



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

George Plimpton papers

1902-2008 [bulk 1960-2003]

MssCol 24586

Processed by Heather Lember in 2019.

Summary

Creator: Plimpton, George

Title: George Plimpton papers

Date: 1902-2008 [bulk 1960-2003]

Size: 120.56 linear feet (292 boxes, 2 oversize folders)

Source: Purchased from Sarah Dudley Plimpton in 2018.

Abstract: George Plimpton was a journalist, author, and editor who is best known as the founding editor-in-chief of the *Paris Review*, and for his participatory sports writing. Plimpton's papers date from 1902 to 2008, and document his literary career, forays into film and television, public appearances, and his personal history. The collection contains manuscripts, notes, and research from most of Plimpton's published works, as well as correspondence, photographs, and biographical files from throughout his life.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: George Plimpton papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Heather Lember in 2019.

Creator History

George Ames Plimpton (1927-2003) was a journalist, author, and literary editor best known for co-founding the *Paris Review*, and for his participatory style of sports writing.

Plimpton was born in New York City on March 18, 1927. He attended St. Bernard's School and Phillips Exeter Academy before enrolling at Harvard in 1944. A year later, Plimpton was drafted into the United States Army, where he served until 1948. He earned a Bachelor's degree in English in 1950, and then went on to study at Cambridge University in England, where he earned a second Bachelor's degree

and a Master's degree in English.

In 1953, Plimpton helped to found the literary magazine, *The Paris Review*, where he served as editor-in-chief until 2003. Plimpton was a frequent contributor to *Sports Illustrated*, and also penned pieces for such publications as *Esquire*, *Harper's*, *Life*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *Playboy*.

Plimpton was known for his immersive journalistic pursuits into the world of sports, some of which began as *Sports Illustrated* assignments, and were ultimately published as full books. Plimpton wrote of his experience pitching in a major league baseball game in *Out of My League* (1961); playing backup quarterback with the Detroit Lions in *Paper Lion* (1966); playing golf as part of the PGA tour in *The Bogey Man* (1967); boxing against World Light Heavyweight champion Archie Moore in *Shadow Box* (1977); and playing goalie with the National Hockey League's Boston Bruins in *Open Net* (1985). He also wrote biographical accounts of the Detroit Lions' Alex 'Mad Duck' Karras and John 'the Bear' Gordy in *Mad Ducks and Bears* (1973), and co-authored a biography chronicling the final season of the Green Bay Packers' Bill Curry in *One More July* (1977).

Plimpton published two works of fiction in his lifetime. The first was an illustrated children's book, *The Rabbit's Umbrella* (1955). The second, entitled *The Curious Case of Sidd Finch*, was a notorious April Fool's prank that profiled a fictional pitcher, Hayden Siddhartha "Sidd" Finch, who could throw a 168 mile per hour fastball. The story first appeared in the page of *Sports Illustrated* in 1985, and was later published in expanded form as a novel in 1987.

In addition to his sports writing, Plimpton also served as editor on a number of projects including Jean Stein's *American Journey: Life and Times of Robert Kennedy* (1970) and *Edie: An American Biography* (1982); Pierre Etchebaster's *Pierre's Book: The Game of Court Tennis* (1971); Diana Vreeland's *D.V.* (1984); and *The Norton Book of Sport* (1992). Plimpton also wrote biographies of Truman Capote in 1997, and of the Antarctic explorer, Ernest Shackleton, in 2003.

Plimpton worked as a demolitions expert during his Army service, inspiring a lifelong interest in fireworks, which he routinely set off illegally at parties. In 1983, he helped to coordinate the Brooklyn Bridge 100th anniversary fireworks celebration, resulting in his appointment as unofficial fireworks commissioner of New York City by Mayor John Lindsay. Plimpton went on to publish a book on the topic called *Fireworks: A History and Celebration* (1984).

Plimpton's career expanded beyond the literary world into television, film, and commercials. He made a number of cameo appearances and acted in such films as *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962), *Rio Lobo* (1970), *Reds* (1981), *Volunteers* (1985), *A Fool and His Money* (1989), *The Bonfire of the Vanities* (1990), *L.A. Story* (1991), *Little Man Tate* (1991), *Just Cause* (1995), *Nixon* (1995), *Good Will Hunting* (1997), and *Just Visiting* (2001). Plimpton was also featured in *The Tightrope Dancer* (1989) a documentary about the artist Vail Myers; in Ken Burns' *Baseball* documentary series (1991); and the boxing documentary, *When We Were Kings* (1996), about the 1974 Muhammad Ali and George Foreman heavyweight championship match.

Plimpton also ventured into the sphere of music, writing the libretto for a children's opera called *Animal Tales*, and playing triangle, sleigh bells, and a gong on a Canadian tour with the Leonard Bernstein directed New York Philharmonic. Plimpton famously missed his triangle cue, and later hit the gong with such force that it briefly disrupted the performance. The mishap was from then on referred to as "the Winnipeg Sound" by Bernstein.

Plimpton died of a heart attack on September 25, 2003. A biography, *George, Being George*, was

edited by Nelson W. Aldrich, Jr. and released posthumously in 2008.

Scope and Content Note

The George Plimpton papers date from 1902 to 2008 (bulk dates 1960-2003), and chronicle Plimpton's career as a writer, book editor, journalist, and actor, as well as his early life, education, military service, and family history. The collection is arranged into ten Series comprising writing and editing files; materials related to Plimpton's media projects in film, television, and advertising; files detailing his public appearances and speeches; professional and personal correspondence; research files; photographs; biographical files; datebooks; accolades and memorabilia; and audio and video recordings. Plimpton's papers detail the varied nature of the literary projects he pursued throughout his career, as well as his on screen appearances, participatory endeavors, and the creative process behind those pursuits.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Biographies
Interviews
Letters (correspondence)
Manuscripts (documents)
Sound recordings
Video recordings (physical artifacts)

Subjects

Citizen journalism
Fireworks
Literature -- Periodicals
Sports -- Biography
Sports journalism

Occupations

Editors.
Journalists.

Names

Aldrich, Nelson W., Jr.
Capote, Truman, 1924-1984
Curry, Bill, 1942-
Plimpton, George
Stein, Jean
Vreeland, Diana

Container List

Series I: Writing and Editing 1949-2003 (161 boxes 65.62 linear feet)

Series I spans the entirety of Plimpton's professional literary career, detailing five decades of his writing and editing work. The Series comprises files from most of the books Plimpton authored or edited; shorter pieces published in books, anthologies, magazines, and newspapers; unpublished and incomplete works; and administrative materials such as contracts, agreements, and royalty statements. The Writing and Editing files primarily hold manuscripts, notes, drafts, and research files, which are arranged within each Subseries by book title or publication name.

Subseries I.A. holds files related to books in which Plimpton was the author or co-author. It commences with Plimpton's inaugural publication, the 1955 children's book *Rabbit's Umbrella*, and concludes with the final book he published in his lifetime, *Ernest Shackleton*. The Subseries is arranged chronologically by each book's publication date, and consists mostly of notes, research, drafts, manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, and clippings of book reviews. There is also some fan mail present in the files for *Out of my League*, legal papers from a court case surrounding *Mad Ducks and Bears*, a screenplay adapted from *The Curious Case of Sidd Finch*, and interview transcripts from Plimpton's biography of Truman Capote.

The most thoroughly documented book is the Truman Capote biography, which contains alphabetically filed interviews, notes arranged by subject matter, and permission forms for each interviewee and contributor. The interview files contain a mixture of transcripts and excerpted selections that Plimpton considered for the book. Similar excerpts appear in the Notes and Research section, but are arranged by topic or chapter instead of interviewee name. Audio recordings of many of these interviews are held in Series X.

The Editing Subseries holds files from the books in which Plimpton served as editor. These files date from 1964 to 2001 and are arranged chronologically by publication date. The Subseries holds a mixture of drafts, manuscripts, notes, research, correspondence, financial documents, permissions, and press clippings. The most comprehensive files are from *Edie*, the biography of Edie Sedgwick written by Jean Stein, and *D.V.*, which is fashion editor Diana Vreeland's autobiography. The *Edie* files are arranged chronologically and grouped by format, while the *D.V.* files comprise notes, manuscripts, drafts, financial documentation, and press clippings, which are often found in a single folder.

Book chapters, book introductions and forwards, magazine and newspaper articles, collaborative projects, and tributes written by Plimpton are all held in Subseries I.C. Most of the files are from newspapers and magazine articles Plimpton authored, which are arranged alphabetically by publication title. These files hold notes, research, notebooks, manuscript drafts, and correspondence with the publications and publishers. Plimpton's writing appeared most frequently in *Sports Illustrated*, which includes some articles that were later adapted into books, most notably *The Curious Case of Sidd Finch* and *Shadow Box*. The *Sports Illustrated* files contain more notes and research, while the files for the subsequent books held in Subseries I.A. contain full manuscripts and more comprehensive notes and drafts.

The Collaborative Projects files include a scrapbook, correspondence, drafts, and mission statements from *The Dynamite Museum*, which was a loose coalition of writers and artists that Plimpton helped to organize. Another collaborative project, *Not the New York Times*, contains drafts, notes, and a full issue of the satirical newspapers. Also of interest are notes and scripts from *Animal Tales*, the children's opera written by Plimpton in collaboration with the composer, Kitty Brazelton.

The tributes held in Subseries I.C. contain an assortment of typed pieces, notes, and drafts of accolades, homages, and obituaries Plimpton penned for Timothy Dickinson, Willard Espy, Jimmy Grucci, and Brock Safronoff.

Incomplete and unpublished materials are held in Subseries I.D., which consists of Early Writing; Book Projects; and Plimpton's unfinished memoir. Materials include proposals, correspondence, manuscripts, notes, and research. Much of the book projects material is devoted to an incomplete project about Barney Rosset, while much of the early writing comprises typescripts of unidentified short stories.

The Administrative Subseries dates from 1964 to 2003, and contains book contracts, correspondence, agreements, and royalty statements. Although there is some administrative materials found with the files for individual books, Plimpton kept most of these items separate, choosing instead to file them all chronologically.

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author 1952-2003

- b. 1 f. 1-13 *Rabbit's Umbrella* 1952-1977
b. 2 f. 1-2 Contains handwritten and typed manuscripts, a book jacket, financial statements, agreements, notes, research, and correspondence.
Out of My League: The Classic Account of an Amateur's Ordeal in Professional Baseball 1960-2003
Contains manuscripts, galley, notes, fan mail, press clippings, photographs, correspondence, royalty statements, contacts, a clippings scrapbook, and agreements.
- b. 2 f. 3-6 Manuscripts and Notes 1960-1961
b. 3 f. 1-5
b. 3 f. 6-7 Photographs, Slides, and Negatives 1960-1961
b. 3 f. 8 Clippings 1960-1981
b. 3 f. 9 Fan Mail and Reviews 1961-1962
b. 3 f. 10-12 Agreements and Royalty Statements 1961-1982
b. 273 f. 1-2 Scrapbook 1961-1962
Monthly contains clippings of reviews.
Paper Lion: Confessions of a Last-String Quarterback
Research, drafts, manuscripts, notebooks, press clippings, photographs, galley, proof, and reunion materials.
- b. 4 f. 1-8 Notebooks 1960s
b. 5-7 Manuscripts and Notes 1960s
b. 274 Gallies and Proofs 1960s
b. 275
b. 7 f. 4-5 Correspondence 1961-1971
b. 7 f. 6-10 Photographs 1963-1968
b. 276 f. 1-6
b. 8 f. 1-8 Clippings and Speeches 1965-1982
b. 273 f. 3-6 Scrapbook 1966
Mostly contains clippings of reviews
b. 8 f. 9 Reunion 2003
- The Bogey Man: A Month on the PGA Tour*
Manuscripts, notes, clippings, correspondence, proofs, notebooks, slides, and photographs.
- b. 8 f. 10-13 Notes 1966-1968
b. 9 f. 1-6 Manuscripts 1966-1968
b. 10 f. 1-5
b. 10 f. 6-7 Proofs 1968
b. 10 f. 8 Correspondence 1969
b. 11 f. 1-3 Photographs 1966-1970
b. 276 f. 7
b. 277 f. 1-3 Scrapbook 1968-1969
Mostly contains clippings of reviews.
b. 11 f. 4 Clippings 1968-1970
- Mad Ducks and Bears*
Agreements, legal papers from "Puffer" lawsuit, manuscripts, proofs, correspondence, clippings of reviews, notes, photographs, negatives, book jacket, and interview transcripts.

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)
Mad Ducks and Bears (cont.)

- b. 11 f. 5-10
b. 12 f. 1-8
b. 13 f. 1-2
b. 13 f. 3-5
b. 14-17
b. 17 f. 2-4
b. 17 f. 5-8
b. 18 f. 1-6
b. 18 f. 7-8
b. 18 f. 9-11
- Notes and Drafts 1969-1973
- Interview Transcripts 1969-1973
- Manuscripts 1969-1973
- Correspondence 1969-1973
- Photographs 1969-1973
- Reviews and Clippings 1970-1977
- Legal Papers 1976-1978
Contains agreements and files from the Puffer lawsuit.
- One for the Record: The Inside Story of Hank Aaron's Chase for the Home Run Record*
Notes, clippings, notebooks, manuscripts, Many clippings contain notes and annotations.
- b. 18 f. 12
b. 19 f. 1-6
b. 20 f. 1-4
b. 20 f. 5-7
- Notes 1970s
- Manuscripts 1973-1974
- Clippings 1974
- Shadow Box: An Amateur in the Ring*
Notes, notebooks, manuscripts, clippings, research, correspondence, photographs, and slides.
- b. 21-23
b. 23 f. 9-14
b. 24 f. 1-5
b. 25 f. 1
b. 25 f. 2-6
b. 276 f. 8-9
b. 25 f. 7-8
b. 25 f. 9-10
b. 26-28
- Notes and Research 1970s
- Manuscripts 1970s
- Photographs 1970s
- Correspondence 1962-1979
- Clippings 1977
- One More July: A Football Dialogue with Bill Curry* 1970s
Contains notes, research, manuscripts, drafts, correspondence, clippings, and reviews.
- b. 28 f. 7-8
b. 29 f. 1-6
b. 30 f. 1-2
b. 30 f. 3-4
- A Sports Bestiary* 1982-1986
Contains notes, research, manuscripts, drafts, correspondence, clippings, and reviews.
- Sports! with Neil Leifer* 1979-1983
Contains notes and manuscripts.
- Fireworks: A History and Celebration* 1969-1987
Research, manuscripts, notes, notebooks, interviews, press clippings, correspondence, permissions, slides. Includes correspondence regarding Plimpton's 1972 arrest.
- b. 30 f. 5-7
b. 31 f. 1-6
b. 31 f. 7-8
b. 32-36
b. 36 f. 6-10
b. 37 f. 1-8
b. 37 f. 9-10
b. 38-44
b. 44 f. 4
b. 44 f. 5
b. 44 f. 6-10
- Correspondence 1972-1987
- Notes and Research 1969-1986
- Drafts 1970s-1983
- Manuscripts 1973-1983
- Permissions 1984
- Slides 1980s
- Reviews and Clippings 1984-1985

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Open Net: A Professional Amateur in the World of Big-Time Hockey

Manuscript, notes, drafts, press clippings, correspondence, photographs, research, notebooks, sports illustrated

- b. 44 f. 11-13 Correspondence 1980-1985
- b. 45 f. 1-4 Notebooks 1980s
- b. 45 f. 5-13 Notes and Drafts 1970s-1980s
- b. 46 f. 1-3
- b. 46 f. 4-5 Manuscripts 1970s-1980s
- b. 47-50
- b. 50 f. 2-6 Photographs and Slides 1970s-1980s
- b. 276 f. 10
- b. 50 f. 7 Release Forms 1977
- b. 50 f. 8-9 Press Clippings 1974-1986

The Curious Case of Sidd Finch 1984-1987

Clippings, screenplay, Sports Illustrated, manuscripts, notes, notebooks, correspondence, press

- b. 50 f. 10-11 Correspondence 1981-1995
 - b. 51 f. 1-11 Notes and Drafts 1980s
 - b. 52 f. 1-6
 - b. 53 f. 1
 - b. 53 f. 2-4 Manuscripts 1980s
 - b. 54-61
 - b. 61 f. 7-8 Press Clippings 1985-1987
 - b. 62 f. 1
 - b. 62 f. 2 Screenplay 1980s
 - b. 62 f. 3 *The Best of Plimpton* 1991
- Contains book cover design.
- b. 62 f. 4-6 *The X Factor: A Quest for Excellence* 1993
- Notes and research. Clippings and correspondence
- b. 62 f. 7 *Chronicles of Courage: Very Special Artists* 1990-1993

[with: Jean Kennedy Smith]. Contains a photocopied annotated draft.

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent Career 1988-1994

Correspondence, background information, clippings, notes, interview transcripts, research, drafts, manuscripts, press releases, Research, Administrative documents, photographs used, correspondence, legal documents, permissions, New Yorker article, topics, Manuscripts by topic; full manuscript; master galley, Working manuscript, early drafts

Interviews

- b. 62 f. 8 Aaron, Daniel 1987-1988
- b. 62 f. 9 Adolpho 1980s
- b. 62 f. 10 Agnelli, Marella 1988-1989
- b. 62 f. 11 Albee, Edward 1991
- b. 62 f. 12 Allen, Barbara 1987
- b. 62 f. 13 Amory, Jan Cushing 1986
- b. 62 f. 14 Antolotti, Lou 1980s
- b. 62 f. 15 Aronson, Steven M.L 1986
- b. 62 f. 16 Auchincloss, Louis 1991
- b. 63 f. 1 Avery, [William] 1996
- b. 63 f. 2-3 Axelrod, Joan 1991-1997

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent
Career (cont.)

- b. 63 f. 4 Bacall, Lauren 1990s
- b. 63 f. 5 Bachardy, Don 1986
- b. 63 f. 6 Bayles, Claire 1989
- b. 63 f. 7 Beard, Chris 1995
- b. 63 f. 8 Beard, Peter 1993
- b. 63 f. 9 Bell, Pearl Kazin 1996
- b. 63 f. 10 Berenson, Marisa 1988
- b. 63 f. 11 Bergen, Candace 1991
- b. 63 f. 12 Berkson, Bill 1994
- b. 63 f. 13 Berlin, Brigid 1992
- b. 63 f. 14 Bissinger, Karl 1998
- b. 63 f. 15 Bouche, Benise 1994
- b. 63 f. 16 Bowles, Paul 1988-1989
- b. 63 f. 17 Bradlee, Ben 1980s
- b. 63 f. 18 Brinnin, John Malcolm 1996
- b. 63 f. 19 Brooks, Richard 1980s
- b. 63 f. 20 Brown, Andreas 1986
- b. 63 f. 21 Cruner-Smith, C 1995
- b. 63 f. 22 Brynner, Doris 1988
- b. 63 f. 23 Buckley, William 1986
- b. 63 f. 24 Burke, Susan 1980s
- b. 63 f. 25 Bushong, Bobby 1993
- b. 64 f. 1 Caen, Herb 1980s
- b. 64 f. 2 Caen, Marie Therese 1990
- b. 64 f. 3 Caldwell, Joe 1996
- b. 64 f. 4 Callihan, Lillian 1986
- b. 64 f. 5 Cantwell, Mary 1995
- b. 64 f. 6 Carr, Virginia Spencer 1987
- b. 64 f. 7 Carson, Joanna 1992
- b. 64 f. 8 Carter, Jennings 1996
- b. 64 f. 9 Cerf, Christopher 1990s
- b. 64 f. 10 Christy, George 1990s
- b. 64 f. 11-12 Clarke, Gerald 1994-1997
- b. 64 f. 13 Clayton, Jack 1996
- b. 64 f. 14 Colacello, Bob 1996
- b. 64 f. 15 Coupe, Roderick 1983
- b. 64 f. 16 Cunningham, Linda 1988
- b. 64 f. 17 Curtiss, Thomas Quinn 1988
- b. 64 f. 18 Dewey, Alvin and Marie 1991
- b. 64 f. 19 Diamond, David 1988
- b. 64 f. 20 Didion, Joan and Dunn, John Gregory 1988

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent

and
Career (cont.)

- b. 64 f. 21 Duchin, Peter 1991
- b. 64 f. 22 Dunn, Dominick 1991-1994
- b. 64 f. 23 Dunphy, Jack 1987
- b. 65 f. 1 Eisenberg, Lee 1980s
- b. 65 f. 2 Fairbanks, Douglass Jr 1991
- b. 65 f. 3-4 Farrow, Mia 1997
- b. 65 f. 5 Felker, Clay 1987
- b. 65 f. 6 Fesnick, Michael -- Studio 54 1996
- b. 65 f. 7 Fizdale, Robert and Gold, Arthur 1980s
- b. 65 f. 8 Fleming, Anne Taylor 1990s
- b. 65 f. 9 Flynn, Suzanne 1990s
- b. 65 f. 10 Fox, Jill 1980s
- b. 65 f. 11 Fox, Joe 1987
- b. 65 f. 12 Foy, Gray 1996
- b. 65 f. 13 Friede, Eleanor 1991-1994
- b. 65 f. 14 Gaillard, Gwen 1987
- b. 65 f. 15 Galbraith, John Kenneth 1991
- b. 65 f. 16 Gill, Brendan 1994
- b. 65 f. 17 Graham, Katharine 1991
- b. 65 f. 18 Green, Judy 1988
- b. 65 f. 19 Green, Sam 1988
- b. 65 f. 20 Groom, Winston 1988
- b. 65 f. 21 Grossman, Henry 1991
- b. 65 f. 22 Grunwald, Louise Melhado 1986
- b. 65 f. 23 Guest, C.Z 1991
- b. 65 f. 24 Guinness, Loel 1988
- b. 65 f. 25 Gunther, Jane 1990s
- b. 65 f. 26 Haden, Anthony 1996
- b. 65 f. 27 Hall, Anthony and Posey, Charles 1985
- b. 65 f. 28 Hardy, Joe 1988
- b. 65 f. 29 Harrington, Kate 1994-1995
- b. 65 f. 30 Hart, Crawford 1990s
- b. 65 f. 31 Hawkis, Ashton 1980s
- b. 65 f. 32 Hay, Couri 1987
- b. 65 f. 33 Herbert, David 1988
- b. 66 f. 1 Hershey, Lenore 1987
- b. 66 f. 2 Holder, Geoffrey 1990s
- b. 66 f. 3 Honeycut, Anne 1988
- b. 66 f. 4 Hope, Clifford 1988
- b. 66 f. 5 Hornblow, Leonora 1988
- b. 66 f. 6-7 Horst and Lawford, Valentine 1986-1993

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent
Career (cont.)

- b. 66 f. 8 Howard, Jane 1988
- b. 66 f. 9 Howard, Jean 1980s
- b. 66 f. 10 Huston, John 1987
- b. 66 f. 11 Ingram, Lucille 1980s
- b. 66 f. 12 Jackson, David 1989
- b. 66 f. 13 Jewell, Tony 1986
- b. 66 f. 14 Johnson, Buffie 1987
- b. 66 f. 15 Johnson, Philip; Turner, Chuck; Morris, Alice 1993
- b. 66 f. 16 Kazin, Alfred 1996
- b. 66 f. 17 Kelland, Ho 1980s
- b. 66 f. 18 Kidwell, Wilma 1986
- b. 66 f. 19 Kirkwood, James 1980s
- b. 66 f. 20 Knowles, John 1987
- b. 66 f. 21 Kraft, Polly 1991
- b. 66 f. 22 Lambert, Gavin 1986
- b. 66 f. 23 Lane, Kenneth Jay 1986
- b. 66 f. 24 Lawrence, Barbara 1988-1989
- b. 66 f. 25 Lapham, Lewis 1988
- b. 66 f. 26 Lazar, Mary 1988
- b. 66 f. 27 Leonard, John 1993
- b. 66 f. 28 Lerman, Leo 1988
- b. 67 f. 1-3 Lerner, Karen 1997
- b. 67 f. 4 Lewis, Edna 1993
- b. 67 f. 5 Lilly, Doris 1993
- b. 67 f. 6-7 Lumet, Peidi Gimbel 1987-1997
- b. 67 f. 8 Mailer, Norman 1987-1988
- b. 67 f. 9 Mangione, Jerre 1988
- b. 67 f. 10 Masoner, Paul Mrs 1986
- b. 67 f. 11 Matthau, Carol 1988
- b. 67 f. 12 Matthieson, Peter 1996
- b. 67 f. 13 Maxfield, Russell 1991
- b. 67 f. 14 Maysles, Al and Davis 1980s
- b. 67 f. 15 McAtee, Charles 1986
- b. 67 f. 16 McKenna, Rollie 1993
- b. 67 f. 17 McMillan, Priscilla 1989-1994
- b. 67 f. 18 Meehan, Kay 1987
- b. 67 f. 19 Mehle, Aileen (Suzy) 1993
- b. 67 f. 20 Merrill, James 1993
- b. 68 f. 1 Moates, Maryanne 1995
- b. 68 f. 2 Moffit, Philip 1980s
- b. 68 f. 3 Moore, Jean 1986

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent
Career (cont.)

- b. 68 f. 4 Morris, Alice 1988
- b. 68 f. 5 Morris, Willie 1988
- b. 68 f. 6 Murray, Natalia Danesi 1986
- b. 68 f. 7 Neilsen, Bodil 1986
- b. 68 f. 8 Neilsen, Eric 1980s
- b. 68 f. 9 Nicholson, Johnny 1986
- b. 68 f. 10 Nye, Harold 1997
- b. 68 f. 11 Page, George 1996
- b. 68 f. 12 Paley, Kate 1997
- b. 68 f. 13 Parks, Gordon 1991
- b. 68 f. 14 Pennebaker, D.A 1994
- b. 68 f. 15 Perenyi, Eleanor 1989
- b. 68 f. 16 Perry, Frank 1980s
- b. 68 f. 17 Persky, Lester 1993-1994
- b. 68 f. 18-20 Petrocik, Joe and Clement, Myron 1989-1997
- b. 68 f. 21 Phillips, Bob 1989
- b. 68 f. 22 Phipps, Tommy 1988
- b. 68 f. 23 Podhoretz, Norman 1986
- b. 68 f. 24 Prettyman, Barrett E 1997
- b. 68 f. 25 Prince, Harold 1988-1993
- b. 68 f. 26 Pryce-Jones, Alan 1986
- b. 69 f. 1 Rader, Dotson 1987
- b. 69 f. 2-3 Radziwill, Lee 1997
- b. 69 f. 4 Richardson, John 1986
- b. 69 f. 5 Rivers, Larry 1991
- b. 69 f. 6 Romanones, Aline 1986
- b. 69 f. 7 Rorem, Ned 1996
- b. 69 f. 8 Rudisill, Marie 1987
- b. 69 f. 9 Ryan, Nancy 1980s
- b. 69 f. 10 Ryan, John Barry 1988
- b. 69 f. 11 Sargent, John 1980s
- b. 69 f. 12 Schendler, Sylvan 1996
- b. 69 f. 13 Schlesinger, Arthur Jr 1991
- b. 69 f. 14 Schumacher, Joel 1994
- b. 69 f. 15 Schuyler, James 1980s
- b. 69 f. 16 Schwarz, Alan 1993-1994
- b. 70 f. 1 Seabra, Nelson 1988
- b. 70 f. 2 Shaw, Artie 1988
- b. 70 f. 3 Short, Bobby 1986
- b. 70 f. 4 Shows, Stanely Siegel 1980s
- b. 70 f. 5 Simon, Neil 1980s

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)

Subseries I.A. Books -- Author (cont.)

Truman Capote: In Which Various Friends, Enemies, Acquaintances and Detractors Recall His Turbulent

Career (cont.)

- b. 70 f. 6 Simpson, Babs 1986
- b. 70 f. 7 Smith, Harrison 1986
- b. 70 f. 8 Southern, Terry 1980s
- b. 70 f. 9 Styron, William 1996
- b. 70 f. 10 Thomson, Virgil 1980s
- b. 70 f. 11 Trilling, Diana 1986
- b. 70 f. 12 Tynan, Kathleen 1988
- b. 70 f. 13 Vidal, Gore 1988
- b. 70 f. 14 Viertel, Peter 1987
- b. 70 f. 15 Vonnegut, Kurt 1987
- b. 70 f. 16 Vreeland, Diana 1988
- b. 70 f. 17-18 Vreeland, Phoebe Pierce 1994-1996
- b. 70 f. 19 Wagner, Phyllis Cerf 1991
- b. 70 f. 20 Weiser, Martha 1993
- b. 70 f. 21 Welles, Kay 1980s
- b. 70 f. 22 Wenner, Jann 1980s
- b. 70 f. 23 West, Duane 1986
- b. 70 f. 24 Wheeler, Monroe 1980s
- b. 70 f. 25 Williams, Jonelle 1991
- b. 70 f. 26 Wynn, Tracy Keenan 1994
- b. 70 f. 27 Young, Marguerite 1988
- b. 70 f. 28 Zerbe, Jerome 1986
- b. 70 f. 29 Zipkin, Jerome 1987
- b. 70 f. 30 Zoerink, Richard 1987
- b. 71-74 Notes and Research 1980s-1990s
- b. 75 f. 1-8 Drafts 1990s
- b. 76-80
- b. 80 f. 30-35 Manuscripts 1995-1997
- b. 81-85
- b. 85 f. 5-7 Galleys 1997
- b. 86 f. 1-2
- b. 86 f. 3-16 Correspondence 1996-1998
- b. 86 f. 17-18 Legal 1997-1998
- b. 87-90 Permissions 1997
- b. 91 f. 1-15 Photographs 1997
- b. 92 f. 1-10
- b. 92 f. 11 Reviews and Publicity 1997
- b. 93 f. 1-5
- b. 93 f. 6-8 *Pet peeves, or, Whatever happened to Doctor Rawff?* 2000
- b. 93 f. 9 *Ernest Shackleton* 2000-2003
- b. 94 f. 1-7
- b. 95 f. 1-2

Subseries I.B. Books -- Editor 1964-2001

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.B. Books -- Editor (cont.)

- b. 95 f. 3-6
b. 96 f. 1-4
b. 277 f. 4-6
- American Journey: Life and Times of Robert Kennedy (By: Jean Stein)* 1968-1972
Contains correspondence, research, clippings, and a scrapbook.
- b. 96 f. 5-10
b. 97 f. 1-9
b. 98 f. 1-2
- American Literary Anthology* 1967-1976
Contains correspondence, notes, press releases, NEA paperwork, expense reports, and financial records.
- b. 98 f. 3-6
- Pierre's Book: The Game of Court Tennis (by: Pierre Etchebaster)* 1964-1972
Contains correspondence and drafts.
- Edie (By: Jean Stein)*
Contains drafts, notes, research, manuscripts, interview transcripts, clippings, press, legal agreements, and photographs.
- b. 99 f. 1-7
b. 100 f. 1-3
- Interviews 1973-1979
- b. 100 f. 4-16
- Notes and Research 1970s
- b. 101-106
- Drafts and Manuscripts 1973-1981
- b. 106 f. 3
- Correspondence 1981
- b. 106 f. 4-8
- Contracts and Agreements 1977-1982
- b. 106 f. 9-10
- Press and Clippings 1982-1992
- b. 107-112
- D.V. (by: Diana Vreeland)* 1980-1985
Contains notes, manuscripts, drafts, financial documents, and clippings.
- b. 112 f. 1-6
- The Writer's Chapbook: A Compendium of Fact, Opinion, Wit, and Advice* 1989-1992
Contains manuscripts, correspondence, and clippings.
- b. 112 f. 7-10
- The Paris Review Anthology* 1990
Contains manuscripts, notes, and clippings.
- b. 113-117
- The Norton Book of Sports* 1990-1992
- b. 118 f. 1-2
- Home Run* 2000-2001
Contains clippings, correspondence, and manuscripts.
- Subseries I.C. Short Pieces and Articles 1951-2003
- b. 118 f. 3-30
b. 119 f. 1-35
- 1970s-2003
- b. 119 f. 36-43
- Book Chapters 1979-2000
- b. 120 f. 1-36
b. 121 f. 1-15
- Book Introductions and Forwards 1973-2002
- Magazine and Newspaper Articles
- b. 121 f. 16-28
b. 122 f. 1-18
- 1951-2000
- b. 122 f. 19
- American Scholar* 2000
- b. 122 f. 20
- American Way* 1974
- b. 122 f. 21
- Architectural Digest* 1987
- b. 123 f. 1-4
- Audubon* 1977
- b. 123 f. 5
- Baseball* 1963
- b. 123 f. 6
- Business Traveler* 1993
- b. 123 f. 7
- Chips* 1978-1979
- b. 123 f. 8-10
- Civilization* 1995-1999
- b. 124 f. 1
- Clipper* 1978

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.C. Short Pieces and Articles (cont.)
Magazine and Newspaper Articles (cont.)

- b. 124 f. 2 *Computer World* 1989
- b. 124 f. 3-5 *Cosmopolitan* 1974-1996
- b. 124 f. 6-7 *Daily News* 1994
- b. 124 f. 8 *Entertainment Weekly* 1992
- b. 124 f. 9-26
b. 125 f. 1-11 *Esquire* 1967-1997
- b. 125 f. 12 *The Exeter Bulletin* 2002
- b. 125 f. 13-23 *Food and Wine* 1978-1979
- b. 125 f. 24
b. 126 f. 1-6 *Fortune* 1988-1993
- b. 126 f. 7 *Glamour* 1969
- b. 126 f. 8-10 *Golf Digest* 1992-2000
- b. 126 f. 11-14 *Gourmet* 1995-1998
- b. 126 f. 15-16 *GQ* 1959-1985
- b. 126 f. 17 *Hamptons Magazine* 1993
- b. 126 f. 18-19
b. 127 f. 1-15
b. 128 f. 1-7 *Harper's* 1959-2000
- b. 128 f. 8-9 *Holiday Magazine* 1977
- b. 128 f. 10 *The Independent* 1991
- b. 128 f. 11 *Interview* 1982
- b. 128 f. 12 *The Library Connection* 1977
- b. 128 f. 13-16 *Life* 1956-1988
- b. 129 f. 1 *Los Angeles Times* 1976
- b. 129 f. 2 *Mainliner* 1976
- b. 129 f. 3-7 *Manhattan File* 1996-1998
- b. 129 f. 8 *Marketing Times* 1982
- b. 129 f. 9-12 *Men's Journal* 1998-2002
- b. 129 f. 13-14 *National Geographic Traveler* 1999
- b. 129 f. 15 *New Choices* 1996
- b. 129 f. 16-22 *New York* 1973-1993
- b. 130 f. 1-2 *New York Post* 1996
- b. 130 f. 3-9 *New York Review of Books* 1977-1993
- b. 130 f. 10-17 *New York Times* 1976-1997
- b. 131 f. 1-11 *New York Times Book Review* 1969-1995
- b. 131 f. 12-16 *New York Times Magazine* 1995-1999
- b. 131 f. 17-34
b. 132 f. 1-7 *New Yorker* 1967-2001
- b. 132 f. 8-9 *Newsday* 1984-1990
- b. 132 f. 10 *Newsweek* 1980
- b. 132 f. 11 *The Observer* 1971
- b. 132 f. 12 *Paris Review* 1960s-1970s
- b. 132 f. 13-14 *People* 1982
- b. 132 f. 15 *Philip Morris* 1986

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.C. Short Pieces and Articles (cont.)
Magazine and Newspaper Articles (cont.)

- b. 133 f. 1-14 *Playboy* 1974-2003
 - b. 134 f. 1-3 *Polo* 1985-1998
 - b. 134 f. 4-5 *Popular Mechanics* 1985-1986
 - b. 134 f. 6 *Quest* 1979
 - b. 134 f. 7-10 *Reader's Digest* 1978-1997
 - b. 134 f. 11 *Realites* 1979-1980
 - b. 134 f. 12 *Roller Coaster* 1989
 - b. 134 f. 13-14 *Rolling Stone* 1978-1986
 - b. 134 f. 15 *Saturday Review* 1976
 - b. 134 f. 16-17 *Self* 1993-1994
 - b. 134 f. 18 *Signature* 1980
 - b. 134 f. 19 *Sky* 1996
 - b. 135 f. 1-8 *Smart* 1988-1990
 - b. 135 f. 9-14 *Sports Illustrated* 1956-1993
 - b. 136-142
 - b. 142 f. 4 *Sports Week* 1975
 - b. 142 f. 5 *Talk Magazine* 1999
 - b. 142 f. 6-16 *Tennis Week* 1976-2000
 - b. 142 f. 17-20 *Time* 1999
 - b. 143 f. 1-3 *Town and Country* 1993-1994
 - b. 143 f. 4-7 *Travel & Leisure* 1988-1992
 - b. 143 f. 8 *Travel* 1992
 - b. 143 f. 9-10 *Travel Holiday* 1994
 - b. 143 f. 11 *Traveler* 1993
 - b. 143 f. 12 *Tri-Quarterly* 1978
 - b. 143 f. 13 *True* circa 1980s
 - b. 143 f. 14 *TV Guide* 1980
 - b. 143 f. 15 *US Air* circa 1990s
 - b. 143 f. 16-19 *US News and World Report* 1991-1993
 - b. 143 f. 20 *USA Today* 1990
 - b. 143 f. 21-22 *Vogue* 1958-2000
 - b. 143 f. 23-25 *Wall Street Journal* 1995
 - b. 143 f. 26 *Wildlife* 1975
 - b. 143 f. 27 *Windows Magazine* 1995
- Collaborative Projects
- b. 144 f. 1 Citizen's Emergency Committee 1960
 - b. 144 f. 2-6 *The Dynamite Museum* 1970-1971
 - b. 278 Contains a scrapbook, correspondence, mission statements, and drafts.
 - b. 144 f. 7-9 *Not the New York Times* 1978
 - b. 145 f. 1-9 Contains drafts, notes, and a full issue of the newspaper.
 - b. 279 f. 1
 - b. 145 f. 10-13 *Animal Tales* 2002
 - Contains annotated scripts, notes, and a final script.

Series I: Writing and Editing (cont.)
Subseries I.C. Short Pieces and Articles (cont.)

- b. 146 f. 1-4 Tributes 1980s-2001
- Subseries I.D. Unpublished 1949-2002
- b. 146 f. 5-15 1950s-1990s
- b. 146 f. 16-22 Early Writing 1949-1952
- b. 147 f. 1-14
- b. 148 f. 1-9 Book Projects 1960s-2002
- b. 149 f. 1-11 Contains proposals, correspondence, manuscripts, and notes.
- b. 150 f. 1-7
- b. 151 f. 1-8 Memoir 1980s-2002
- b. 152 f. 1 Contains notes, drafts, and research from Plimpton's unpublished and incomplete memoir.
- b. 152 f. 2-5 Subseries I.E. Administrative Files 1964-2003
- b. 153 f. 1-12
- b. 154 f. 1-2

Series II: Media Projects 1961-2003 (17 boxes 6.75 linear feet)

Files pertaining to Plimpton's work in advertising, film, radio, and television are held in the Media Projects Series. These files document Plimpton's various forays as an actor, broadcast host, and product pitchman through correspondence, contracts, notes, photographs, and scripts. The Series is further arranged into four Subseries that include Administrative Files; Advertising and Commercials Files; Film Files; Radio Files; and Television Files. Each Subseries is arranged alphabetically by production title, product name, or subject matter with the exception of Subseries II.D., which exclusively holds files from Plimpton's 1971 radio show, *George Plimpton, Man About Sports*.

The Series holds files from advertising campaigns for companies such as Boeing, Muzak, Nike, Oldsmobile, and Volkswagen; films such as *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Nixon*, *Reds*, and *Vali*, *The Witch of Positano*; and television programs that include Disney's *Mousterpiece Theatre*, *Rio Lobo*, and a number of George Plimpton hosted specials. Many of the files in this Series contain correspondence regarding Plimpton's performances, as well as administrative materials concerning logistics and compensation. There are a number of scripts, audio transcripts, and narration scripts held in these files, which are noted in the container list when present.

- b. 154 f. 3-7 Subseries II.A. Administrative Files 1969-2003
- Contains correspondence, contracts, and agreements.
- Subseries II.B. Advertising and Commercials Files 1966-2003
- b. 155 f. 1-2 Boeing 1971-1975
- b. 155 f. 3 Comcast -- Muzak 1975
- b. 155 f. 4 Dry Dock Savings Bank 1973-1974
- b. 279 f. 2 Dunhill 1990
- b. 155 f. 5 General Artists Corporations 1968
- b. 155 f. 6-7 ICM/Mattel 1981-1983
- b. 280 f. 1 Intellivision 1981
- b. 155 f. 8 International Paper Company 1981
- b. 155 f. 9 Leisure Dynamics 1984
- b. 155 f. 10 Maremont Productions (Studio 7 Project) 1973-1974
- b. 155 f. 11 *New York Daily News* 1973
- b. 155 f. 12 New York Philharmonic Narration 1967
- Contains notes and a partial draft of the narration script.
- b. 155 f. 13 Nike 1995
- Contains a script.
- b. 156 f. 1 Norwegian American Cruise 1975-1976

Series II: Media Projects (cont.)

Subseries II.B. Advertising and Commercials Files (cont.)

- b. 156 f. 2 Oldsmobile 1968-1969
Contains correspondence and a script.
- b. 156 f. 3 Original Frog Shirts 1981-1983
- b. 156 f. 4 The Photo Experience -- Larry Deutsch 1972
Contains correspondence and a script.
- b. 156 f. 5 Volkswagen 1966
Contains a draft script.
- b. 156 f. 6 Walden Books 1973-1974

Subseries II.C. Film Files 1961-1999

- b. 156 f. 7-8 1977-1997
Correspondence, agreements, and financial information.
- b. 156 f. 9 Checkerboard Film Foundation 1999
Contains correspondence and shooting schedule.
- b. 156 f. 10 *The Curious Case of Sidd Finch* 1990
Contains first treatment of the screenplay.
- b. 156 f. 11 "Dust" 1976
- b. 157 f. 1 EcoVentures 1988
- b. 157 f. 2-3 *Lawrence of Arabia* 1961
- b. 157 f. 4-5 *The Man in the Flying Lawn Chair* 1998-1999
Contains a film treatment by Alan Alda based on the story by Plimpton.
- b. 157 f. 6-8 *Nixon* 1995
Contains a shooting script.
- b. 157 f. 9 *Pony Wars* 1983
- b. 157 f. 10 *Reds* 1981
Contains correspondence and research.
- b. 157 f. 11 Screen Development Limited 1984
- b. 157 f. 12 Stillman, Whit 1997-1998
- b. 158 f. 1 *Trans-World Film Project --- Florida: The Once and Future Paradise* 1981
- b. 158 f. 2-8 *Vali, The Witch of Positano* 1965-1969
Correspondence, manuscript, synopsis, monologues
- b. 158 f. 9-10 *Subseries II.D. Radio Files: George Plimpton, Man About Sports* 1971
- b. 159 f. 1-2

Contains correspondence, scripts, and notes.

Subseries II.E. Television Files 1967-2000

- b. 159 f. 3-5 1971-1981
- b. 159 f. 6-7 Africa Film -- TV Movie 1969-1972
- b. 160 f. 1-7 Contains full scripts.
- b. 161 f. 1-2
- b. 161 f. 3 Ahmed Show 1972
Contains audio tape transcripts.
- b. 161 f. 4 "Almanac" 1970s
- b. 161 f. 5 American Express/Olympics 1984
- b. 161 f. 6 American Humor 1973-1975
- b. 161 f. 7 American Sportsman 1983
- b. 161 f. 8 Bell Telephone Hour -- New York Philharmonic 1968
- b. 161 f. 9 British Broadcasting Company 1972-1973

Series II: Media Projects (cont.)
Subseries II.E. Television Files (cont.)

- b. 161 f. 10 Canton Productions 1970s
- b. 161 f. 11-12 Car and Track Productions 1982-1983
- b. 161 f. 13 *Celebrity Super Stars* 1975
ABC sports special.
- b. 161 f. 14 Circus Film -- Television Special 1970-1975
b. 162 f. 1 Contains notes, audio transcripts, and clippings.
- b. 162 f. 2-3 Comic Routine 1970
Contains notes, clippings, and audio transcripts.
- b. 162 f. 4 Dave Gale Productions 1973
- b. 162 f. 5-6 The Doria Project 1984
Contains notes, scripts, correspondence, press releases, and press clippings.
- b. 162 f. 7 ED TV 1998
- b. 162 f. 8 Fireworks Film 1979-1992
- b. 163 f. 1-6
- b. 163 f. 7 Indy 500 1982
- b. 163 f. 8 *George Plimpton at the Movies* 1970
Contains notes, script, and clippings.
- b. 163 f. 9 Karras Television Show: Puffer 1973
Contains a proposal for a television adaptation of *Mad Ducks and Bears*.
- b. 163 f. 10 Marijuana Show 1974
Contains a script and correspondence.
- b. 163 f. 11 *Mousterpiece Theatre* 1983-1985
- b. 164 f. 1-3 Contains correspondence, agreements, clippings, and scripts.
- b. 164 f. 4 Net Special 1970-1970
- b. 164 f. 5-6 *Not the World Series* 1995
- b. 164 f. 7 Pène du Bois, William: 7 Sins: Alan Baker 1975
- b. 164 f. 8-9 Plimpton Comic Show 1971
- b. 165 f. 1-6 Contains audio transcripts and notes.
- b. 166 f. 1 Plimpton Football Interview 1970s
Contains an audio transcript.
- b. 166 f. 2-3 *Quest* 1977
- b. 166 f. 4-6 Racing 1971
Contains an audio transcript.
- b. 166 f. 6-8 *Rio Lobo* 1970-1972
- b. 166 f. 9 *Sports Illustrated Show* 1973
- b. 167 f. 1 Contains an audio transcript.
- b. 167 f. 2 *Sports Legends* 1979
- b. 167 f. 3-5 Stewart, Jackie 1972
Contains an interview transcript, notes, correspondence, and agreements.
- b. 167 f. 6 Summerhill Entertainment Inc 2000
- b. 167 f. 7 *Survival* 1974-1975
- b. 167 f. 8 Viacom 1993
- b. 167 f. 9 WNET/CTW 1970-1980
- b. 167 f. 10 Wohlander Associates 1972-1973

Series II: Media Projects (cont.)
Subseries II.E. Television Files (cont.)

- b. 167 f. 11 **Wolper Productions 1967-1976**
- b. 168 f. 1-3 Contains correspondence, scripts, audio transcripts, and a poster for *Plimpton! The Man on the Flying Trapeze*.
- b. 279 f. 3-7 o. 1

Series III: Appearances 1967-2003 (11 boxes 4.42 linear feet)

Series III contains files related to Plimpton's public appearances, performances, and speeches he delivered. The Series is further arranged into three Subseries: Contracts and Agreements; Events and Performances; and Speeches.

The Events and Performances files are arranged alphabetically by subject matter or event name, and hold materials from Plimpton's public appearances, participatory exploits, and theatrical presentations. Of special interest are the USO Tour files, which contain correspondence, photographs, and a scrapbook from a United States government sponsored trip called "Operation VIP (Visits by Interesting Personalities)." There are numerous photographs present depicting Plimpton signing copies of *Paper Lion* and meeting with injured American military service members in Japan and the Philippines. Also of note are scripts from *Zelda, Scott, and Ernest*, a play about the relationship between F. Scott Fitzgerald, Zelda Fitzgerald, and Ernest Hemingway, in which Plimpton played the part of F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Subseries III.C. contains files from speeches Plimpton delivered between 1967 and 2003. There is a selection of notes and drafts from unknown speeches which are arranged chronologically, while the rest are arranged alphabetically by individual name, institution, or subject matter. The files hold notes, drafts, correspondence, and programs.

- b. 168 f. 4-9 **Subseries III.A. Contracts and Agreements 1977-2000**
- b. 169 f. 1-4
- Subseries III.B. Events and Performances 1967-2003**
- b. 169 f. 5 **Backgammon 1977-1978**
- b. 169 f. 6 **Croquet 1984**
- b. 170 f. 1 **DuPont Golf Event 1970-1971**
- b. 170 f. 2-3 **George Plimpton All Stars vs. Major League Baseball 1976-1980**
Contains correspondence.
- b. 170 f. 4 **Gift Horse 1977-1978**
- b. 170 f. 5 **Harness Racing -- Dan Downs 1979**
- b. 170 f. 6 **Man George -- Philomusica Benefit 1985**
- b. 170 f. 7 **Miscellaneous Participatory Exploits 1979-1981**
- b. 170 f. 8 **Mountaineering in the Arctic Islands/Cochran 1970s**
- b. 280 f. 2 ***The Paris Review on Stage* 1980s**
- b. 170 f. 9 **Restaurant Project 1979**
- b. 280 f. 3 **Symphony -- Tchaikovsky's Symphony Number 2: "The Winnipeg Sound" 1990**
- b. 170 f. 10-11 **USO Tour 1967**
- b. 170 f. 12 ***Zelda, Scott, and Ernest* 2001-2003**
- b. 171 f. 1-6 Contains scripts, notes, programs, and correspondence.
- b. 172 f. 1-4
- Subseries III.C. Speeches 1967-2003**
- Contains notes, drafts, notebooks, research, programs and correspondence.
- 1967-2003**
- b. 172 f. 5-6
- b. 173-175
- b. 175 f. 7 **African Wildlife Leadership Foundation 1982**
- b. 175 f. 8-9 **Century Club circa 1980s**
- b. 176 f. 1 **Claremont-McKenna College Commencement Address 1982**
- b. 176 f. 2 **Cunard: Queen Elizabeth II 1977-1980**

Series III: Appearances (cont.)
Subseries III.C. Speeches (cont.)

- b. 176 f. 3 Devon Yacht Club 1992
- b. 176 f. 4 Dickey, James Tribute circa 1980s
- b. 176 f. 5 Exeter Alumni Dinner 2001
- b. 176 f. 6 Farrell, Billy -- Eulogy 1985
- b. 176 f. 7 Fulter, Ellen -- Introduction 1984
- b. 176 f. 8-9 Gill, Brenden -- Eulogy 1997
- b. 176 f. 10 Groton School 1982
- b. 176 f. 11 Hammond, Frank -- Memorial circa 1980s
- b. 176 f. 12 Hampshire College Commencement 2000
- b. 176 f. 13 Harvard circa 1980s
- b. 176 f. 14 Harvard Class Day 1977
- b. 176 f. 15-16 Hemmingway Library 1980
- b. 176 f. 17 Keedick Talks 1971
- b. 176 f. 18 Kennedy, Ted -- 50th Birthday 1982
- b. 176 f. 19 Laughlin, James -- Tribute 1989
- b. 176 f. 20 Memorials 1994
- b. 176 f. 21 Morris, Willie -- Reunion 1998
- b. 176 f. 22 National Book Committee Award 1969
- b. 176 f. 23 Onassis, Jackie Kennedy 1995
- b. 176 f. 24 Prize Day Speech at Groton School circa 1980s
- b. 176 f. 25 Roberts, Brad circa 1980s
- b. 176 f. 26 Schlesinger, Arthur circa 1990s
- b. 176 f. 27 Sports Speech 1983
- b. 176 f. 28 St. Bernard's Speech 2003
- b. 176 f. 29 Styron MacDowell Medal 1988
- b. 176 f. 30 Trudeau, Garry -- Harvard Commencement Speech 1994
- b. 177 f. 1 Twain, Mark circa 2001
- b. 177 f. 2 Vonnegut, Kurt circa 1970s
- b. 177 f. 3 Whitman, Walt 1991
- b. 177 f. 4 Wood, Clement Biddle 1996

Series IV: Correspondence 1935-2003 (30 boxes 12.33 linear feet)

Plimpton's correspondence, which dates from 1935 to 2003, is held in Series IV. The bulk of the correspondence is arranged chronologically in Subseries IV.A. The other Subseries consist of alphabetically arranged correspondence; family correspondence; and fan mail.

Among the alphabetical correspondence is letters from Ernest Hemingway, Jack Kerouac, Norman Mailer, Paul Newman, John Steinbeck, William Styron, and former presidents John F. Kennedy, Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton. Plimpton also kept a file called "Very Peculiar Correspondence," where he collected unusual unsolicited letters from readers and individuals with whom he was not acquainted.

The Family correspondence, which dates from 1935 to 2002, includes many letters to and from Plimpton's immediate family and close relatives. Of special interest is a group of letters Plimpton wrote to his parents, Francis T.P. Plimpton and Pauline Ames, where he discusses his experiences at boarding school in the early 1940s. The Family correspondence is arranged alphabetically by correspondent name.

Much of the Fan Mail addresses Plimpton's books, *Paper Lion*, *Bogey Man*, *Mad Ducks and Bears*, and *One for the Record*; his 1970s television specials; and his articles for *Sports Illustrated*. Some of the letters, especially those from school children, includes Plimpton's replies.

Subseries IV.A. Chronological 1935-2003

- b. 177 f. 5-23 1935-1961
 - b. 178 1962-1969
 - b. 179
 - b. 180 1970-1976
 - b. 181
- b. 182 f. 1-6 1976-1980
- b. 183-186 1981-1988
- b. 187-193 1989-1999
- b. 194-196 1999-2003

Subseries IV.B. Alphabetical 1941-2002

- b. 197 f. 1 African Wildlife Foundation 1979-1983
- b. 197 f. 2-8 Army 1945-1947
 - b. 198 f. 1
 - b. 198 f. 2 Bruccoli, Matt 1999-2001
 - b. 198 f. 3 Buckley, William F 1969
 - b. 198 f. 4 Bush, George H.W 1989-1992
 - b. 198 f. 5 Cambridge 1950-1951
 - b. 198 f. 6 Clinton, Bill 2001
 - b. 198 f. 7-9 Clubs 1959-2001
- b. 198 f. 10-11 Dabney, Bee 1952-1961
- b. 198 f. 12 Emmanuel, Victor 1974
- b. 198 f. 13 Exeter 1941-1945
- b. 198 f. 14 Ford, Gerald 1975
- b. 198 f. 15 Fosbergh, James circa 1960s
- b. 198 f. 16 Foundation for Research into the Origin of Man 1983
 - b. 199 f. 1 Harvard 1944-1948
 - b. 199 f. 2 Hefner, Hugh 1969
 - b. 199 f. 3 Heinz, Drue circa 1990s

Series IV: Correspondence (cont.)
Subseries IV.B. Alphabetical (cont.)

- b. 199 f. 4-5 Hemingway, Ernest circa 1950s-1996
Includes correspondence from and about Hemmingway.
- b. 199 f. 6 Humes, Doc 1977
- b. 199 f. 7-8 Kennedy 1961-1993
Contains correspondence from Robert, Katherine, Caroline, and John Kennedy, as well as Jacqueline Onassis.
- b. 280 f. 4 Kennedy, John F 1958
- b. 199 f. 9 Kerouac, Jack 1968
- b. 199 f. 10 Khan circa 1960s
- b. 199 f. 11 Lions 1963-1982
- b. 199 f. 12 Mailer, Norman 1965-1973
- b. 199 f. 13 Marriage License 1968
- b. 199 f. 14 Memberships 1969-1980
- b. 199 f. 15 Miscellaneous Writers 1965-1978
- b. 200 f. 1 New York Zoological Society 1985
- b. 200 f. 2-3 Newman, Michael 1993-1996
- b. 200 f. 4 Newman, Paul 1990
- b. 200 f. 5 Paris 1952-1955
- b. 200 f. 6-9 *The Paris Review Founding* 1951-2002
- b. 200 f. 10 Salter, James 1969
- b. 200 f. 11 Screen Actors Guild 1970-1971
- b. 200 f. 12 Sinatra, Frank 1970
- b. 200 f. 13 Sinatra, Nancy 1969
- b. 200 f. 14 Steinbeck, John circa 1950s
- b. 200 f. 15 Styron, William 1967-1968
- b. 200 f. 16 Sutton, Remar 1977-1982
- b. 200 f. 17-18 Vanderbilt, Harold 1956-1969
- b. 200 f. 19 Very Peculiar Correspondence -- Miscellaneous Unfiled 1978-1986
- b. 201 f. 1 Vonnegut, Kurt 1993-2002
- b. 201 f. 2 White House 1973
- b. 201 f. 3-5 World's Fair Booth 1964-1965
- Subseries IV.C. Family 1935-2002
- b. 201 f. 6 1971-1976
- b. 201 f. 7 Ames Sr., Oakes and Blanche 1935-1962
- b. 201 f. 8 Cousins 1974-1996
- b. 201 f. 9 Nieces and Nephews 1946-1984
- b. 201 f. 10 Plimpton, Calvin 1965-2002
- b. 201 f. 11-13 Plimpton, Francis T. P 1940-1980
- b. 202 f. 1-4 Plimpton, Francis T. P. and Ames, Pauline 1936-1966
Plimpton's parents.
- b. 202 f. 5 Plimpton, Oakes A 1967-1993
- b. 202 f. 6-8 Plimpton, Pauline Ames 1938-1995
- b. 203 f. 1

Series IV: Correspondence (cont.)
Subseries IV.C. Family (cont.)

- b. 203 f. 2 Plimpton, Sara 1974-1977
- b. 203 f. 3 Plimpton, T.P 1940-1977
- b. 203 f. 4 Plimpton, Taylor and Medora 1991-2001
- b. 203 f. 5-8 Subseries IV.D. Fan Mail 1967-1977
- b. 204 f. 1-5
- b. 205 f. 1-3

Series V: Research Files 1950-2003 (18 boxes 7.5 linear feet)

Plimpton's Research Files, which comprise notes, notebooks, and subject files, are held in Series V. There is a large cache of notes and notebooks which are unlabeled and cannot be associated with any particular project. The rest of the Research Files are arranged alphabetically by topic. Although it is typically not clear if these files pertain to a certain piece of writing, project, or appearance, they do all hold extensive notes on the assigned topic.

- b. 205 f. 4-8 1960s-2003
- b. 206-214
- b. 214 f. 7-8 Africa 1976-1990
- b. 215 f. 1
- b. 215 f. 2 Amazon 1970s-1990s
- b. 215 f. 3-7 Basketball 1950s-1990s
- b. 216 f. 1-4
- b. 216 f. 5-9 Birds 1976-2003
- b. 217 f. 1-7
- b. 218 f. 1-2
- b. 218 f. 3 Bloom, Harold Interview circa 1990s
- b. 218 f. 4 Boxing circa 1970s
- b. 218 f. 5 *Caddysack Notes* 1980s
- b. 218 f. 6 Car Racing 1980s
- b. 218 f. 7-8 Celtics 1970s
- b. 218 f. 9 Como Conversazione circa 1980s
- b. 218 f. 10 Dali, Salvador circa 1950s-1960s
- b. 218 f. 11 Di Caprio, Leonardo circa 1990s
- b. 218 f. 12 Football circa 1970s-1980s
- b. 218 f. 13 Galapagos circa 1980s
- b. 219 f. 1-2 Golf circa 2000-2003
- b. 219 f. 3 Hemmingway, Ernest circa 1970s-1980s
- b. 219 f. 4 Hollywood Croquet circa 1970s-1980s
- b. 219 f. 5-6 India circa 2000-2003
- b. 219 f. 7 Kennedy Pet Show and Football circa 1970s-1980s
- b. 219 f. 8 Moore, Marianne circa 1960s
- b. 219 f. 9 Moscow Olympics 1980s
- b. 220 f. 1 Olympics 1984
- b. 220 f. 2 Paris 1954
- b. 220 f. 3-4 Philharmonic circa 1980s
- b. 220 f. 5 Polo circa 1970s
- b. 220 f. 6 San Simeon 2000
- b. 220 f. 7-10 Seychelles 1990s
- b. 220 f. 11 Skiing 1960s

Series V: Research Files (cont.)

- b. 220 f. 12-13 Sports circa 1960s
- b. 220 f. 14 Tanzania 1999
- b. 221 f. 1-7 Tennis 1970s
- b. 222 f. 1-5
- b. 222 f. 6 Twain, Mark circa 1980s
- b. 222 f. 7 Vanderbilt, Harold circa 1960s-1970s
- b. 222 f. 8 Warhol, Andy 1960s-1970s
- b. 222 f. 9 Yachting circa 1960s-1970s

Series VI: Photographs 1902-2003 (15 boxes 5.21 linear feet)

Series VI contains photographs, most of which depict Plimpton, and also include images of his family, friends, and associates. The photographs date from 1902 to 2003, and are arranged alphabetically by subject matter. The Series contains images from Plimpton's books, media projects, participatory endeavors, and public appearances, as well as depictions of his travels and military service. There is a selection of photographs entitled "friends and writers," which includes images of Plimpton with George H.W. Bush, Edward Kennedy, Norman Mailer, and Arthur Schlesinger. Additionally, there are numerous images of the Plimpton family, including photographs of his elder relatives taken in the early 1900s. Among the photographs from Plimpton's youth is a scrapbook of images from his Army service dating from 1945 to 1956.

- b. 222 f. 10-19 1960s-2003
- b. 280 f. 5-9 Contains slides, prints, negatives, and contact sheets.
- b. 281 f. 1 Advertising and Commercials 1990s
- b. 223 f. 1-8 Africa 1971-1977
- b. 280 f. 10-15
- b. 223 f. 9 Antarctica 2002
- b. 223 f. 10-13 At Work 1970s-1980s
- b. 223 f. 14 Awards 1976-1988
- b. 223 f. 15 Birding 1970s-1980s
- Books
- b. 223 f. 16 *The Bogey Man* circa 1968
- b. 223 f. 17 *The Curious Case of Sidd Finch* 1985
- b. 223 f. 18 *Out of My League* 1960
- b. 223 f. 19 *Paper Lion* 1967-2003
- b. 280 f. 16-17
- b. 223 f. 20-21 Boston Celtics 1970s
- b. 223 f. 22 Celebrity Superstars 1975
- b. 224 f. 1-3 Circus 1970-1983
- b. 280 f. 18
- b. 224 f. 4 Comedy 1960s
- b. 224 f. 5-12 Family 1902-2003
- b. 225 f. 1-11
- b. 282 f. 1-5
- b. 225 f. 12-14 Fireworks 1976-1990
- b. 225 f. 15 Formula I Racing circa 1980s
- Friends and Writers
- b. 226 f. 1-12 1950s-2003
- b. 281 f. 2
- b. 282 f. 6-17
- b. 226 f. 13 Bush, George H.W 1988
- b. 288 f. 1

Series VI: Photographs (cont.)
Friends and Writers (cont.)

- b. 226 f. 14 Early 1950s New York 1950s
- b. 226 f. 15 Hemmingway, Ernest circa 1950s
- b. 226 f. 16 Kennedy circa 1960s-1980s
- b. 226 f. 17 Kennedy, Edward 1982
- b. 282 f. 18 Mailer, Norman 1960s
- b. 226 f. 18 Promoting Pushcart Press circa 1960s-1970s
- b. 282 f. 19 Schlesinger, Arthur 1960s
- b. 282 f. 20 Southern, Terry 1964
- b. 282 f. 21 Voznesensky, Andrei and Ginsburg, Allen 1960s
 - b. 227 f. 1 Harness Racing 1988
- b. 227 f. 2-4 Movies 1960s-1980s
- b. 227 f. 5-10 Paris -- Vali Myers 1954-1994
- b. 227 f. 11-15 *Paris Review* 1966-1990s
 - b. 228 f. 1-2
 - b. 283 f. 1
 - b. 228 f. 3 Philharmonic 1980
 - b. 228 f. 4 Plimpton All Stars 1980
Contains Army photo album.
 - b. 228 f. 5 *Playboy* circa 1970s-1980s
- b. 228 f. 6-24 Portraits 1950s-2003
 - b. 281 f. 3
 - b. 283 f. 2-6
- b. 229 f. 1-5 Public Speaking and Appearances 1960s-2003
- b. 229 f. 6-7 Sports 1960s-1980s
 - b. 283 f. 7
- Television
 - b. 229 f. 8 *Lawrence of Arabia* 1962
 - b. 229 f. 9-12 *Plimpton at the Wheel* 1971-1972
 - b. 229 f. 13 Tennis 1970s
 - b. 229 f. 14 World's Fair 1964
- Youth
 - b. 229 f. 15-18 1930s-1940s
 - b. 230 f. 1 Army 1945-1956
 - b. 283 f. 8-11
 - b. 284
 - b. 230 f. 2 Education -- St. Bernard's 1930s
 - b. 230 f. 3 Travel 1930s
Contains negatives from a trip to the Sierras.

Series VII: Biographical Files 1912-2008 (35 boxes 13.92 linear feet)

Items that provide insight into Plimpton's personal history, including his education, military service, and extended family, all comprise the Biographical Files of Series VII. This Series is arranged into five Subseries, which includes Education; Military; Plimpton Family; Scrapbooks; and *George Being George*.

The Education Subseries contains materials from Plimpton's attendance at St. Bernard's School, Phillips Exeter Academy, Harvard, and University of Cambridge. The files include class notes, notebooks, some school assignments, diplomas, and a few assorted photographs.

The Military files hold administrative documents, itineraries, service records, and Plimpton's discharge documents, while the Plimpton Family files comprise various research materials regarding Plimpton and Ames genealogy and family history.

There are five scrapbooks present in Subseries VII.D., including two from Plimpton's youth, two that collect clippings about his career accomplishments, and one commemorating his 75th birthday. Plimpton assembled the youth scrapbooks between 1936 and 1944. They hold such items as drawings, invitations, newspaper clippings, photographs, and some original writing by Plimpton. The 75th birthday scrapbook is mostly an assemblage of writings and dedications to Plimpton by his friends and family.

The *George Being George* files are from a posthumous oral history biography that was researched and compiled by Nelson W. Aldrich. The Subseries contains Agreements and Contracts; Interviews; Research; Drafts; Manuscripts; Galleys, a Master Set, and Proofs; Photographs; and Publicity materials. One of the most comprehensive elements of this Subseries is the Interview files, which includes transcripts of interviews with many well-known literary figures and family members recounting memorable anecdotes about Plimpton. Some noteworthy individuals included in the Interview files are Harold Bloom, Ken Burns, Robert Gottlieb, Hugh Hefner, Alex Karras, Fran Lebowitz, Neil Leifer, Norman Mailer, Peter Matthiessen, Philip Roth, James Salter, Bob Silvers, William Styron, Gore Vidal, and Tom Wolfe. Audio recordings of many of the interviews conducted for this book are also held in Series X.

Subseries VII.A. Education 1930-1952

- b. 230 f. 4-14 1930s-1940s
 Contains notes, notebooks, and school work.
- b. 231 f. 1 St Bernard's School 1937-1939
- b. 231 f. 2-4 Phillips Exeter Academy 1940-1944
- b. 231 f. 5-10 Harvard 1945-1950
- b. 281 f. 4-5 Contains Harvard diploma.
- b. 231 f. 11-13 University of Cambridge 1951-1952
- b. 232 f. 1-4 Contains class notes and notebooks.
- b. 283 f. 12
- b. 232 f. 5-9 Subseries VII.B. Military 1947-1953
- b. 281 f. 6

Subseries VII.C. Plimpton Family 1912-2002

Contains notes, notebooks, correspondence, newsletters, obituaries, tributes, and research.

- b. 232 f. 10-11 1927-2002
- b. 233-235
- b. 235 f. 5 Ames, Blanche 1961-1962
- b. 235 f. 6 Mayflower 1983-1983
- b. 235 f. 7-10 Plimpton, Francis T.P 1912-1980s
- b. 236 f. 1-2 Plimpton, George Arthur 1980s
- b. 236 f. 3 Subseries VII.D. Scrapbooks 1936-2002
- b. 281 f. 7-10
- b. 283 f. 13
- b. 285
- b. 286 f. 1-4

Series VII: Biographical Files (cont.)

Subseries VII. E. George, Being George 2004-2008

Edited by Nelson W. Aldrich, Jr.

- b. 236 f. 4 **Agreements and Contracts** 2004-2006
- Interviews**
Contains interview transcripts, most of which are arranged alphabetically by last name.
- b. 236 f. 5-9 **2004-2006**
Includes a master interview list.
- b. 237 f. 1-5 **A-D** 2004-2006
- b. 238 f. 1-5 **C-H** 2004-2006
- b. 239 f. 1-5 **G-H** 2004-2006
- b. 240 f. 1-6 **H-M** 2004-2006
- b. 241 f. 1-6 **M-Q** 2004-2006
- b. 242 f. 1-4 **P-S** 2004-2006
- b. 243 f. 1-3 **S-Z** 2004-2006
- b. 243 f. 4-5 **Research** 2004-2008
b. 244 f. 1-6
b. 245 f. 1-7
- b. 245 f. 8-9 **Drafts** 2005
b. 246-250
- b. 250 f. 6 **Manuscripts** 2005-2006
b. 251-258
- b. 259 f. 1-5 **Galleys, Master Set, and Proofs** 2006-2008
b. 260 f. 1
- b. 260 f. 2-7 **Photographs** 2007-2008
b. 286 f. 5-7 Contains permissions and release forms.
- b. 260 f. 8-9 **Publicity** 2004-2008

Series VIII: Datebooks 1950-2003 (13 boxes 6.0 linear feet)

Plimpton kept track of his many appointments, meetings, and social functions in annual datebooks beginning in 1950. These datebooks are all held in Series VIII. There are datebooks present for many years up until 2003, with the exception of various gaps in the early 1950s, 1960s, and late 1970s. The Series also holds an assortment of address books, and the cards of a Rolodex. All the datebooks are arranged chronologically, with gaps in the chronology noted in the container list.

- b. 260 f. 10 **1950**
- b. 260 f. 11 **1954**
- b. 260 f. 12 **1957-1960**
b. 261 f. 1-3
- b. 261 f. 4 **1962**
- b. 261 f. 5 **1964**
- b. 261 f. 6 **1966**
- b. 261 f. 7-8 **1969**
- b. 261 f. 9-10 **1971-1975**
b. 262 f. 1-3
- b. 262 f. 4-6 **1981-1986**
b. 263 f. 1-6
- b. 264 **1986-1991**
b. 265
- b. 266-268 **1991-1999**

Series VIII: Datebooks (cont.)

- b. 269 f. 1-5 1999-2003
- b. 270 f. 1-4
- b. 270 f. 5-6 Address Books 1950s-2003
- b. 271 f. 1-3
- b. 289 Rolodex 1950s-2003

Series IX: Accolades and Memorabilia 1964-2003 (8 boxes, 1 oversize folder 3.8 linear feet)

This Series holds an assortment of Awards earned by Plimpton; Artwork; a variety of Memorabilia; and Memorials and Tributes to Plimpton. Among the Awards and Certificates are assorted medals, the George Polk Memorial Award, a City of Pittsburgh Proclamation, Signet Society Medal for Achievement in the Arts, Officier de L'Ordres des Arts et des Lettres, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Citation. There is also a commemorative pair of bronzed cleats presented to Plimpton by the Footware Council in 1978.

The Artwork is primarily a collection of drawings and illustrations, most of which are David Levine caricatures of Plimpton. Other artists held in this Subseries include Ed Arno, Frank Johnson, Al Smith, Arnold Roth, Donald Reilly, and D. Whitten.

The Memorabilia comprises a variety of items related to topics on which Plimpton wrote. The items include a Leonard Bernstein record sleeve that is inscribed to Plimpton by Bernstein, a group of used boxing gloves, a boxing robe that has Muhammad Ali's name embroidered on the back and Plimpton's on the front, and a New York City Fireworks commissioner poster. Documentation of the memorabilia's provenance is not included in the collection.

- b. 271 f. 4-12 Subseries IX.A. Awards and Certificates 1967-2003
- b. 272 f. 1-3
- b. 286 f. 8
- b. 287 f. 1-4
- b. 288 f. 2
- b. 290
- b. 272 f. 4-13 Subseries IX.B. Artwork 1964-1987
- b. 286 f. 9-10
- b. 287 f. 5-8
- b. 288 f. 3-6 o. 2
- Subseries IX.C. Memorabilia 1970-1979
- b. 286 f. 11 Autographed Leonard Bernstein Record Sleeve 1972
Sleeve is Inscribed to Plimpton.
- b. 291 Boxing Gloves circa 1970s
- b. 292 Boxing Robe circa 1970s
- b. 288 f. 7 Fireworks Commissioner Poster 1970s-1980s
- b. 272 f. 14-16 Subseries IX.D. Memorials and Tributes 2003