material	box 10

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## Series V: Oversized Materials

Title/Description	Instances
Masefield, John--The Western Hudson Shore	flatbox 320
<p><u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>  <b>Conditions Governing Access</b></p> <p>If you would like to use this item, please contact the Rare Book &amp; Manuscript Library in advance of your visit to discuss access options.</p>	
<p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Phonograph record, 1 side, 33 1/3 rpm.</p>	
Hill Players Testimonial to John Masefield	flatbox 320
Portrait by William Strang, 1903	flatbox 320
Appointment as Poet Laureate, 1930 May 9	

Physical Description: ms.d. 1p.

shelf  
Oversized  
13V

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Corliss Lamont, 1978

**Scope and Contents**

Appointment as Poet Laureate, signed by Sir Rowland  
Thomas Baring, 2nd Earl of Cromer, the Lord  
Chamberlain; with envelope.

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