
Collection overview:

Title: Thornton Wilder letters
Date range (inclusive dates): 1948-1975
Bulk dates: 1969-1975
Creator: Wilder, Thornton, 1897-1975
Extent: 0.05 linear feet (3 folders)
Abstract: Letters written by Thornton Wilder (1897-1975), the successful American writer, to Roy S. and Margaret H. Anderson of Newport, Rhode Island.
Language of materials: English
Repository: Redwood Library & Athenaeum, Newport, Rhode Island
Collection number: RLC.Ms.562

Access and use:

Access to the collection: Access is open to members and researchers at the Redwood Library and Athenaeum.
Use of the materials: This collection is owned by the Redwood Library and Athenaeum. Permission to publish materials must be obtained in writing from the Special Collections Librarian of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum.
Preferred citation: Thornton Wilder letters, RLC.Ms.562, Redwood Library and Athenaeum.

Administrative information:

About the collection
Acquisition: Letters and postcards sent to the Andersons were the gift of Roy and Margaret Anderson, March 1, 1990A.

Processing information: Prior to processing in 2014, this collection was found in the Steel Cabinet Collection: Drawer 7, Folder 15.

About the finding aid
Author and Encoding: Elizabeth Delmage, 2014 June
Descriptive rules: Finding aid based on Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS)
Additional information:

Related material: Thornton Wilder correspondence, writings, and other papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.


Thornton Niven Wilder, April 17, 1897—December 7, 1975: the memorial service, Sunday January 18, 1976, 2:00 p.m.; Battell Chapel, Yale University. [s.l. : s.n.], 1977.

Sponsor: Funding for processing and cataloging this collection was provided by the van Beuren Charitable Foundation.

Biographical note:

Thornton Wilder (1897-1975) was born on April 17, 1897, in Madison, Wisconsin, and went on to become a successful American novelist, dramatist, and academic. He is the only writer to receive the Pulitzer Prize for both novels and plays. Among his best-known works are the novel, The Bridge of San Luis Rey, and the play, Our Town. Wilder died at his home in Hamden, Connecticut, where he had lived with his younger sister, Isabel Wilder (1900-1995) for many years, on December 7, 1975.

Scope and content note:

This collection consists of letters, postcards, and greeting cards sent by Thornton Wilder to both Roy S. and Margaret H. Anderson of Newport, Rhode Island. Also included are letters written by Wilder’s sister, Isabel Wilder, to the couple at times when Thornton was unable to do so himself. These letters typically concern Wilder’s travels for work, plans to visit Newport, and other social acquaintances. Also found within this collection is a letter Wilder sent to Mrs. Paul C. Rogers of Newport, in reply to her invitation to speak at the Art Association of Newport in 1973.

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged in alphabetical order and then chronologically within each folder.

Inventory:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letters</td>
<td>1948 Apr 5-1975 Dec 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Postcards</td>
<td>1948 Jul 4-1974 May 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Typed transcriptions</td>
<td>1948 Apr 5-1975 Dec 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Access terms:

Names:
Anderson, Margaret
Anderson, Roy
Wilder, Isabel, 1900-1995

Subjects:
Newport (R.I.)—Social life and customs

Genre terms:
Letters (correspondence)
Postcards