
Lynda Bunting, Jocelyn Gibbs.
Descriptive Summary
Title: William and Noma Copley foundation and collection records
Date (inclusive): 1954-1980
Number: 880403
Creator/Collector: William and Noma Copley Foundation
Physical Description: 4.5 Linear Feet (10 boxes)
Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles 90049-1688
reference@getty.edu
URL: http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref
(310) 440-7390
Abstract: Records document the William and Noma Copley Foundation's grant program for composers and artists, 1954-1966. Richard Hamilton's correspondence, 1960-1966, largely concerns the Foundation's monograph series, which he edited. Other papers, including correspondence with artists, files regarding exhibitions and insurance, and photographs, document the Copleys' personal art collection, known for its large number of Surrealist works. Files dated after 1966 primarily contain Noma Copley's correspondence with artists.
Request Materials: Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the catalog record for this collection. Click here for the access policy.
Language: Collection material is in English
Biographical/Historical Note
William Nelson Copley (1919-1996) was a Surrealist painter, art collector, and philanthropist. He was born in New York and attended Yale University before being drafted into the army and serving in Europe during World War II. After the war, Copley began painting and partnered with John Ployardt, his brother-in-law from his first marriage with Doris Wead, to run the short-lived Copley Galleries in Beverly Hills, California, specializing in Surrealist art. When the business failed, Copley was obligated to buy most of the art, which formed the basis of his private collection. He then moved to Paris around 1949, where he met his second wife, Noma (born Norma) Ratner.
Noma Ratner Copley (1916-2006) was a fine art jewelry designer and art collector. She was born in Minnesota and worked as a translator with the United States Office of War Information during World War II. Afterwards, she worked in the film industry in Los Angeles before moving to Paris. She was introduced to William Copley by their mutual friend Man Ray in 1951. They married in 1953 and resided in France until 1962, when they moved to New York.
In 1954, they began the William and Noma Copley Foundation (renamed the Cassandra Foundation in 1966), which was incorporated in Chicago as a nonprofit organization. Its mission was to aid and encourage emerging artists in the fields of painting, sculpture and music composition. Grants were awarded by a board of directors based on nominations made by advisers, including Jean Arp, Alfred Barr, Jr., Matta Echaurren, Max Ernst, Julien Levy, William Lieberman, Man Ray, Roland Penrose and Sir Herbert Read. The officers and directors were William Copley, Noma Copley, Marcel Duchamp, Barnet Hodes, Eleanor Hodes and Darius Milhaud. Music and art award responsibilities were divided between husband and wife. Noma Copley was chiefly responsible for music grants and collaborated with Milhaud, while William Copley generally made the final decisions on the visual art grants.
The Foundation also published a series of monographs from 1960 to 1966 to highlight their grantees. The British Pop artist Richard Hamilton was chosen as editor, not only for his well-known talents in layout and design, but also for the respect given him by the international art community as one of Duchamp's protégés. A total of 10 monographs were published on Hans Bellmer, Richard Lindner, Bernard Pfiem, René Magritte, Thomas Albert Sills, Eduardo Paolozzi, James Metcalf, Serge Charchoune, Jacques Hérold and Dieter Roth. In addition to their philanthropy, the Copleys assembled an important private collection of Surrealist art, including works by Hans Bellmer, Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, René Magritte and Man Ray. The collection included Magritte's La trahison des images (Ceci n'est pas une pipe) and Chambre d'Ecoute, Ernst's Le Surréalisme et la Peinture, Man Ray's A l'Heure de l'Observatoire: les Amoureux and Richard Hamilton's $he. From 1964 to 1966, Marcia Tucker worked as collection curator, overseeing exhibition loans and the care and maintenance of the collection.

Sources consulted:

Access
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Preferred Citation

Acquisition Information

Processing History
Monika Wiessmeyer unpacked the archive in 1988. Lynda Bunting processed and cataloged the collection June-July, 1995. The Richard Hamilton correspondence (former accn. no. 920052) was moved to the William and Noma Copley Foundation and Collection Records at this time. Bunting revised the finding aid in August 1997 to add a Hans Bellmer document (960054) and in January 1998, to add ca. 40 letters and postcards from other two separate acquisitions (960074, 980002). The biographical note was updated in 2020 by Rachel Poutasse.


Scope and Content of Collection
The William and Noma Copley Foundation and Collection Records document the couple's philanthropic and collecting activities, which along with their personal relationships with Surrealist artists would profoundly affect the exhibition and evaluation of the Surrealist movement in the United States. The archive dates from 1954-1980, the bulk dating from 1954-1966, when the Copleys directed the Foundation. Correspondence after 1966 is primarily from Noma Copley's personal files.

The collection contains correspondence with the Foundation's advisors, and with composers and artists who were awarded grants, in effect demonstrating the Foundation's award process. Letters also were exchanged with artist friends about personal matters and the Copley art collection. Additionally, there is personal and business correspondence with Richard Hamilton from the time when he was editor of the Copley Foundation's monograph series. One series contains personal correspondence, with many drawings and handmade cards, collected by Noma Copley. There is much material, including correspondence and photographs of art works, relating specifically to the Copley collection, covering topics such as exhibition loans, appraisals, conservation of the collection, financial and insurance documents.

Arrangement note

Subjects - Names
Charchoune, Serge, 1888-1975
Copley, William Nelson, 1919-1996
Copley, Noma
Ernst, Max, 1891-1976
Hérold, Jacques, 1910-1987
Hamilton, Richard, 1922-2011
Roth, Dieter, 1930-1998
Tanguy, Yves, 1900-1955
Man Ray, 1890-1976
Tanning, Dorothea, 1910-2012
Bellmer, Hans, 1902-1975
Baj, Enrico, 1924-2003
Arp, Jean, 1887-1966

**Subjects - Corporate Bodies**
William and Noma Copley Foundation

**Subjects - Topics**
Publishers and publishing
Surrealism
Art -- Collectors and collecting
Art, Modern -- 20th century
Art -- Scholarships, fellowships, etc.
Art -- Private collections

**Genres and Forms of Material**
Photographic prints
Photographs, Original
New Year cards
Christmas cards
Collages
Drawings (visual works)

**Contributors**
Chryssa, 1933-2013
De Maria, Walter, 1935-2013
Delvaux, Paul
Glanville-Hicks, Peggy
Flavin, Dan, 1933-1996
Keikel, Manfred
Jones, Charles, 1910-1997
Mason, Raymond, 1922-2010
Lam, Wifredo
Baj, Enrico, 1924-2003
Matta, 1912-2002
Bellmer, Hans, 1902-1975
Metcalf, James, 1925-
Milhaud, Darius, 1892-1974
Arp, Jean, 1887-1966
Petlin, Irving, 1934-2018
Pfriem, Bernard
Sage, Kay
Tajiri, Shinkichi, 1923-2009
Tanning, Dorothea, 1910-2012
Turner, Charles, 1921-2003
Hamilton, Richard, 1922-2011
Waldberg, Patrick
Series I. Foundation documents, 1954-1967

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear Feet, 2.5 boxes

Scope and Content Note

Foundation documents comprise material primarily pertaining to the foundation’s grant program, 1954-1966. Items include statutes and by-laws, award recommendations by Darius Milhaud and others for prominent composers and promising students (many of whom attended the Aspen Music Festival), and recommendations by Roberto Matta Echaurren and others for artists’ grants. Correspondence with awardees includes award letters, thank-you notes, biographies, descriptions of current work, and letters about personal matters. Awardees include, among others, the composers Charles Jones, Manfred Kelkel, Charles Turner, Peggy Glanville-Hicks, Shinkichi Tajiri and Bernard Pfiem, and the artists Jean Arp, Hans Bellmer, Dan Flavin, Wifredo Lam, and Dorothea Tanning. Letters from the writer Patrick Waldberg provide art world gossip and personal views on art events. Some letters discuss the monographs published by the Foundation. Series II contains much more correspondence about the Foundation’s publishing program.

box 1, folder 1 Official documents, 1954-1955

Physical Description: ca. 13 items

Scope and Content Note

By-laws in English and French; articles of incorporation; correspondence with the law firm of Arvey, Hodes & Mantynband; correspondence with IRS about tax exempt status.

box 1, folder 2 Darius Milhaud recommendations, 1961-1966

Physical Description: ca. 38 items

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence with Milhaud regarding music award recommendations reveals selection process; with personal correspondence interspersed.

box 1, folder 3 Other recommendations, 1960-1966

Physical Description: ca. 20 items

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence recommending artists and composers, with Ernst Roth, Pierre Boulez, and Roberto Matta Echaurren (also personal letters and small drawings); notes from Man Ray, Marguerite Arp, Sam Hunter, Julien Levy, Dan Flavin, and Alfred Barr, Jr.

box 1, folder 4-5 Music biographies, 1954-1966

Physical Description: ca. 100 items

Scope and Content Note

Typed curricula vitae, some in letter format, a few with cover letters, from students and established awardees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| box 1, folder 6 | **Art biographies, ca. 1960-1966, 1964-1966**  
Physical Description: ca. 35 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Curricula vitae, most typed and some in letter format, a few with cover letters, from artists Lucas Samaras, Mark di Suvero (handwritten letter about his childhood), Dan Flavin, and Maria Papa, among others; 9 photographs. |
| box 1, folder 7-8 | **Music awardee correspondence, 1954-1960 1962-1966**  
Physical Description: ca. 150 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Most are letters of award to grant recipients and thank-you letters from them, but also some bios, descriptions of current work and personal correspondence. Represented are, among others, Jacques Bondon (6 items), Harris Danziger (6 items), Manfred Kelkel (14 items), Charles Jones (17 items), Jean-Louis Martinet (2 items), Benjamin Lees (3 items), Charles Turner (21 items), Claude Prey (4 items), Leland Smith (3 items), Gilbert Amy (3 items), Howard Swanson (1 item), Edgard Varèse (4 items), Morton Subotnick (1 item), Antoine Tisne (4 items), Mikis Theodorakis (8 items), Peter Schickele (1 item), Peggy Glanville-Hicks (ca. 24 items, most about separate grants awarded to aid production of "Transposed Heads," 1959, and "Nausicaa," 1962), William Bolcom (1 item), Bruce Mather (3 items), Jean-Claude Eloy (2 items), Henry Brant (6 items), John Downey (6 items), Luciano Berio (1 item), Paul Mefano (1 item), John Cage (3 items). |
| box 1, folder 9 | **Miscellaneous music correspondence, 1953-1965**  
Physical Description: ca. 10 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Includes letters from and to F. Charles Adler (1956), and letter to Erich Leinsdorf (1961). |
| box 2, folder 1-2 | **Art awardee correspondence, 1956-1959, 1961-1966**  
Physical Description: ca. 42 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Letters of award to grant recipients and thank-you letters from them; also some bios, descriptions of current work and personal correspondence. Awardees include Serge Charchoune (4 items), Arturo Estrada (1 item), Jacques Hérold (1 item), Hans Bellmer (4 items), Richard Lindner (8 items), Shinkichi Tajiri (8 items), Bernard Pfriem (3 items: long description of childhood, letter to and letter from Maxime), Richard Hamilton (2 items), Ruth Francken (2 items), Caroline Lee (1 item), Gene Beery (2 items), David Packard (3 items), Dan Flavin (1 item), Mark di Suvero (3 items). |
| box 2, folder 3 | **Other awardee correspondence, 1959-1960**  
Physical Description: 3 items |
| box 2, folder 4 | **Artist corresp. A, 1954-1966**  
**Altoon, John, 1966**  
Physical Description: 2 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Thank-you letter from Altoon mentions dissatisfaction with a drawing he gave WC; letter to Altoon from WC. |
| box 2, folder 4 | **Arakawa, Shusaku, 1965, n.d.**  
Physical Description: 3 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Letter and postcard from Arakawa; letter to him from WC. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Name, Dates</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
<th>Scope and Content Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2, 4</td>
<td>Arp, Jean and Marguerite, 1957-1966</td>
<td>32 items</td>
<td>Extensive personal correspondence, written between Marguerite and Noma with one letter from Arp. Subjects include Arp's health, financial matters, how Arp feels about the works Sophie left him, exhibitions, the works by Arp in the Copley collection, purchases, loans, description corrections, and damage to &quot;Concrétion humaine sur coupe A&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Artist correspondence, B-CH, 1954-1966</td>
<td>12 items</td>
<td>About loans from the collection; the measurement of &quot;Miroir&quot;; Baj's health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Bell, Larry, 1965</td>
<td>2 items</td>
<td>Chatty letter from Bell regarding a work for the &quot;optical show&quot;; WC reply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Bellmer, Hans, ca. 1950-1965</td>
<td>20 items</td>
<td>Letters about production of the Foundation's book on Bellmer and photograph requests for a book of Bellmer's drawings (see also Series II); personal matters; the health of Unica Zürn, 1961-1962, 1964-1965; handwritten page &quot;Fonctionnement du rêve&quot; with drawings and quotations from Freud, Schopenhauer, Spitta, et. al., ca. 1950.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Brancusi, Constantin, 1955-1956</td>
<td>7 items</td>
<td>Copies of 6 letters from Hodes, Sidney Janis, and Brancusi; a 5 pp. report about &quot;Endless Column&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Carrington, Leonora, 1957</td>
<td>2 items</td>
<td>Letter from Carrington in which she uses choice words about Murray Greenbaum, who cheated them and other artists out of money; a reply from Noma.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Charchoune, Serge, 1961-1964</td>
<td>5 items</td>
<td>Personal letters; 2 cards, photograph and small printed text &quot;Dolgolikov de Serge Charchoune&quot; by Georges Adamovitch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box Folder</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Christo, postcard from</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Artist correspondence, CO-L</td>
<td>1954-1966</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Consagra, Pietro</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Crippa, Roberto</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Physical Description: 5 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note: Letters about the purchase of a work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Delvaux, Paul</td>
<td>1956-1957</td>
<td>Physical Description: 16 items</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note: Letters, notes, and import documents regard purchase of a work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Ernst, Max</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note: Handwritten note on a copied [photostat?] typescript.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Flavin, Dan</td>
<td>1965-1966</td>
<td>Physical Description: ca. 13 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note: References for the Guggenheim Foundation; a 3 pp. letter in which Flavin discusses himself, Walter Hopps's notion of an &quot;East Coast-West dichotomy on art,&quot; and the comportment of the artist in the face of commercial galleries; letters regarding Flavin drawings; copy of 7 pp. bio. written for the Guggenheim Foundation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Francis, Sam</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Francken, Ruth</td>
<td>1965-1966</td>
<td>Physical Description: 6 items</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note: Letters about recent productivity; requests for help finding New York representation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Herms, George</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Johnson, Ray</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note: Illustrated thank-you note.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 6</td>
<td>Lam, Wifredo</td>
<td>1956-1957, 1959-1961</td>
<td>Physical Description: 22 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note: Letters about payment for a work; travel arrangements; some letters include drawings; includes 1 drawing on cardboard, 1 clipping.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lebel, Jean-Jacques, 1962
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Letter about money he owes WC.

Lee, Caroline, 1962, 1966
Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Content Note
1 p., 5 pp., 6 pp. and 2 pp. letters about problems with her studio; her new foundry; the current French art scene and why the French cannot understand Pop Art; the civil rights movement; her busy schedule.

Artist correspondence, M-R, 1954-1966
Mason, Raymond, 1961, 1963
Physical Description: 10 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about the casting and purchase of two sculptures.

Mesens, E.L.T., 1960
Physical Description: 5 items
Scope and Content Note
Mesens asks WC’s help with Magritte exhibit at ICA, London; 3 pp. handwritten copy of letter from Mesens to Roland Penrose expressing his dislike of the idea of a retrospective at the ICA and problems with their personal relationship; a tactful letter from WC expressing his feeling that they cannot all work together on the show.

Metcalf, James and Pilar, ca. 1965
Physical Description: 7 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters regarding Metcalf’s problems with galleries and exhibitions; personal matters.

Noguchi, Isamu, 1958
Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about possible purchase of a stone table and Noguchi’s recommendation of J.B. Blunk for a grant.

Oppenheim, Meret, 1964-1966
Physical Description: 5 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters concern acquisition of an object and exchange of works between Oppenheim and WC; exhibition announcement; a New Year’s card with an original lithograph (no. 7/25).

Packard, David, 1962-1963
Physical Description: 3 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters relate progress of his work; thoughts on WC’s green book [Duchamp book?]; repair of "Monstrance Number One".

Penrose, Roland and Lee Miller, 1965-1966
Scope and Content Note
5 items
Petlin, Irving, 1962, 1965

Physical Description: 6 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about life in Greece and recent work painted there (1962); photographs needed by Petlin of his work; an event the Los Angeles Times refused to report on, in which the Copleys would have been proud of Larry Bell, John Altoon, John Weber, Maurice Tuchman, et al. (1965 May 23); showing at Rolf Nelson’s; personal matters.

Pfriem, Bernard, 1961-1962

Physical Description: 9 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about Pfriem's positive reaction to the Foundation's book about him; the possibility of purchasing an extra run (see also Series II); works for consideration at MOMA; disappointment with his last show; personal matters.

Ray, Man, 1965-1965

Physical Description: 7 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about photographs from ArtNews for books on Man Ray; exhibitions that might need loans from the Copley collection (especially the LACMA [Los Angeles County Museum of Art] retrospective); Copley's feelings about top LACMA personnel; Man Ray's rheumatism.

Reynal, Jeanne, 1960-1961

Physical Description: 8 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters regarding the repair of mosaics in the collection; shipping a Gorky work.

Rivers, Larry, 1965

Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters regarding payments.

Artist correspondence, SH-TIN, 1954-1966


Physical Description: 12 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters regarding payment and the loan of a sculpture to the Stedelijk Museum; personal letter contains a photograph collage.


Physical Description: 17 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about compiling a catalog of Yves Tanquy's work and the difficulties in finding his earlier pieces; letter from Tanguy recommending François Tuefferd for a grant; 2 pp. list of catalog needs.

Physical Description: 14 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters about a gift to the Tate Gallery of a Tanning work; a Foundation book on Ernst; news of Man Ray; the Copleys' tentative plan to buy an apartment from Ernst; loans for a retrospective.


Physical Description: 7 items
Scope and Content Note
References for Pontus Hulten with mention that Tinguely forgot to leave the "petite chose" at Jimmy's [Metcalf?]; 3 postcards with colored marker drawings on recto, titled "Peinture originale exécutée en collaboration avec métamatic no. 8 de Tinguely" (edition Iris Clert), signed and dated 20 VII [year illegible]; 2 postcards dated 1961 and 1966.

Trouille, Clovis, 1959, 1963

Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters of thank-you for the London catalog; possible purchase of "Mes Funérailles"; praise for WC's work.

Waldberg, Patrick and Isabelle, 1957-1958

Physical Description: 5 items
Scope and Content Note
Letter from Noma about life in Mexico; gossipy 4 pp. letter from Waldberg about his opinion of the Duchamp book production; the failure of Jacques Hérold's recent exhibition; the bickering of the "old guard" at the Dada retrospective at the Galerie de l'Institute; a raid of the show by a commando of "jarrivistes"; his research and thoughts on Dada for a possible publication.

Form letters, 1960-1966

Physical Description: 30 items
Scope and Content Note

General correspondence 1962-1966

Physical Description: ca. 23 items
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence with Fondation de la Cité Internationale des Arts about activities; letters about Diter Rot [i.e. Dieter Roth] monograph; with Porter McCray of JDR III Fund regarding money for the New York Studio School; with Roland Penrose about funds for ICA (London); letter to A. James Speyer about loaning Ernst's "Surrealisme et la peinture" to the Art Institute of Chicago; with Lucy Lippard concerning money for her Max Ernst catalogue raisonné project; outline for the Modern Legal Handbook for Artists and Collectors.

Thank-you letters for foundation monographs, 1962, 1965

Physical Description: 4 items
Series I. Foundation documents, 1954-1967

   Physical Description: ca. 12 items
   Scope and Content Note
   Includes awardee announcements and cover letters.

box 3, folder 5  Mailing lists, n.d., 1960
   Physical Description: ca. 100 pp.
   Scope and Content Note
   Addresses, mostly of libraries and educational institutions, for sending foundation books; letter from Diter Rot [i.e., Dieter Roth], 1960.

box 3, folder 6  International Institute of Contemporary Art, 1957, n.d.
   Physical Description: 12 items
   Scope and Content Note
   Blank stationery; brochures; proceedings of the city council of Chicago (Dec 23, 1957) with resolution of IICA's organization [WC was vice-president]; carbon copy of IICA charter; membership card.

Series II. Richard Hamilton correspondence, 1960-1966
   Physical Description: 1 Linear Feet 2 boxes
   Scope and Content Note
   Correspondence comprises 189 items, arranged in chronological order, between William and Noma Copley and the British Pop artist Richard Hamilton, in his capacity as editor of the Copley Foundation Monograph series. Some letters are written to and from Hamilton's wife Terry. One letter (1965) is from Hamilton's companion Rita. Hamilton includes copies of letters to and from other correspondents in his letters to the Copleys. The files include a small number of original letters from others: Hans Bellmer, Barnet Hodes, Kenneth Rowntree, Alfred Barr, Jr., Marcia Tucker, Yale University Library, and Diter Rot [i.e., Dieter Roth]. Most of Hamilton's letters are addressed to Bill and Noma, most of the replies (pink carbon copies) are from Noma. The few letters between Bill Copley and Hamilton attest to their difficult relationship. The Copleys write from Europe, New York, and Los Angeles. The long, detailed letters concern production for the Bellmer, Charchoune, Hérold, Duchamp, Rot [i.e Roth] books, negotiations with the artists, distribution processes and personal matters. After 1962 there are references to art world news and gossip, Copley's and Hamilton's gallery and museum exhibitions, collecting interests, censorship, Hamilton's own art work ($he, Pin-up), and his interest in artists' books. Most of the letters are typed (the Copleys' letters in carbon copy), but several letters are handwritten.

box 3  Correspondence, 1960-1966
   box 3, folder 7  1960-1962
      Physical Description: 90 items
   box 3, folder 7  1960
      Physical Description: 8 items
      Scope and Content Note
      Hamilton letter to Pfriem.
      Six letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley, and between Terry Hamilton and the Copleys.
Series II. Richard Hamilton correspondence, 1960-1966

**box 3, folder 7**

**1961**

Physical Description: 49 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Forty-two letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley, including some between Terry and the Copleys.  
One letter, with separate accounting of book production costs, from Hamilton to Barnet Hodes.  
One letter from Hamilton to Jacques Hérold.  
Two letters from Hamilton to Hans Bellmer; 1 letter from Bill Copley to Bellmer; 1 letter from Bellmer.

**box 3, folder 7**

**1962**

Physical Description: 33 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Twenty-six letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley, including some between Terry and the Copleys. One of Terry's letters is handwritten. Hamilton's anguished letter of Nov. 7 tells them of Terry's death.  
One letter from Hamilton to Serge Charchoune (with a list of Charchoune's book illustrations); 1 to Barnet Hodes.  
Two letters from Barnet Hodes to Hamilton, letter from Tony Bell to Bradford, and a letter from Bradford to Hamilton, all regarding production errors or distribution.

**box 3, folder 8**

**1963-1966**

Physical Description: 66 items

**box 3, folder 8**

**1963**

Physical Description: 10 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Eight letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley.  
Two letters between Bill Copley and Prof. Kenneth Rowntree regarding Senior Lectureship for Hamilton at University of Durham.

**box 3, folder 8**

**1964**

Physical Description: 22 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Twenty-one letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley; 1 Hamilton letter to Barnet Hodes.

**box 3, folder 8**

**1965**

Physical Description: 24 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Eleven letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley (most of them between Hamilton and Noma); 1 letter from Rita to Noma.  
One letter from Hamilton to Michael Greenwood, Hanover Gallery, London; 1 to G.R. Martin of Lund Humphries; 1 to Barnet Hodes.  
One letter from Alfred Barr, Jr. to Noma regarding Diter Rot [i.e. Dieter Roth].  
Five letters between Marcia Tucker, Noma Copley and Yale University Library about acquiring the Foundation's monographs; 2 letters from Marcia Tucker to Hamilton.  
William and Noma Copley Foundation letterhead sample, with annotations about design.
Series II. Richard Hamilton correspondence, 1960-1966

1966

Physical Description: 10 items
Scope and Content Note
Five letters between Hamilton and Bill and Noma Copley; 1 handmade postcard from Hamilton and Rita to the Copleys.
Two letters from Diter Rot [i.e. Dieter Roth] and 1 typed page of text from his book, over which there are censorship concerns ("Ich kache...")
compose (to john cage) - an artist postcard by Hamilton.

Series III. Personal correspondence, 1957-1980

Physical Description: 0.5 Linear Feet 1 box
Scope and Content Note
This series contains letters, drawings and cards from artists and musicians, sent to Noma Copley. The letters are from 1957-1980, most dating after the end of the Foundation’s activities in 1966, and are arranged alphabetically. One file contains letters, drawings, and ephemera from William and Noma. The Copleys separated in 1968 but Noma remained friendly with many of the artists. The letters are generally personal, but also include descriptions of working interests from artists Vija Celmins, Chryssa, Walter De Maria, Richard Hamilton, Man Ray, Roberto Matta Echaurren, Irving Petlin, Cliff Westermann, and others. This series also holds some handmade cards and drawings by artists prior to 1966.

A-Z

box 4, folder 1

Arp, Jean, 1964, 1967
Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
New Year’s cards.

Assadour, ca. 1972
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Etched card.

Unidentified A, n.d.
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Drawing of napkin with silverware, “Strategic Food Command” and other lettering.

Beery, Gene, n.d.
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Transparent Christmas card.

Brant, Henry, 1967
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Printed sheet music with New Year’s greeting.

Buonagurio, Toby, ca. 1970
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Handmade thank-you note.
box 4, folder 2  Unidentified B, n.d.
   Physical Description: 1 item
   Scope and Content Note
   Ink drawing, signed Aaron.

box 4, folder 3  Cage, John, 1968
   Physical Description: 1 item
   Scope and Content Note
   Note-o-gram describing recent electronic work.

   Physical Description: 3 items
   Scope and Content Note
   Letter, note, and invitation.

   Physical Description: ca. 25 items
   Scope and Content Note
   Personal letters about her art production; her studio; drawings sales; her health; the Los Angeles art scene; a women's artist group in Los Angeles; her exhibition in London.

   Physical Description: 7 items
   Scope and Content Note
   One letter mentions Angela Davis and Malcolm X; statement of purpose with drawing for Guggenheim; 2 New Year's cards; 1 clipping.

box 4, folder 4  Christo, 1969
   Physical Description: 1 item

   Physical Description: 8 items
   Scope and Content Note
   One angry letter expressing recent frustrations; photocopy of a very long letter; small colored drawing.

box 4, folder 4  Crippa, Roberto, 1957-1958
   Physical Description: 1 item
   Scope and Content Note
   Hand-colored card.

box 4, folder 4  Unidentified C, n.d.
   Physical Description: 5 items
   Scope and Content Note
   Five intricately folded squares with colored drawings.
Physical Description: ca. 45 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Copies of the Christmas postcards sent; WC exhibition announcements; notes from WC to NC; 2 WC drawings; letter (fragment?) written by NC to unidentified correspondent about the breakup of the Copley marriage.

De Maria, Walter, 1967-1970  
Physical Description: 7 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Letters discuss politics; his feelings about California (Apr 6 1968); his film "Hard Core" (Aug 22 1969).

Unidentified D, 1959  
Physical Description: 4 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Three humorous drawings of soldiers; handmade Christmas card signed Max and Jane.

Edmonson, Leonard, 1953  
Physical Description: 1 item  
Scope and Content Note  
Small etching.

Elde, Ansgar, 1965  
Physical Description: 1 item  
Scope and Content Note  
Invitation with colored drawings.

Ernst, Max, 1963  
Physical Description: 2 items  
Scope and Content Note  
Postcard; Christmas card from Margaret Krebs with Ernst picture on front.

Estrada, Arturo, 1958  
Physical Description: 1 item  
Scope and Content Note  
Hand-colored New Year's card.

Unidentified E, n.d.  
Physical Description: 1 item  
Scope and Content Note  
Drawing of waterfowl.

Ford, Charles Henri, 1976  
Physical Description: 1 item

Fox, n.d.  
Physical Description: 1 item  
Scope and Content Note  
Christmas card.
Frank, Mary, 1979
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Exhibition announcement.

Frumkin, Allan and Jean, , n.d. 1977
Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
Handmade Christmas card; gallery newsletter.

Granell, E.F., 1964
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Handmade Christmas card.

Unidentified G, n.d.
Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
1 drawing of scarecrow (signed n.g.) and 1 drawing of cat on a bicycle, with French text

Hamilton, Richard, 1968-1971
Physical Description: 10 items
Scope and Content Note
Personal letters, with some mention of his work.

Hérold, Jacques, , 1963 1965
Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
Birth announcement with print (fragment); New Year's postcard.

Hiquily, Philippe, 1967
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Handmade New Year's card.

Jacquet, Alain, n.d.
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Christmas card.

King, Bill, , , 1973 1975 1977
Physical Description: 8 items
Scope and Content Note
2 Christmas cards ( 1973, 1977); silver card with punched-out figures ( 1975); drawing "The test" with cut-out figures ( 1973); "Dad! (a bronze)" with painted envelope and bronze cut-outs; letter with metal can opener ring attached ( 1977).

Lam, Wifredo, 1960
Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Christmas postcard with drawing.
box 4, folder 13  Lees, Benjamin, , 1974 n.d.
  Physical Description: 3 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Two Christmas cards; publicity brochure.

box 4, folder 13  Lepri, Stanislas, , 1963 n.d.
  Physical Description: 2 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Christmas card; New Year's card with drawings.

box 4, folder 14  Magritte, René (?), n.d.
  Physical Description: 1 item
  Scope and Content Note
  Thank-you note with ink drawings.

  Physical Description: 16 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Personal letters describe how busy he is and his health; Christmas cards;
  announcements; painted get well card; photographs.

box 4, folder 14  Matta Echaurren, Roberto, n.d.
  Physical Description: 3 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Sheet with drawings of birthday wishes to WC; another sheet of drawings; Christmas
  card with drawings.

box 4, folder 15  Noailles, Marie-Laure de [i.e. Laure, Marie], 1962
  Physical Description: 1 item
  Scope and Content Note
  Christmas card.

box 4, folder 15  Unidentified N, n.d.
  Physical Description: 5 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Five sheets with story text and colored drawings, signed Jerry.

box 4, folder 16  Oldenburg, Claes, , 1970 n.d.
  Physical Description: 2 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Signed announcement; New Year's card.

box 4, folder 16  Penrose, Roland, , 1963 n.d.
  Physical Description: 2 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Postcard; thank-you note.

  Physical Description: 9 items
  Scope and Content Note
  Letters; announcements.
Unidentified P, 1962

Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Hand-drawn thank-you note from Paris.

Rozsda, Endre, 1965

Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Handmade New Year's card.

Ruppersberg, Allen, 1974

Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Announcement from the Claire Copley Gallery.


Physical Description: 14 items
Scope and Content Note
Postcards; letters.

Stuart, David, 1982

Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Content Note
Postcards; an invitation.

Tajiri, Shinkichi, 1971-1972 1975

Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Content Note
Letters; New Year’s cards.

Tanguy, Kay Sage, n.d.

Physical Description: 2 items
Scope and Content Note
Christmas cards.

Urvater, Gigi and Bertie, 1967

Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
New Year’s card with Hérold print.

Waldberg, Patrick, n.d.

Physical Description: 1 item
Scope and Content Note
Ink and pencil drawing.

Westermann, Cliff [H.C.], 1964-1979

Physical Description: 17 items
Scope and Content Note
Personal letters with many drawings, some in color.
Series III. Personal correspondence, 1957-1980

Wheeler, Doug, n.d.
Physical Description: 1 item

Series IV. Collection documents, 1954-1967
Physical Description: 1 Linear Feet 2 boxes
Scope and Content Note
Documents (bulk 1964-1966) comprise material relating to the exhibition and care of the Copley art collection. Contains correspondence with museum and gallery directors and staff, loan forms, certificates of insurance, appraisals and insurance evaluations, condition and treatment reports, shipping documents and photograph requests. Other documents include financial and insurance papers.

Loans and evaluations, 1954 1957-1967
Physical Description: ca. 350 pp.
Scope and Content Note
Extensive material relating to exhibition loans. Some of the exhibitions mentioned include Daniel Cordier's Exposition Internationale du Surréalisme (1959-1960); "Max Ernst" at MOMA (1961); "Picabia" at Musée Cantini, Marseille (1962); "Jean Arp" at Musée d'Art Moderne à Paris (1962); "New Realists" at Hague Museum (1964, Hamilton); "Marcel Duchamp" at the Pasadena Art Museum (1963); "Rene Magritte" at MOMA (1965); "Max Ernst: Recent Paintings and Sculpture" at the Jewish Museum (1966); "Marcel Duchamp" at the Arts Council of Great Britain (1966); "Man Ray" exhibition at LACMA.

Loans - University of California, Santa Barbara, 1965-1966
Physical Description: ca. 40 items
Scope and Content Note
Material regarding loan of 12 works for "Surrealism -- A State of Mind" includes correspondence with Ala Story, certificates of insurance, loan forms and receipts, sheet of paper with damage notes, and 6 installation photographs.

Loans - Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1965-1966
Physical Description: ca. 27 items
Scope and Content Note
Regarding works loaned to "Harbingers of Surrealism," including correspondence with Thomas Leavitt and William Hesthal about checklist, shipping and damage to Ernst's work "Figure zoomorphique" with condition report, certificates of insurance, and loan forms.

Physical Description: ca. 65 items
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence with directors of various museums and institutions, including Henry Geldzahler, Walter Hopps, James Soby, Roland Penrose; many letters with Sam Hunter; appraisals for Tamayo and Matta Echaurren gifts.

Art purchases, 1965-1966
Physical Description: ca. 15 items
Scope and Content Note
Includes list of negative numbers for some works in the collection, 6 photographs of works by Joseph Cornell, Roy Lichtenstein, and Agustin Cárdenas, and receipts.

Sales, 1961 1963-1965
Physical Description: ca. 8 items
Scope and Content Note
Receipts and some correspondence.
Consignment lists, 1963
Physical Description: 4 items

Taxes and investments, 1961-1966
Physical Description: ca. 45 items
Scope and Content Note
WC correspondence with Hodes regarding taxes and legality of deductions (showing a concern for how the IRS viewed WC’s status as an artist); investments; charitable donations; sale of Copleys' chateau at Longpont, France; the report “Analysis of the Portfolio of William Copley” (1961).

Restoration, 1964-1967
Physical Description: ca. 35 items
Scope and Content Note
Some correspondence; bills; estimates; condition and treatment reports.

Insurance, 1963-1967
Physical Description: ca. 35 items
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence with the Copleys' insurance agent about claims and policy updates (some not related to the collection); bills; certificates of insurance; lists of artwork insurance revisions (1965).

Shipping, 1963-1964
Physical Description: ca. 40 items
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence with shippers mostly about Copleys' personal effects being held up in French customs and their arrival in the U.S.; bills; shipment arrival notices.

Publicity, bulk 1960-1966 1965-1966
Physical Description: ca. 60 items
Scope and Content Note
Correspondence about photograph permission requests, including some with Phil Leider of Artforum concerning the Surrealist issue with the story of Barnet Hodes's collection (Mar 4, 1966); checklist of works hung in the Copleys' New York apartment when it was in a MOMA sponsored tour (1965); clippings.

Miscellaneous articles, n.d.
Physical Description: 4 items

Series V. Collection photographs, n.d.
Physical Description: 1.25 Linear Feet 4 boxes
Scope and Content Note
Over 350 b/w photographs, arranged roughly alphabetically by artist, of art works in the Copley collection. Titles, dimensions and medium are listed on each photograph or on attached descriptive labels. In 2 instances, there is a label without a photograph. The shots of Arp's "Concrétion humaine sur coupe A," and "Levres," and Dali's "Un Oeuf sur le Plat sans le Plat" are signed by the artists with certification statements.

A-D
Aeppli, Eva
Physical Description: 1 photograph
Series V.Collection photographs, n.d.

- **box 7 Armand**
  Physical Description: 2 photographs

- **box 7 Arman**
  Physical Description: 4 photographs

- **box 7 Altoon, John**
  Physical Description: 2 photographs

- **box 7 Arp, Jean**
  Physical Description: 9 photographs

- **box 7 Asher, Michael**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Baj, Enrico**
  Physical Description: 2 photographs

- **box 7 Balthus**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Baruchello, Gianfranco**
  Physical Description: 4 photographs

- **box 7 Blow, Sandra**
  Physical Description: 2 photographs

- **box 7 Bellmer, Hans**
  Physical Description: 3 photographs

- **box 7 Brauner, Victor**
  Physical Description: 5 photographs

- **box 7 Beery, Gene**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Bell, Larry**
  Physical Description: 2 photographs

- **box 7 Blake, Peter**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Breton, André**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Cadavre Exquis: Victor Brauner and Yves Tanguy**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph

- **box 7 Cadavre Exquis: Victor Brauner, Jacques Hérold, Yves Tanguy**
  Physical Description: 1 photograph
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<th>Box 7</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
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<td>Cárdenas, Agustin</td>
<td>2 photographs + 1 descriptive label</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Carone, Nicholas</td>
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<td>Carrington, Leonora</td>
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<td>César [i.e. Baldaccini, César?]</td>
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<td>Chadwick, Lynn</td>
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<td>Chagall, Marc</td>
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<td>Charchoune, Serge</td>
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<td>Christo</td>
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<td>De Chirico, Giorgio</td>
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<td>D-G</td>
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box 8  Delvaux, Paul
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Dix, Otto
        Physical Description: 3 photographs

box 8  Domínguez, Oscar
        Physical Description: 3 photographs

box 8  De Maria, Walter
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Saint-Phalle, Niki de
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Duchamp, Marcel
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Effront, Nadine
        Physical Description: 2 photographs

box 8  Eisenhower, Leslie
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Ensor, James
        Physical Description: 2 photographs

box 8  Ernst, Max
        Physical Description: 37 photographs

box 8  Estrada, Arturo
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Fini, Leonor
        Physical Description: 3 photographs

box 8  Francis, Sam
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Francken, Ruth
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Fahlström, K.K.
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Giacometti, Alberto
        Physical Description: 2 photographs

box 8  Greberek
        Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 8  Granell, E.F. [i.e. Granell, Eugenio Fernández?]
        Physical Description: 1 photograph
Gorky, Arshile
Physical Description: 3 photographs

Photographs of art works: H-O
Hayter, William
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Henry, Maurice
Physical Description: 2 photographs

Hérold, Jacques
Physical Description: 7 photographs

Hiquily, Philippe
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Herms, George
Physical Description: 2 photographs

Jacquet, Alain
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Julie, Henri
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Kelly, Leon
Physical Description: 2 photographs

Kienholz, Edward
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Kiki
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Klee, Paul
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Krizek
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Kukoc, Milda [i.e. Kukoc, Mislav?]
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Klein, Yves
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Kalinowski, Horst Egon
Physical Description: 1 photograph

Labisse, Felix
Physical Description: 2 photographs

Lam, Wifredo
Physical Description: 5 photographs
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<td>Lemeslie</td>
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<td>Matta Echaurren, Roberto Sebastián</td>
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<td>Moses, Ed</td>
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<td>Stevenson, Harold</td>
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<td>Seitz, William Chapin</td>
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<td>Taeuber-Arp, Sophie</td>
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<td>Todd, Mike</td>
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box 10  Toyen  
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box 10  Doesburg, Theo van  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Villon, Jacques  
    Physical Description: 3 photographs

box 10  Waldberg, Isabelle  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Warhol, Andy  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Westermann, H.C. (Horace Clifford)  
    Physical Description: 4 photographs

box 10  Wols  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Wolfers, [Marcel?]  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Zev  
    Physical Description: 1 photograph

box 10  Zürn, Unica  
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