
Finding aid for the Claude Fredericks journal and letters, circa 1916-1988

Neil Hathaway.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Claude Fredericks journal and letters

Date (inclusive): circa 1916-1988

Number: 900230C

Creator/Collector: Fredericks, Claude

Physical Description: 29.5 Linear Feet

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: Personal journal (1932-1988) and correspondence (1944-1988) of the American dramatist, poet, printer and teacher, containing some 50,000 pages of journal and some 20,000 pages of carbon copies of letters by Fredericks. This portion of Frederick's archive also includes personal letters from James Merrill (1950-1988).

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

Claude Fredericks was an American dramatist, poet, printer and teacher. He has kept a journal since 1932; by 1988 it comprised, in its various forms, more than 50,000 pages. He founded the Banyan Press in 1946 and issued works by major literary figures. The Banyan Press imprints (see The Banyan Press archive 900230A), his correspondence and journal document his close friendships with major literary figures of the 1940s and 1950s (see also Claude Fredericks's papers 900230C). Fredericks died on January 11, 2013.

Access

Open for use by qualified researchers.

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Preferred Citation

Claude Fredericks journal and letters, circa 1916-1988, The Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, Accession no. 900230C. <http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa900230c>

Acquisition Information

Acquired in 1990.

Processing History

Neil Hathaway processed the collection.

Claude Fredericks papers, circa 1850-1988, bulk 1941-1988, Accession no. 900230B. The Banyan Press archive, 1946-1986, Accession no. 900230A.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection comprises Fredericks's more personal writings and incoming correspondence, all of his outgoing correspondence (1944-1988), and personal ephemera (1916-1988).

Fredericks kept a journal beginning in 1932; by 1988 it contained, in its various forms (manuscript pages, notebooks, and typescripts), ca. 50,000 pages. Additional items date from 1916 to 1988 and include ephemera, letters ranging from juvenilia to intimate correspondence (including letters from James Merrill, 1950-1988 in box 26), Harvard class notes, and address books. Also included are published sections of Fredericks's journal (1932-1941).

Arrangement note

Arranged in 3 series: Series I. Journal, 1932-1988; Series II. Letters sent, 1944-1988; Series III. Journal Addenda, 1916-1988.

Subjects - Names

Merrill, James
Fredericks, Claude

Subjects - Titles

The Journal of Claude Fredericks, Volume One: 1932-1941

Genres and Forms of Material

Diaries -- 20th century
Correspondence
Juvenilia -- 20th century
Ephemera -- 20th century

Contributors

Stinehour Press
Merrill, James
Fredericks, Claude

Series I. **Journal, 1932-1988**

Physical Description: 6.25 Linear Feet

Scope and Content Note

This series contains Fredericks's most intimate papers, his nearly life-long work-his journal-plus his outgoing correspondence. Also in this series are the many personal letters written to Fredericks from James Merrill, 1952-1988.

In a letter to Henry Wenning Fredericks described his journal: "...It must run to thirty or forty million words, fifty or sixty thousand pages mostly typed and single spaced. It begins when I am eight and from the time I am fourteen runs almost without interruption until now more than sixty years later."

A short section of the Journal was published in the festschrift for James Merrill's sixtieth birthday in 1986.

In 2003 *The Journal of Claude Fredericks Volume One, Part One (1932-1939) and Part Two (1940-1941)* were published by Xlibris, and in 2005 *Selected Poems*. Published copies may be found in the Getty Research Library and in the archive. Also in the archive is a limited edition of the prospectus from The Stinehour Press, printed in 15 copies in 1997 when it was thought that the Press would publish Fredericks's journals.

Numbers in parentheses are file numbers used by Fredericks.

| | |
|-------|--|
| box 1 | 1932-1940 |
| box 1 | 1932-1937 |
| | Physical Description: five bound volumes (1) |
| box 1 | 1938 |
| | Physical Description: five envelopes, one bound volume (2) |
| box 1 | 1939 |
| | Physical Description: one envelope, one loose-leaf notebook (3) |
| box 1 | 1940 |
| | Physical Description: three loose-leaf notebooks (4) |
| box 2 | 1941 |
| box 2 | 1941a |
| | Physical Description: one loose-leaf notebook, one bound volume (5) |

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|-------|---|
| box 2 | 1941b Physical Description: five bound volumes (6) |
| box 3 | 1942a Physical Description: one bound volume (7) Scope and Content Note Labeled 1942 III. |
| box 4 | 1942-1943 |
| box 4 | 1942b Physical Description: one bound volume (8) |
| box 4 | 1942c Physical Description: one bound volume (9) |
| box 4 | 1942d Physical Description: one bound volume (10) |
| box 4 | 1942e Physical Description: two bound volumes (11) |
| box 4 | 1942f Physical Description: two bound volumes (12) |
| box 4 | 1942g Physical Description: foolscap typescript (13) |
| box 4 | 1943a Physical Description: foolscap typescript (14) |
| box 5 | 1943-1944 |
| box 5 | 1943b Physical Description: foolscap typescript (15) |
| box 5 | 1943c Physical Description: typescript (16) |
| box 5 | 1944 Physical Description: typescript, two bound volumes (17) |
| box 6 | 1945-1948 |
| box 6 | 1945 Physical Description: typescript (18) |
| box 6 | 1946a Physical Description: typescript (19) |
| box 6 | 1946b Physical Description: typescript (20) |
| box 6 | 1947 Physical Description: typescript (21) |

| | |
|--------|---|
| box 6 | 1948 Physical Description: one bound volume, typescript (22) |
| box 7 | 1949-1957 |
| box 7 | 1949 Physical Description: one bound volume, typescript (23) |
| box 7 | 1950 Physical Description: one bound volume, typescript (24) |
| box 7 | 1951 Physical Description: typescript (25) |
| box 7 | 1952 Physical Description: typescript (26) |
| box 7 | 1953 Physical Description: typescript (27) |
| box 7 | 1954 Physical Description: typescript (28) |
| box 7 | 1955 Physical Description: typescript (29) |
| box 7 | 1956 Physical Description: typescript (30) |
| box 7 | 1957 Physical Description: typescript, two bound volumes (31) |
| box 8 | 1958-1961 Scope and Content Note Volumes 32-72 are typescripts, ca. 500 singlespaced pages each. (32) |
| box 8 | (32) 1958 |
| box 8 | (33) 1959 |
| box 8 | (34) 1960 |
| box 8 | (35) 1961 |
| box 9 | 1962-1967 |
| box 9 | (36) 1962 |
| box 9 | (37) 1963 |
| box 9 | (38) 1964 |
| box 9 | (39) 1965 |
| box 9 | (40) 1966 |
| box 9 | (41) 1967 |
| box 10 | 1968-1972 |
| box 10 | (42) 1968 |
| box 10 | (43) 1969 |
| box 10 | (44) 1970 |
| box 10 | (45) 1971a |
| box 10 | (46) 1971b |
| box 10 | (47) 1972a |
| box 11 | 1972-1974 |
| box 11 | (48) 1972b |
| box 11 | (49) 1973 |

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| box 11 | (50) 1974a |
| box 11 | (51) 1974b |
| box 12 | 1975-1978 |
| box 12 | (52) 1975 |
| box 12 | (53) 1976 |
| box 12 | (54) 1977a |
| box 12 | (55) 1977b |
| box 12 | (56) 1978a |
| box 13 | 1978-1981 |
| box 13 | (57) 1978b |
| box 13 | (58) 1978c |
| box 13 | (59) 1979 |
| box 13 | (60) 1980a |
| box 13 | (61) 1980b |
| box 13 | (62) 1981a |
| box 13 | (63) 1981b |
| box 14 | 1982-1983 |
| box 14 | (64) 1982a |
| box 14 | (65) 1982b |
| box 14 | (66) 1983a |
| box 15 | 1983-1988 |
| box 15 | (67) 1983b |
| box 15 | (68) 1984 |
| box 15 | (69) 1985 |
| box 15 | (70) 1986 |
| box 15 | (71) 1987 |
| box 15 | (72) 1988 |

Series II. **Letters sent, 1944-1988****Physical Description:** 2 Linear Feet**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains copies, with only a few originals, of every letter written by Claude Fredericks between 1944 and 1988, except those incorporated into the Journal or in the Journal Addenda. Letters before 1944 are either in the Journal or the Journal Addenda. In all there are between 15,000 to 20,000 letters.

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| box 16 | 1944-1955 |
| box 16 | 1944 |
| box 16 | 1945 |
| box 16 | 1946 |
| box 16 | 1947 |
| box 16 | 1948 |
| box 16 | 1949 |
| box 16 | 1950 |
| box 16 | 1951 |
| box 16 | 1952 |
| box 16 | 1953 |
| box 16 | 1954 |
| box 16 | 1955 |
| box 17 | 1956-1962 |
| box 17 | 1956 |
| box 17 | 1957 |
| box 17 | 1958 |
| box 17 | 1959 |
| box 17 | 1960 |
| box 17 | 1961 |
| box 17 | 1962 |
| box 18 | 1963-1975 |

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| box 18 | 1963 |
| box 18 | 1964 |
| box 18 | 1965 |
| box 18 | 1966 |
| box 18 | 1967 |
| box 18 | 1968 |
| box 18 | 1969 |
| box 18 | 1970 |
| box 18 | 1971 |
| box 18 | 1972 |
| box 18 | 1973 |
| box 18 | 1974 |
| box 18 | 1975 |
| box 19 | 1976-1984 |
| box 19 | 1976 |
| box 19 | 1977 |
| box 19 | 1978 |
| box 19 | 1979 |
| box 19 | 1980 |
| box 19 | 1981 |
| box 19 | 1982 |
| box 19 | 1983 |
| box 19 | 1984 |
| box 20 | 1985-1988 |
| box 20 | 1985 |
| box 20 | 1986 |
| box 20 | 1987 |
| box 20 | 1988 |

Series III. **Journal Addenda, 1916-1988****Physical Description:** 2.9 Linear Feet**Scope and Content Note**

This series comprises juvenilia, Fredericks's class notes from Harvard, correspondence of a particularly personal nature, and ephemera of various kinds, including address books, menus, garden plans, and guest books. These materials complement the Journals in Series I. Included in this series are the personal letters from James Merrill, 1950-1988. Published sections of Fredericks's Journal (1932-1941) are included in this series.

| | |
|---------|----------------------|
| box 21 | 1916-1940 |
| box 21 | 1916-1934 |
| box 21 | 1934-1936 |
| box 21 | 1936-1938 |
| box 21 | 1938-1940 |
| box 22 | 1940-1950 |
| box 22 | 1940-1941 |
| box 22 | 1941-1942 (a) |
| box 22 | 1941-1942 (b) |
| box 22 | 1941-1950 |
| box 23 | 1951-1965 |
| box 23 | 1951-1963 |
| box 23 | 1964-1965 |
| box 24 | 1966-1981 |
| box 24 | 1966-1970 |
| box 24 | 1970-1974 |
| box 24 | 1974-1977 |
| box 24 | 1978-1981 |
| box 25A | 1981-1983 |
| box 25B | 1983-1988 |

box 26
box 27

James Merrill letters to Claude Fredericks, 1950-1988

Published Journals, poems

Scope and Content Note

A prospectus, *The Journal of Claude Fredericks*, 1997. One of the 15 copies produced by The Stinehour Press, 1997.

The Journal of Claude Fredericks

Volume One, Part One: Springfield (1932-1939) and Volume One, Part Two: Springfield (1940-1941) Xlibris, 2003. One copy each, hardcover and paperback

Claude Fredericks, *Selected Poems*, Xlibris, 2005

One copy each, hardcover and paperback. With publication announcements.