Descritive Summary
Title: Edward Lasker manuscript collection
Inclusive Dates: 1523-1994
Bulk Dates: 1988-1994
Collection Number: mssLasker manuscripts and mssHM 68495-68513
Creator: Lasker, Edward, 1912-1997
Extent: 1,894 items in six boxes plus 19 manuscript volumes
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens Manuscripts Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Fax: (626) 449-3477
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: The collection contains correspondence and other material related to Edward Lasker's horse library as well as 19 manuscript volumes from his library.
Language of Material: The records are in English.
Access
Collection is open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, please go to following web site.
Publication Rights
The Huntington Library does not require that researchers request permission to quote from or publish images of this material, nor does it charge fees for such activities. The responsibility for identifying the copyright holder, if there is one, and obtaining permission rests with the researcher.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of Item], Edward Lasker manuscript collection, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Acquisition Information
Biography
Edward Lasker was the son of American businessman and philanthropist Albert D. Lasker and his first wife Flora Lasker. He graduated from Yale University in 1933. He worked at his father's advertising agency, Lord & Thomas, until 1942 when he joined the U.S. Navy. After the war, Edward Lasker moved to California where he became a film producer. In 1947, Lasker married actress Jane Greer, with whom he had three sons: Alex, a screenwriter; Lawrence, a retired producer/screenwriter, and Steven, a jazz historian and record remastering engineer. In 1955, Edward graduated with his law degree from the University of California in Los Angeles and began practicing law in Los Angeles. Lasker and Jane Greer divorced in 1963 and he married Cynthia Palmer. Edward Lasker died in Los Angeles in 1997.
Edward Lasker was long involved in Thoroughbred horse racing as an owner and breeder. He also collected early and rare books and manuscripts about horses. His collection was donated to the Huntington Library by Cynthia Lasker in a series of gifts from 1998 to 2005. The Edward Lasker Collection includes approximately 1400 rare titles, chiefly books and serials.
Scope and Content
Correspondence Files: The correspondence files consist of 5 boxes of letters, faxes, invoices, and book catalogs related to Edward Lasker's horse library. Notable correspondents include: Blood-Horse Inc., DeWitt Clinton, Fasig-Tipton Co., J. A. Allen & Co., and James Cummins Bookseller. There is also a folder containing material relating to Jockey Fred Archer, who shot himself in 1886, including photographs. Several folders contain photographs of books or copies of title pages, etc.
Scrapbooks: The two scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings about Edward Lasker's racehorses and their races, most of which are from the Daily racing form. There are also some clippings about the horse By Zeus, which was owned by Jane Greer.
Manuscript Volumes: The 19 manuscripts, all formerly owned by Edward Lasker, span five centuries of horse and horse racing history, mostly in Great Britain and the United States, although there are two Italian manuscripts, one in German, and one in Arabic. The volumes include stud books; treatises on horse care and treatment; manuscripts with illustrations of bits and briddles; manuscripts on horse training, breeding and racing; horse pedigrees; horse registers; and two volumes dealing with horse races at “The Derby,” and “The St. Leger.” Many of the volumes have illustrations, and two are illuminated. One manuscript (HM 68502) is a subscription agreement for the Prince's Stakes races at Newmarket which is signed by George IV when he was Prince of Wales; it is also signed by several other notable British nobility. This finding aid contains a detailed list of the manuscripts.

Arrangement
Organized in the following manner: Correspondence Files (Boxes 1-5); Scrapbooks (Box 6); Manuscript Volumes (HM 68495-68513). The Correspondence Files are arranged in alphabetical order and the Manuscripts are in chronological order.

Personal Names
Archer, Fred, 1857-1886
Clinton, DeWitt, 1769-1828
George IV, King of Great Britain, 1762-1830, signer
Gould, Nat
Greer, Jane, 1924-2001
Lasker, Edward, 1912-1997
Lasker, Cynthia, donor
Palmer, Courtland E., donor
Rosebery, Archibald Philip Primrose, Earl of, 1847-1929
Scott, Robert W. (Robert Wilmot), 1808-1884
Skinner, John Stuart, 1788-1851
Taunton, Thomas Henry
Wavertree, William Hall Walker, Baron, 1856-1933

Corporate Names
Blood-Horse, Inc.
Fasig-Tipton Co.
J.A. Allen & Co.
James Cummins Bookseller
Daily racing form

Subjects
Book collectors -- California -- Archives
Horse racing -- Great Britain
Horse racing -- United States
Horses -- Breeding
Horses -- Early works to 1800
Horses -- Training
Stallions
Thoroughbred horse -- Great Britain
Thoroughbred horse -- United States
Race horses -- Great Britain
Race horses -- United States

Genre
Book catalogs
Illuminated manuscripts
Invoices
Letters (correspondence)
Manuscripts
Photographs
Scrapbooks

**Correspondence Files**

Physical Description: Boxes 1-5

Box 1
Folder 1
**Horse Library-1995 - Calderwood Books**
5 items

Folder 2
**Horse Library - 1996 (1996)**
37 items

Folder 3
"A" (1954-1990)
37 items

Folder 4
191 items

Folder 5
171 items

Folder 6
**Archer, Fred ([1880s]-1933)**
4 items. Includes two photographs.

Folder 7
24 items

Folder 8
92 items

Folder 9
30 items

Box 2
Folder 1
**Horse Library-Christie's - Horse Library-Correspondence, 1992 to 1994**
Horse Library - Christie's, etc. (1983-1986)
5 items

Folder 2
**Christie's - Neelands (1990-1993)**
100 items

Folder 3
**Christie, Manson & Woods Horses Library (1983-1992)**
45 items

Folder 4
**Clinton, DeWitt letter to John Stuart Skinner (1824, Sep. 1)**
1 item

Folder 5
61 items

Folder 6
41 items
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3</th>
<th>Cummins - Hooper's Books-To 1984</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>218 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Horse Library - Desiderata (1967-1994)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Horses - Fasig-Tipton Catalogs (1990-1993)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Horses - Fasig-Tipton Ins. (1961-1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>82 items</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Hooper's Books - To 1984 (1981-1984)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>89 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Hooper's Books-1985-1991 - Piper</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75 items</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Horse Library - Keeneland/Waren (1990-1994)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34 items</td>
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<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Marlborough Sporting Gallery (Rupert Collens) (1989-1990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>61 items</td>
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<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Miscellaneous (1961-1988)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 items</td>
</tr>
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<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>National Sporting Library (1991-1993)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24 items</td>
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<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Horse Library - Neil Nelson (1986-1990)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 items</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>89 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Horse Library-Rohman - Warner Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Horse Library - Rohman (1983-1993)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>70 items</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4 items</td>
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<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Sotheby's (1981-1994)</td>
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<td>110 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td><strong>Swann Galleries (1983-1990)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scrapbooks**

- **Physical Description**: Box 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 1</th>
<th><strong>Scrapbook (1954-1973)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 item. 60 x 49 cm. Includes loose clippings in front re: Jane Greer's horse By Zeus (1954).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 2</th>
<th><strong>Scrapbook (1963-1968)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 item. 60 x 49 cm. Some clippings are coming loose.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Manuscript Volumes (HM 68495-68513)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript</th>
<th>Physical Description: 19 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HM 68495</td>
<td>&quot;Comenzarino&quot; [Italian treatise on care and treatment of horses] (1523)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68496</td>
<td>&quot;Le Briglie&quot; [Italian illustrated treatise on equine bits and briddles] [between 1550-1600]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68497</td>
<td>Volume of illustrations of equine bits and briddles for a loriner [between 1550-1600]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68498</td>
<td>Articles establishing horse-racing at Lanchester Meadows, Co. Durham (1730, Apr. 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68499</td>
<td>Arabic or Persian illuminated manuscript on the training of horses [1750]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68500</td>
<td>Hayne, Charles. Book of Horsemanship (1753)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM 68501</td>
<td>Kelly, John. Petition to Thomas Willing, Mayor of Philadelphia, for permission to operate a refreshment booth during racing on the Common (1762, Aug. 11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Edward Lasker manuscript collection

mssLasker manuscripts and mssHM 68495-68513
HM 68502  **Subscription agreement for the Prince's Stakes races at Newmarket (1784, Apr.)**


HM 68503  **Album of ten letters and documents related to the thoroughbred racehorse "Eclipse," Dennis O'Kelley, his nephew Andrew O'Kelley, Samuel Chifney, and English racing (between 1784 and 1814)**

Red morocco gilt binding by Riviere & Son, with cameo bust by Tassie after an original by Loche inlaid inside front cover. 38 cm.

HM 68504  **Skinner, John Stuart, 1788-1851. Letter to unknown addressee re: business matters, manufacturing, future of slave labor, property sales, etc. [before 1852]**

Philadelphia. 2 pages, 26 cm.

HM 68505  **Scott, Robert W. "Register of Brood Mares and of Breeding Jennets [& Stallions]" (1858-1883)**

128 pages, 26 cm.


HM 68507  **Taunton, T. H. Manuscript draft and notes for portions of his Portraits of celebrated racehorses (1888) [1881]**

With numerous engravings, newspaper and magazine clippings, etc. of racehorses, jockeys, owners, and other racing world figures.

HM 68508  **Record of two-year-old horses racing in England, 1770-1892 [approximately 1900]**

With notes on name and place of race, stakes, distance, and winners; for individual horses records weight, sex, racing frequency. Some additional statistical summaries at the beginning of Volume 1 for the years 1779-1900. 18 cm.

HM 68509  **Tables showing subsequent racing careers of the first three placing horses in the Derby, St. Leger, Oaks, and other races, 1774-1903 [1903]**

158 pages, 18 cm.


Approximately 1,110 pages, 23 cm.

HM 68511  **Wavertree, William Hall Walker, Baron, 1856-1933. "Pedigrees of Stallions" (1912-1931)**

Five generations of bloodlines of horses born 1912 to 1931, with notes on horses given away, bred, and died. 28 pages, 20 cm.

HM 68512  **Association of Racehorse Owners, Breeders, and Trainers. Meeting minutes (1915-1927)**

Begins with their first meeting, 1915, May 20, in London. 174 pages, 23 cm.
HM 68513  Smith, James J. A Record of "The Derby" and "The St. Leger," showing the Bruce Lowe Families of Sire and Dam of winners up to and including the year 1931 (1931)

141 pages, 23 cm.