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Ransome, Arthur Papers

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University Archives and Special Collections

800 N. State College Blvd.

Fullerton CA 92831-3599

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents note	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	4
Collection Inventory	5
Research Documents	5
Research Reports	10

Summary Information

Repository:	University Archives and Special Collections
Title:	Arthur Ransome Papers
ID:	SC.44
Date [inclusive]:	1907-1994
Date [bulk]:	bulk
Physical Description:	298 Volumes 298 volumes and 2 boxes in 24 linear feet.
Language of the Material:	English

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Arthur Ransome was born 18 January 1884 in Leeds, England, the eldest of four children of Cyril and Edith Ransome. His father was a history professor at the institution which later became the University of Leeds. He was also an avid fisherman. Ransome's mother was a talented watercolor painter. In 1901 Ransome enrolled in his father's university to study science. He left after two terms to take a job as an errand boy for a London publisher, the first of a series of publishing jobs he took while trying to establish himself as a writer. His book *Bohemia in London* (1907) is the record of that time, recounting the friendships of aspiring writers and artists--living on cheese and apples, inspiration, and words. In the course of his life in London's bohemia, Ransome met and married Ivy Constance Walker. Ivy and Arthur were married in 1909. He started his first trip to Russia in May 1913. Although he visited his wife and daughter on his periodic returns to England, sometimes with the hope of reconciliation, the marriage had ended. In spite of the difficulties, Ransome tried to maintain a friendly relationship with his daughter. Ransome's divorce from Ivy was finalized in 1924. Ransome went to Russia to collect material for a book of Russian folktales. He was also commissioned to write a guidebook to St. Petersburg. He wrote the book, but it was never published because the Russian Revolution was in process and the city was being transformed into Leningrad. In 1916 Ransome became the Russian correspondent for the *Daily News*. Some of the rapidly shifting political movements and his part in them as well as his friendships with some of the major figures in the Russian political drama are the subject of many chapters of his autobiography and the basis for his books and pamphlets on Russia. In 1917 Ransome met Evgenia Petrovna Shelepina. Among other jobs for the revolution, Evgenia served for a time as personal secretary to Leon Trotsky. After Ransome's divorce was final he married Evgenia in 1924, and they returned to England to live. By this time he was a special correspondent for the *Manchester Guardian*. He was sent by them at various times to cover political unrest in Egypt and China. Ransome brought the skills of his lifetime of writing to the creation of *Swallows and Amazons*, and the strengths of all his work are fully present from the first. Chief among these is his characterization of children. He

always works with a large cast, from eleven in *Secret Water* (1939) to four in *We Didn't Mean to Go to Sea* (1937). In the first of the books, *Swallows and Amazons*, the reader meets the two families of children who appear in ten of the twelve books. The Walker family: John, Susan, Titty, Roger, (and when she gets old enough in a later book, baby Bridget) sail on *Swallow*. Nancy Blackett and her sister, Peggy, sail on *Amazon*. Source: Lynch, Catherine M. "Arthur (Michell) Ransome." *British Children's Writers, 1914-1960*, edited by Donald R. Hettinga and Gary D. Schmidt, Gale, 1996. *Dictionary of Literary Biography* Vol. 160. Literature Resource Center, go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=LitRC&sw=w&u=csuf_main&v=2.1&id=GALE%7CH1200006363&it=r&asid=db42da1b57371bf543efe29d5d759b31. Accessed 19 July 2017.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents note

The Arthur Ransome Papers consists of correspondence, articles, and various personal papers, books written by Mr. Ransome, and books that formed part of his personal library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Ransome, Arthur (1884 - 1967)
- Children's literature -- English
- Soviet Union -- History -- Revolution -- 1917 - 1921

Collection Inventory

Research Documents	Document box 1	
Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, Articles, and Ephemera	Document box 1	folder 1
Methven's Modern Masterpieces. Advertisement for "pocket-size" volumes of nine selected authors	Document box 1	folder 1
Small hand-painted watercolor of thatched roof English cottage	Document box 1	folder 1
"Specimen page" The Heart of London by H.V. Morton	Document box 1	folder 1
Listing of 141 Volumes available through Nelson Library (T. Nelson & Sons)	Document box 1	folder 1
Prospectus: Bird Sketches and some field observations by Philip Rickman	Document box 1	folder 1
The Reynard Library - list of selected authors	Document box 1	folder 1
Prospectus: Mark Twain the Letter Writer by Cyril Clemens	Document box 1	folder 1
Article: Transcribing bird song by M.E.W. North	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper Article: Revival of Island bird Sanctuaries	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper Article: Life on Earth 2,600 million years ago?	Document box 1	folder 1
The New Readers' Library promotional booklet for pocket editions. 38 vols	Document box 1	folder 1
Bookmark: Scottish Widows' Fund	Document box 1	folder 1
Copy of small pen and ink drawing of church (source unknown)	Document box 1	folder 1
Postcard: Natale al Reggimento	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper Article: Monocled Negro Air Chief, the Evening Standard, 1930-08-14 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1930-08-14	Document box 1	folder 1
Postcard: Vincenzo Finoli		

	Document box 1	folder 1
Advertisement: the studio - wake up to the wonders of art!	Document box 1	folder 1
Prospectus: Greek and Roman Portraits by Anthony Hekler	Document box 1	folder 1
Postcard-sized calendar, 1924 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1924	Document box 1	folder 1
Photo negative	Document box 1	folder 1
Pen and ink drawing of medieval soldiers	Document box 1	folder 1
Chinese periodicals in English booklet, (bulk) <u>Date [bulk]:</u> bulk	Document box 1	folder 1
Book cover of The very beautiful days by Marcus Lavesen	Document box 1	folder 1
Blotter paper with two initials (fountain pen)	Document box 1	folder 1
Receipt from John & Edwards Bumpus, LTD	Document box 1	folder 1
Book review for Penang Pilot, typed with hand-written corrections	Document box 1	folder 1
Menu from Revere House, Boston	Document box 1	folder 1
Note, hand-written from Wimbledon by app Howe to Ransome (undated)	Document box 1	folder 1
Article: Mait Island - a bird rock in the Gulf of Aden from Ibis, pp. 478-501, 1946-08 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1946-08	Document box 1	folder 1
Hand-written envelope to Mr. Henry Owen	Document box 1	folder 1
Price list: Brown, Son & Ferguson, LTD	Document box 1	folder 1
Handwritten letter with envelope from Joan Young to Arthur Ransome dated, 1937-02-14 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1937-02-14	Document box 1	folder 1
Correspondence from National Book League regarding Reader's Guide series, Music, dated, 1948-09-29 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1948-09-29	Document box 1	folder 1
Hand-written notes (military moves circa 1740)		

	Document box 1	folder 1
Article: Some German Lutheran Forgeries by J.A. Farrer	Document box 1	folder 1
Book review: The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle from the Spectator, 1909-09-11 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1909-09-11	Document box 1	folder 1
Subscription form for "Which?"	Document box 1	folder 1
Handwritten notation	Document box 1	folder 1
Copy of the Copyright Bill: Post, 1952 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1952	Document box 1	folder 1
Subscription Reminder for Soc. of authors & League of Dramatists, 1955 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1955	Document box 1	folder 1
Poem: "The New Year," handwritten	Document box 1	folder 1
Advertisement: Backsettown, Henfield, Sussex	Document box 1	folder 1
Handwritten Poem/meter	Document box 1	folder 1
"Specimens of Alphabets"	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper articles: the Most Ancient British Painting; Church of Ireland and Home Rule; Origin and Nature of Life	Document box 1	folder 1
Origin and Nature of Life	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper Photo: Charles Morgan	Document box 1	folder 1
Photograph: Young boy (Prince Michael?) woman in white veil (Queen Marie of Romania?), from Bucharest Postcards	Document box 1	folder 1
Embossed: the cottage, Goring, Oxon	Document box 1	folder 1
Typed/handwritten notes, 1958-07-01 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1958-07-01	Document box 1	folder 1
Calling Cards: Mr. Ferdinand Hinkley Butt	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper Article: "A Nonagenarian"		

	Document box 1	folder 1
Notes, handwritten, history, pigolt	Document box 1	folder 1
"Bookmark" advertisement: British Dominions Insurance Company	Document box 1	folder 1
Partial advertisement: A Kings Story	Document box 1	folder 1
Post Card: Botticelli, Madonna col Figlio e Anioli	Document box 1	folder 1
Author Gustav Regler and book description (book flap)	Document box 1	folder 1
Orbit: Thomas Molineux	Document box 1	folder 1
Order Form: Two Books "With Perv and Busch in Eastern Lands" + "Fifty Years our Changing World"	Document box 1	folder 1
Photograph: Su Tung P'o - Bamboos	Document box 1	folder 1
Receipt: Friends Emergency and War Victims Relief Committee, London	Document box 1	folder 1
Postcards: Jonathan Cape LTD, Messrs. Longmands, Green & Company	Document box 1	folder 1
Bookmark: The Northern Assurance company	Document box 1	folder 1
Publishers blurb: The Collected Ghost Stories	Document box 1	folder 1
Advertisement: Pillars of Perth, Drycleaners, 1927 <u>Date [inclusive]: 1927</u>	Document box 1	folder 1
Receipt: T.J. & J. Smith, 1907 <u>Date [inclusive]: 1907</u>	Document box 1	folder 1
Program: Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society (Meeting programs April 23-26, 1963)	Document box 1	folder 1
Letter (handwritten)	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper: Photograph: Dame Sybil Thorndike and Lewis Casson. Guardian, 1966-06 <u>Date [inclusive]: 1966-06</u>	Document box 1	folder 1
Newspaper: Train schedule	Document box 1	folder 1
Christmas card from Jonathan Cape		

	Document box 1	folder 1
Collection 4 Christmas Cards from G. Wren Howard	Document box 1	folder 1
Personnel letter to Ransome	Document box 1	folder 1
Personal letter to Mrs. H.C. Dickson from Gordon Bottomley	Document box 1	folder 1
Personal letter to Mrs. H.C. Dickson from Gordon Bottomley Envelope, hand-addressed to Mrs. Charlie Broff	Document box 1	folder 1
Personal letter	Document box 1	folder 1
Personal addressed envelope	Document box 1	folder 1
Personal letter to A. Ransome	Document box 1	folder 1
Publications, Reports, and Ephemera	Document box 1	folder 2
Everyman's Library - Catalog of volumes now obtainable in Everyman's Library	Document box 1	folder 2
"The author" Autumn, 1951 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1951	Document box 1	folder 2
"The Author" Summer, 1958 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1958	Document box 1	folder 2
73rd Annual Report of the Committee of Management: the Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights and Composers, 1957-12 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1957-12	Document box 1	folder 2
78th Annual Report of the Committee of Management, 1962-12 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1962-12	Document box 1	folder 2
72nd Annual Report of the Committee of Management, 1956-12 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1956-12	Document box 1	folder 2
75th Annual Report of the Committee of Management, 1959-12 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1959-12	Document box 1	folder 2
The Pelican, The Perse School Magazine, 1950-03 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1950-03	Document box 1	folder 2
Tote Investors Limited - Rules, 1968 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1968	Document box 1	folder 2
The Library Association, Youth Libraries Group, 1966-05		

<u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1966-05	Document box 1	folder 2
The Discovery of Books, 1966-09 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1966-09	Document box 1	folder 2
81st Annual Report, Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights, Composers, 1965 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1965	Document box 1	folder 2
80th Annual Report, Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights, Composers, 1964 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1964	Document box 1	folder 2
79th Annual Report, Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights, Composers, 1963 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1963	Document box 1	folder 2
Journal/Notebook, Aurthur Ransome (used approximately 10%)	Document box 1	folder 2
North Longsdale Club, Ulverston, Rules and Regulations, 1899 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1899	Document box 1	folder 2
Broadcasting in Britain, (booklet) National Book League Reader's Guide, 1961 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1961	Document box 1	folder 2
The Bee-Keepers' Record, 1943-07 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1943-07	Document box 1	folder 2
E. Marsden LTD, Beehives and Appliances (price list), 1943-01 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1943-01	Document box 1	folder 2
The Northern Gardener, The Northern Horticultural Society, 1955-11 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1955-11	Document box 1	folder 2
Order Forms, International Exhibition Co-operative Wine Society Limited	Document box 1	folder 2

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Research Reports	Document box 2	
Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence and Papers	Document box 2	folder 1

Post Cards to Mrs. Ransome

	Document box 2	folder 1
Three Small Photos (approximately 1 1/2 x 2 1/2) buoys, Ocean	Document box 2	folder 1
Two Small Photos, masted sailing ships	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome, from A&C Black LTD, 1954-12 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1954-12	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter from E.L. Martin, 1934-07-01 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1934-07-01	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from Morley Kennerley (Faber and Faber Limited)	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome, from Mr. Waddington, 1951-04 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1951-04	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Waddington from Ransome re: letter, 1951-04 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1951-04	Document box 2	folder 1
Ransome notes on salmon and trout, 1930 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1930	Document box 2	folder 1
Notes (typed)	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from Eyre & Spottiswoode (publishers)	Document box 2	folder 1
Page 87, End of Entry for "Translation made while waiting in rain", 1921-04-05 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1921-04-05	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter from Richard Waddington to "Gilbert"	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from H.A.G. (Gilbert)	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from Gilbert	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from Morley Kennerley	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from A. Nelson Brainley	Document box 2	folder 1
Letter to Ransome from J.A. Powell, 1955 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1955	Document box 2	folder 1
"Salmon Flies for Crake"		

	Document box 2	folder 1
Note to Ransome regarding "Salmon Flies for Crake"	Document box 2	folder 1
Booklet, fishing, A Reader's Guide by John Moore, notations by Ransome	Document box 2	folder 1
Review Copies (of what?)	Document box 2	folder 2
Approximately 132 review copies "With the compliments of Rupert Hart-Davis LTD"	Document box 2	folder 2
Chess Publications, Rules, and Game	Document box 2	folder 3
Publishers blurb regarding Chess sundries/publications Whitehead & Miller LTD	Document box 2	folder 3
Handwritten chess moves, 1945 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1945	Document box 2	folder 3
Miniature chess board - paper board, vinyl cover, plastic chess pieces	Document box 2	folder 3
Catalog of Current Chess Literature & Requisites, Frank Hollings	Document box 2	folder 3
Pad of paper - chess board on top, lines on the bottom	Document box 2	folder 3
Nautical Charts, Maps & Handbooks	Document box 2	folder 4
Letter to Ransome from James MacGibbon Victor Gollancz, LTD	Document box 2	folder 4
Journal graphic temperature / weather conditions, (bulk) <u>Date [bulk]:</u> bulk	Document box 2	folder 4
Journal of the Little Ship Club, (bulk) <u>Date [bulk]:</u> bulk	Document box 2	folder 4
Placard, Channel System, Compass System	Document box 2	folder 4
High Water, Tide Table, Dover, 1948 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1948	Document box 2	folder 4
R.C.C. Charts, New Issue, 1947 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1947	Document box 2	folder 4
The Cruising Association - Special meeting Agenda, 1949-05-25 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1949-05-25	Document box 2	folder 4
Navigation Maps of Rivers, Crouch & Roach, and Medway		

	Document box 2	folder 4
Navigation Maps of Rivers Mouse I.V. to Clacton	Document box 2	folder 4
Notes, timetable (handwritten), on boat, 1954-05-19 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1954-05-19	Document box 2	folder 4
Cruising Association Handbook, addendum #2, 1953-01 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1953-01	Document box 2	folder 4
Cruising Association Handbook, addendum #7, 1958-03 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1958-03	Document box 2	folder 4
Notice to Mariners - publications, new charts & editions, 1953 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1953	Document box 2	folder 4
Cruising Association Handbook, addendum #3, 1954-02 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1954-02	Document box 2	folder 4
Postcards, the Port of Flushing (Holland), 1936 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1936	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Ship - notice of a General Meeting, 1965-03-05 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1965-03-05	Document box 2	folder 4
Pamphlet - Roving Commissions, 1962 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1962	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Club - Annual Meeting Announcement, 1953-03 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1953-03	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Club - Supplemental List of Members, 1957 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1957	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Club - Member Letter, 1957-04 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1957-04	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Club - Supplemental List of Members, 1953 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1953	Document box 2	folder 4
The Royal Cruising Club - English Harbour, Antigua	Document box 2	folder 4
Newspaper Photograph - Yacht Race Near Berlin with Flettner Rotor Yacht	Document box 2	folder 4
Handwritten Note Regarding Weymouth & Waterloo	Document box 2	folder 4
Pamphlet - Seamen in the making: Short History of Nautical Training by E.C. Millington, 1935		

<u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1935	Document box 2	folder 4
Lloyd's Register of Yachts, 1937 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1937	Document box 2	folder 4
Pamphlet: Air Ministry, Orfordness Rotating Wireless Beacon; Instructions for Taking Bearings, 1934 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1934	Document box 2	folder 4
Chess Pad (note) with Mathematical Notations	Document box 2	folder 4
Notes Regarding (Unknown) Measurements	Document box 2	folder 4
Handwritten Notations - Part 1	Document box 2	folder 4
Handwritten Notations - Part 2	Document box 2	folder 4
Position Line (Form), 1938 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1938	Document box 2	folder 4
Reprint from "The Seafarer," - the making of a seafarer (2), 1935-04 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1935-04	Document box 2	folder 4

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)