

Marquis James Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79027631>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013098>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2013

Collection Summary

Title: Marquis James Papers

Span Dates: 1914-1955

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1930-1949)

ID No.: MSS27631

Creator: James, Marquis, 1891-1955

Extent: 14,000 items

Extent: 48 containers

Extent: 19 linear feet

Extent: 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79027631>

Summary: Author. Diary, correspondence, book material, literary and biographical articles, radio scripts and plays, legal and financial papers, clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other papers relating mainly to James's work as a biographer.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965.

Garner, John Nance, 1868-1967.

Grace, William Russell, 1832-1904.

Houston, Sam, 1793-1863.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845.

James, Cynthia, 1924- --Correspondence.

James, Marquis, 1891-1955.

Ross, Harold Wallace, 1892-1951--Correspondence.

Organizations

Writers' War Board.

Places

Cherokee Strip (Okla. and Kan.)--History.

Oklahoma--History.

Texas--History.

Titles

American Legion monthly.

New Yorker.

Scoop (Chicago, Ill.)

Occupations

Authors.

Provenance

The papers of Marquis James, author, were given to the Library of Congress in 1958 by his widow, Jacqueline James. An addition of a microfilm of an original diary in private hands was reproduced by the Library in 1965.

Processing History

The James Papers were processed in 1959 and expanded with the addition of microfilm of a diary in 2003. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

Additional Guides

A note on the Marquis James Papers appeared in the Library's *Information Bulletin* 18, no. 2 (12 Jan. 1959): 16.

Transfers

Original issues of the *Chicago Ledger* have been transferred to the Library's Serial & Government Publications Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Marquis James in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Marquis James are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on one reel. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Marquis James Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1891	Born, Springfield, Mo.
1897-1909	Educated in public schools, Enid, Okla.
1909-1913	Reporter, Enid, Okla.; Kansas City, Mo.; St. Louis, Mo., and New Orleans, La.
1914	Married Bessie Williams Rowland (divorced)
1914-1916	Worked on <i>Chicago Tribune</i> , <i>Chicago Daily Journal</i> , and <i>New York Tribune</i>
1917-1919	Served in World War I
1919-1923	National Director of Publicity, American Legion
1923-1932	Staff member, <i>American Legion Monthly</i>
1925	Member, editorial staff, the <i>New Yorker</i>
1930	Pulitzer Prize winner for biography, <i>The Raven; A Biography of Sam Houston</i>

1938	Pulitzer Prize winner for biography, <i>Andrew Jackson; Portrait of a President</i>
1954	Married Jacqueline Mary Parsons
1955, Nov. 19	Died, Rye, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Marquis James (1891-1955) span the years 1914-1955, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1930-1939. The collection consists of a diary, correspondence, book material, literary and biographical articles, radio scripts and plays, legal and financial papers, clippings, printed material, photographs, and other papers related largely to James's work as a biographer. The papers are organized into nine series: [General Correspondence](#), [Literary File I](#), [Newspaper Clippings](#), [Printed Matter](#), [Photographs and Miscellany](#), [Literary File II](#), [Legal File](#), [Personal Correspondence](#), and [Miscellany](#).

Included with manuscripts of James's books are voluminous notes covering extensive research on historical events in Texas and Oklahoma in preparation for a biography of Sam Houston and writing of *The Cherokee Strip*. The printed material includes articles published in various magazines, especially the *New Yorker*, *American Legion Monthly*, and *Scoop* (Chicago, Ill.).

Twice a Pulitzer Prize winner, James had considerable correspondence with residents of Texas and Oklahoma in which the writers volunteered further information about Sam Houston and Andrew Jackson, whose biographies won this prize for the author. Included also is correspondence with Harold Wallace Ross of the *New Yorker* in the early years of the magazine's birth and growth. Other material consists of manuscripts prepared for the Writers' War Board during World War II; memoirs of Bernard M. Baruch and related correspondence; and material on John Nance Garner. Also included is the manuscript of James's unpublished "The Story of William R. Grace" and a diary from 1904-1905 reproduced from the original in private hands and available only on microfilm.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in nine series:

- [General Correspondence, 1921-1955](#)
- [Literary File I, 1928-1949](#)
- [Newspaper Clippings](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1914-1952](#)
- [Photographs](#)
- [Literary File II, 1934-1937](#)
- [Legal File, 1930-1951](#)
- [Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955](#)
- [Miscellany](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-9	<u>General Correspondence, 1921-1955</u> Letters sent and received. Alphabetically arranged by name of correspondent.
BOX 10-27	<u>Literary File I, 1928-1949</u> Includes manuscripts, notes, photographs, and correspondence relating to major works, magazine articles, and radio scripts. Arranged by title or work or topic.
BOX 28-30	<u>Newspaper Clippings</u> Newspaper clippings by and about James and topics of interest to him. Unarranged.
BOX 31-33	<u>Printed Matter, 1914-1952</u> Mainly articles by James. Partially arranged by title of magazine.
BOX 34	<u>Photographs</u> Miscellaneous photographs and other material. Unarranged.
BOX 35-40	<u>Literary File II, 1934-1937</u> Manuscripts, notes, and correspondence relating to "Memoirs of Bernard Baruch." Also the final proof of "The Story of William R. Grace." Arranged by title of work.
BOX 41	<u>Legal File, 1930-1951</u> Correspondence and other papers pertaining to a lawsuit regarding the <i>The Raven</i> and motion picture rights of <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i> .
BOX 42-45	<u>Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of correspondent.
BOX 46-48	<u>Miscellany</u> Diary, financial papers, duplicates, and miscellaneous material. <i>Diary available only on microfilm, shelf no. 13,093.</i>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-9	General Correspondence, 1921-1955 Letters sent and received. Alphabetically arranged by name of correspondent.
BOX 1	A-Baum
BOX 2	Beals-Chambers
BOX 3	Chambers-Dutton
BOX 4	E-G
BOX 5	H-L
BOX 6	M-N
BOX 7	O-R
BOX 8	S-V
BOX 9	W-Z
BOX 10-27	Literary File I, 1928-1949 Includes manuscripts, notes, photographs, and correspondence relating to major works, magazine articles, and radio scripts. Arranged by title or work or topic.
BOX 10	Books
BOX 10	<i>The Raven</i> , 1928-1949
BOX 10	Chapters 1-13
BOX 11	Chapters 14-28; footnotes
BOX 12	Miscellaneous notes
BOX 13	Miscellaneous notes, correspondence, photographs, photostats, and printed matter
BOX 14	<i>The Cherokee Strip</i> .
BOX 14	Chapters 1-16
BOX 15	Miscellaneous notes
BOX 16	<i>Andrew Jackson; Portrait of a President</i> , 1928-1949
BOX 16	Chapters 1-11
BOX 17	Chapters 12-23
BOX 18	<i>Andrew Jackson; The Border Captain</i> , chapters 1-20, 1928-1949
BOX 19-22	<i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i> , 1928-1949
BOX 19-22	Miscellaneous
BOX 19-22	Notes
BOX 23	Correspondence
BOX 24	Photographs
BOX 24	Photostats and printed matter
BOX 24	Newspaper clippings
BOX 25	<i>Mr. Garner of Texas</i> , manuscript
BOX 25	Memoirs of Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, 1938-1939
BOX 25	Manuscripts

Literary File I, 1928-1949

Container	Contents
BOX 25	Miscellaneous notes
BOX 25	Related correspondence
BOX 26	Articles
BOX 27	Radio scripts and plays, manuscripts and related correspondence, 1940-1949
BOX 28-30	Newspaper Clippings Newspaper clippings by and about James and topics of interest to him. Unarranged.
BOX 28	<i>Chicago Ledger</i> , 1915-1918
BOX 29-30	Miscellany
BOX 31-33	Printed Matter, 1914-1952 Mainly articles by James. Partially arranged by title of magazine.
BOX 31	<i>New Yorker</i> , 1925-1952
BOX 32	<i>American Legion Monthly</i> , 1930-1937
BOX 32	Miscellany
BOX 33	Miscellany
BOX 34	Photographs Miscellaneous photographs and other material. Unarranged.
BOX 34	Garner, John Nance, and others
BOX 35-40	Literary File II, 1934-1937 Manuscripts, notes, and correspondence relating to "Memoirs of Bernard Baruch." Also the final proof of "The Story of William R. Grace." Arranged by title of work.
BOX 35	"Memoirs of Bernard Baruch"
BOX 35	Miscellaneous chapters
BOX 36	Chapters 6-13
BOX 37	Chapters 14-17
BOX 38	Chapters 20-23 and miscellaneous notes
BOX 39	Miscellaneous notes and related correspondence
BOX 40	"The Story of William R. Grace," final proof
BOX 41	Legal File, 1930-1951 Correspondence and other papers pertaining to a lawsuit regarding the <i>The Raven</i> and motion picture rights of <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i> .
BOX 41	Lawsuit regarding The Raven
BOX 41	Motion picture rights regarding <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i>
BOX 42-45	Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955 Letters sent and received.

Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955

Container	Contents
	Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of correspondent.
BOX 42	Books-Green
BOX 43	Hospital-James, Bessie R.
BOX 44	James, Cynthia
BOX 45	James, Cynthia-Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt
BOX 46-48	Miscellany Diary, financial papers, duplicates, and miscellaneous material. <i>Diary available only on microfilm, shelf no. 13,093.</i>
BOX 46-48	Miscellaneous items, financial material, and duplicates Diary, 1904-1905 Available only on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,093