
Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell Papers: Finding Aid

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Overview of the Collection

Title: Sir Sidney Carlyle Cockerell Papers

Date (inclusive): 1949-1981

Collection number: mssHM 63186-63262

Creator: Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962.

Extent: 77 items in 1 box

Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens Manuscripts Department

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Abstract: The collection contains 55 letters from English museum curator Sir Sydney Cockerell (1867-1962) chiefly to American scholar Muriel J. Hughes (born 1903), as well as some additional letters to Hughes from Cockerell's secretary Dorothy Hawksley (1884-1970), and a few later pieces of ephemera.

Language: English.

Access

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item]. Sir Sidney Carlyle Cockerell Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance

Gift of Muriel J. Hughes, June 23, 1981.

Biographical Note

Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell (1867-1962) was born on July 16, 1867. He married Florence Kate Kingsford (died 1949) in 1907, and had two daughters and one son. From 1889-1892, he worked as a coal merchant before going to work as a secretary to William Morris and the Kelmscott press 1892-1898. Between 1900-1904, he was in a partnership with Sir Emery Walker. At the age of 70, Cockerell retired after being the director of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge for 30 years (1908-1937). Just before and a couple years after leaving the Fitzwilliam Museum, he was the European Adviser to Felton Trustees of National Gallery of Victoria, 1936-1939. During his long career, he was Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, 1910-1916, and of Downing College, 1932-1937. He was the literary executor of William Morris, Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, and Thomas Hardy. He was knighted in 1934 by the King of England. He was Hon. Litt. D. Cambridge; and Hon. Fellow of Downing College since 1937. For the last 10 years of his life, he was confined to his bed after heart problems. He died on May 1, 1962.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains 55 letters from English museum curator Sir Sydney Cockerell (1867-1962) chiefly to American scholar Muriel J. Hughes (born 1903), as well as some additional letters to Hughes from Cockerell's secretary Dorothy Hawksley (1884-1970), and a few later pieces of ephemera. Cockerell to Muriel J. Hughes, whom he met through a mutual friend. Some of the letters were dictated to and written by Dorothy Hawksley for Cockerell, who signed each letter. The letters from May 1962-1965 are from Dorothy Hawksley to Muriel J. Hughes after Cockerell's death.

In a few of his letters, Sir Sydney Cockerell mentions his son, Christopher, who: invented the Hovercraft. Sydney Cockerell also occasionally mentions well-known British celebrities, such as Bernard Shaw.

Arrangement

Correspondence arranged alphabetically, and followed by ephemera.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the [Huntington Library's Online Catalog](#).

Subjects

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962.

Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950.

Forms/Genres

Ephemera -- Great Britain -- 20th century.

Letters (correspondence) -- Great Britain -- 20th century.

Added Entries

Hawksley, Dorothy Webster, 1884-1970

Hughes, Muriel Joy, 1903-

Blunt, Wilfrid, 1901-. Cockerell: Sydney Carlyle Cockerell, friend of Ruskin and William Morris and director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1964, Feb. 14.HM 63254.

Blunt, Wilfrid, 1901-. Cockerell: Sydney Carlyle Cockerell, friend of Ruskin and William Morris and director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1964, Dec. 26.HM 63255.

Cockerell, Christopher, Sir, 1910-1999. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, Sept. 22.HM 63216.

Cockerell, Christopher, Sir, 1910-1999. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, Oct 2.HM 63217.

Cockerell, Christopher, Sir, 1910-1999. In Christopher Cockerell: Inventor of the Hovercraft, The Observer Profile, 1962, Aug. 5. In Ephemera folder, HM 63262.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, Oct. 2.HM 63243.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, Oct. 26.HM 63244.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Jan. 5.HM 63245.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Jan. 15.HM 63246.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Jan. 23.HM 63247.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Feb. 13.HM 63248.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Aug. 12.HM 63249.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1962, Jan. 10.HM 63252.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1962, May 6.HM 63253.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. In Muriel J. Hughes, letter to The Huntington Library, 1981, May 24.HM 63257.

Guinness, Alec, 1914-. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, July 26.HM 63226.

Hawksley, Dorothy Webster, 1884-1970. Sir Sydney Cockerell (1867-1962). In The Illustrated London New, 1964, Jan. 4. In Ephemera folder, HM 63262.

Keats House. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1952, Sept. 6.HM 63198.

Kelmscott Press, Chaucer. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, Feb.HM 63210.

Kingsford, F. (Florence). In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1949, Oct.HM 63189.

Kingsford, F. (Florence). In Obituary, The Times, 1949, Sept. 24 and 27. In Ephemera folder, HM 63259.

Mackail, J. W. (John William), 1859-1945. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1949, Nov. 19.HM 63190.

Miller, Betty, 1910-1965. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1953, Mar. 30.HM 63202.

Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1951, Feb.HM 63194.

Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Feb. 16.HM 63223.

Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Mar.HM 63224.

Standard, Paul, 1900-. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Jan. 25.HM 63221.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. Introduction for reprint of J. W. Mackail's Life of William Morris. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1949, Nov. 19.HM 63190.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. Good Handwriting. In Sydney Cockerell, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1951, Feb. 13.HM 63194.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. Note sent to Muriel J. Hughes. On Dorothy Hawksley, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1960, Jan. 15.HM 63246.

Hughes, Muriel Joy, 1903-? Handwritten note. On Sir Sydney Carlyle, letter to Muriel J. Hughes, 1959, June 24.HM 63211.

Briggs, R. C. H. Sir Sydney Cockerell, 1867-1962 [biographical sketch], MS. (carbon copy typewritten: 5p.). 1962, May 5. HM 63186.

Cockerell, Sydney Carlyle, Sir, 1867-1962. 55 letters to Muriel Joy Hughes, 1903-. HM 63187-63241.

Hawksley, Dorothy Webster, 1884-1970. 15 letters to Muriel Joy Hughes, 1903-. HM 63242-63256.

Hughes, Muriel Joy, 1903-. 1 letter to The Huntington Library, L.S. (typewritten: 1p.). 1981, May 24. HM 63257.

Victoria & Albert Museum. 1 brief letter to Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell, 1867-1962, L.S. (typewritten: 1p.). 1961, Aug. 17. HM 63258.

Ephemera: Reprint from The Times of F. Kingsford, Lady Cockerell, obituary. 1949 HM 63259

Ephemera: 3 Printed items. 1960, 1962 HM 63260

Ephemera: 4 Clippings of Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell's obituary. 1962 HM 63261.

Ephemera: 3 Miscellaneous clippings. 1962-1976 HM 63262.