



The New York Public Library  
Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**Howard Griffin collection of papers**

1942-1975

Berg Coll MSS Griffin

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Griffin, Howard, 1915-1975

**Title:** Howard Griffin collection of papers

**Date:** 1942-1975

**Size:** 160 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 manuscripts and typescripts, as well as correspondence dating from 1942 to 1975.

**Access:** Restricted access.

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

**Preferred citation:** [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

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

## Creator History

Howard Griffin was an American poet, editor, and interviewer.

## Custodial History

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

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, as well as correspondence dating from 1951 to 1964. The manuscripts and typescripts include drafts of his work on W. H. Auden and Frank O'Hara, as well as an Auden poetry exam and Griffin's notes on Auden lectures. The correspondence includes letters to Frances Steloff dating from 1951 to 1964. The bulk of the correspondence is addressed to Griffin from Alan Ansen, W. H. Auden, Elizabeth Bishop, Paul Bowles, Ivy Compton-Burnett, Cecil Day-Lewis, Robert Graves, Christopher Isherwood, Chester Kallman, Rose Macaulay, Marianne Moore, Howard Nemerov, Anais Nin, Frank O'Hara, George Plimpton, Katherine Anne Porter, Stephen Spender, Carl Van Vechten, Sylvia Townsend Warner, and others dating from 1942 to 1975.

## Key Terms

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

### Names

Griffin, Howard, 1915-1975  
Ansen, Alan  
Auden, W. H. (Wystan Hugh), 1907-1973  
Bishop, Elizabeth, 1911-1979  
Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999  
Compton-Burnett, I. (Ivy), 1884-1969  
Day Lewis, C. (Cecil), 1904-1972  
Graves, Robert, 1895-1985  
Isherwood, Christopher, 1904-1986  
Kallman, Chester, 1921-1975  
Macaulay, Rose, Dame  
Moore, Marianne, 1887-1972  
Nemerov, Howard  
Nin, Anai\_s, 1903-1977  
O'Hara, Frank, 1926-1966  
Plimpton, George  
Porter, Katherine Anne, 1890-1980  
Spender, Stephen, 1909-1995  
Steloff, Frances, 1887-1989  
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964  
Warner, Sylvia Townsend, 1893-

## Container List

### Manuscripts and Typescripts

- Manuscript box Auden, Wystan Hugh. [Exam] The meaning and technique of poetry. Typescript (mimeographed) handouts and final examination, with Howard Griffin's ms. annotations. A course he taught at the New School for Social Research, New York 1948 (19 p) (19 p)
- Manuscript box (Auden) [Conversation with Wystan Hugh Auden]. Holograph and typescript drafts (incomplete) of dialogues 1949 Nov. 14 - 1950 Mar. 15 (161 p. in 9 folders) (161 p. in 9 folders)
- Manuscript box (Auden) [Conversation with Wystan Hugh Auden] Typescript and typescript (carbon) drafts of 5 dialogues (1 complete), with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (244 p. in 11 folders) (244 p. in 11 folders)
- Manuscript box (Auden) Idiom of W. H. Auden, The. Typescript draft (incomplete) and 2 typescript (carbon, incomplete) drafts of essay with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (3 items) (3 items)
- Manuscript box (O'Hara, F.) [Notes on Frank O'Hara]. Holograph draft c. 1966 (19 p) (19 p)
- Manuscript box (Isherwood) [Portrait of a novelist, A]. Holograph and typescript drafts (incomplete) of article with the author's ms. corrections. A conversation with Christopher Isherwood 1957 Oct. 11 (29 p) (29 p)
- Manuscript box (Isherwood) [Portrait of a novelist, A]. Typescript draft of article with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (15 p) (15 p)  
Signed
- (Auden) [Shakespeare's plays and sonnets]. Typescript of notes on lectures by W. H. Auden with his ms. corrections. From lectures given at the New School (New York) in 1946-1947 and later published in *The enchafed flood* (1950) 1949 Feb. 13 (190 p) (190 p)  
Detailed list of contents laid in
- Manuscript box (Auden) W. H. A[uden]. Typescript draft (incomplete) of article with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Gotham) Steloff, 6 ALS to Frances 1951 Apr. 13 - 1964 Jan. 9 (6 items) (6 items)  
With ALS by Claire Griffin, Nov. 15, 1954

#### Incoming Correspondence

- Manuscript box Ansen, Alan. ANS to Griffin. On card 1953 May 28 (1 item) (1 item)  
With: Auden, W. H. 21 ALS, 1 AL (incomplete), etc. to Howard Griffin. Folder 2
- Manuscript box Auden, Wystan Hugh. 21 Als, 1 AL (incomplete), 3 TLS, 1 postcard to Griffin 1946 Oct. 26 - [1969] Dec. 22 (26 items) (26 items)  
With a printed birthday invitation for Feb. 21, 1961. Folder 4. Accompanied by: Ansen, Alan. 1 ANS to Griffin, May 28, 1953. On card
- Manuscript box Benet, William Rose. 2 ALS, 2 TLS, 2 TL, 2 TNS, 1 TN to Griffin 1947 June 27 - 1950 Jan. 6 (9 items in 2 folders) (9 items in 2 folders)
- Manuscript box Betjeman, John. 2 TLS to Griffin 1957 Jan. 30, 1957 Feb. 7 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Bishop, Elizabeth. 1 TLS to Griffin 1975 Aug. 27 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Bowles, Paul. 1 TLS to Griffin 1973 Aug. 29 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Brinnin, John Malcolm. Postcard to Griffin 1959 May 10 (1 item) (1 item)

Correspondence (cont.)

Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box Broughton, James. 2 ALS, 1 TLS, 1 TLS (mutilated) to Griffin. One dated Sept. 29 [n.y.]; two undated 1949 Apr. 15 (4 items) (4 items)
- Manuscript box Bynner, Witter. 2 TLS to Griffin 1951 May 25, 1951 Aug. 16 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
- Manuscript box Caetani, Marguerite. 3 ALS to Griffin. Dated July 20 [n.y.], June 11 [n.y.], and Sept. 19 [n.y.] (3 items) (3 items)
- Manuscript box Compton-Burnett, Ivy. 1 ALS to Griffin 1961 Nov. 12 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Davidson, Gustav. 2 ALS, 2 TLS to Griffin 1948 Apr. 16 - 1948 Sept. 30 (4 items) (4 items)
- Manuscript box Day, Dorothy. Postcard to Griffin 1950 Jan. 28 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Day-Lewis, Cecil. 1 ALS to Griffin 1962 Aug. 31 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Farrar, John Chipman. TNS to Griffin 1947 Nov. 28 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Fowlie, Wallace. 5 ALS to Griffin 1954 May 30 - 1957 Dec. 31 (5 items) (5 items)
- Manuscript box Goll, Claire. ALS to Griffin 1953 Jan. 8 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Graves, Robert. ALS to Griffin 1958 May 10 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Holmes, John. 2 TLS to Griffin 1954 Apr. 30, 1954 Dec. 1 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Isherwood, Christopher. 2 ALS, 1 TLS, 3 postcards to Griffin [1952] Jan. 6 - [1957] Jan. 26 (6 items in 1 folder) (6 items in 1 folder)
- Manuscript box Isherwood, Christopher. TLS to Griffin Sept. 14 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (Griffin) Johnson, Spud. TLS to Griffin 1954 June 23 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Kallamn, Chester. ANS to Griffin n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
With his: [Poems]. Typescript and typescript (carbon) of four poems.
- Manuscript box (Auden) Kallman, Chester. Telegram to Griffin. Relates to W. H. Auden n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Kinross, Patick, Lord. ALS to Griffin 1957 Feb. 12 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (O'Hara, F.) Le Seur, Joseph. TLs to Griffin. Relates to Frank O'Hara 1966 Oct. 17 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Lehmann, John. TLS to Griffin 1954 Aug. 13 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Luhan, Mabel Dodge. ALS to Griffin n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Macaulay, Rose. 2 postcard to Griffin [1958] Mar. 26, [1958] Apr. 9 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Macdonald, Dwight. ALS, TLS to Griffin. One undated 1948 Nov. 12 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Moore, Marianne. 7 ALS, 2 ANS, 1 TLS to Griffin 1950 Jan. 18 - 1956 June 26 (10 items) (10 items)
- Manuscript box Nemerov, Howard. 2 TLS to Griffin 1947 June 27; [n.y.] July 25 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
- Manuscript box Nin, Anais. Postcard to Griffin 1951 July 16 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box O'Hara, Frank. 2 TLS to Griffin 1957 Jan. 26, 1957 Dec. 5 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)  
One signed "Clifford"
- Manuscript box O'Hara, Frank. TLS, postcard to Griffin 1955 Oct. 14, 1956 Aug. 28 (2 items) (2 items)
- Manuscript box Partisan Review. TL to Griffin 1950 May 5 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
Signed William Barrett
- Manuscript box Plimpton, George. TLS to Griffin n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (Griffin) Poetry. AL, TL to Griffin 1948 July 30; 194[?] Oct. 23 (2 items) (2 items)  
AL signed Marion Strobel; TL signed Hayden Carruth

Correspondence (cont.)

Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box Porter, Katherine Anne. 2 ALS, 2 TLS to Griffin 1954 July 15 - 1957 Jan. 28 (4 items) (4 items)
- Manuscript box Rahv, Philip. TNS to Griffin 1953 Aug. 18 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Raine, Kathleen J. ALS to Griffin n.d. (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Ransom, John Crowe. 3 ALS to Griffin. One date Aug. 20 [n.y.]; another dated Sept. 6 [n.y.] 1946 Oct. 10 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
- Manuscript box Reik, Theodor. ALS to Griffin 1954 Apr. 29 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Spender, Stephen. ALS, 3 TLS, postcard to Griffin 1953 Nov. 4 - 1957 Nov. 28 (5 items) (5 items)
- Manuscript box Speyer, Leonora (von Stosch). 3 ALS to Griffin. One dated Oct. 15 [n.y.], another dated Sunday 24 [n.d.] [1950] July 5 (3 items) (3 items)
- Manuscript box Steegmuller, Francis. ALS to Griffin 1947? Apr. 8 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Stephan, Ruth. ALS to Griffin 1948 Jan. 11 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Van Doren, Mark. 4 ALS, 1 TLS, postcard to Griffin 1942 May 7 - 1955 July 31 (6 items) (6 items)
- Manuscript box Van Vechten, Carl. TLS to Griffin 1950 Feb. 15 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Viereck, Peter. TLS to Griffin Nov. 12 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Warner, Sylvia Townsend. ALS to Griffin 1972 Dec. 7 (2 p) (2 p)
- Manuscript box Weiss, Theodore. 5 ALS, postcard to Griffin 1947 Jan. 9 - 1957 Mar. 13 (6 items) (6 items)
- Manuscript box West, Rebecca [pseud.]. Postcard to Griffin 1947 July 10 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Wheelock, John Hall. TLS to Griffin 1949 Oct. 18 (1 p) (1 p)