



Louis Auchincloss Collection, 1935-1986

Special Collections Department/Rare Books and Manuscripts

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Louis Auchincloss Collection, 1935-1986

1.6 cubic ft.

Biographical note

Louis Stanton Auchincloss was born on September 27, 1917, in Lawrence, NY, to parents Priscilla Dixon and Joseph Howland Auchincloss. He began his career early, by writing for and editing school publications during his time at the prestigious Groton School in Massachusetts, and then at Yale University. He later graduated from the University of Virginia Law School to become an estate lawyer on Wall Street with the firm Sullivan and Cromwell. He had three sons: John, Andrew, and Blake, with his wife Adele. Like her husband, Adele Auchincloss was also an active member in the literary world and in New York society, especially as an artist and environmentalist. Louis Auchincloss was the Chairman and President of the Museum of the City of New York, among other non-literary ventures.

Louis Auchincloss published many works during his long and respected career as an author. He wrote novels, short stories, and reviews, focusing on the American East Coast upper-class and Wall Street bankers, lawyers, and stock brokers. He exposed, to his readers, the lifestyles of those upper-class elites that he himself was a part of, and was occasionally criticized by his peers for doing so. Auchincloss remains a celebrated and widely-read novelist whose writing style is often compared to that of James Joyce. He wrote briefly under the pseudonym Andrew Lee. Louis Auchincloss continued to write nearly until his death on January 26, 2010.

Scope and Content note

This collection is composed of biographical materials on Louis Auchincloss, as well as many of his published works, manuscripts, and other related items. The biographical materials include various news clippings, family photographs, correspondence, and two catalogs from Groton School. With these are several letters exchanged by Acosta Nichols, a librarian at Groton School, and Ellsworth Mason, a librarian at Hofstra University and friend of Auchincloss. Furthermore, Louis and Adele Auchincloss were featured in a magazine article, *The Tastemakers*, highlighting their personalities and New York lifestyle.

A number of Auchincloss' publications, in the form of magazines, newspapers and clippings, have been collected. There are also reviews of his work, reviews written by Auchincloss on other authors, news clippings, and other articles in reference to Auchincloss. Auchincloss compiled several bibliographies of his own work through 1970, which clearly show the evolution of his writing, as well as the relationships between his short stories and articles, which were later incorporated into larger works.

Ellsworth Mason, a former Director of Library Services at Hofstra, was a good friend of Louis Auchincloss, as well as a scholar and collector of his work. A very interesting set of their correspondence from 1965-1970 illustrates their personal and working relationship. In 1967 Mason asked his friend to lecture at Hofstra University on the topic of Edith Wharton, a well known author whom Auchincloss both studied and wrote about. For this lecture Mason curated an exhibit in the Hofstra Library on Auchincloss, his family, and his work. The collection contains the original exhibit description, captions, and two photographs of the exhibit cases Mason assembled. Many, but not all, of the items throughout this collection were included in that exhibit. Finally, there are four original handwritten and typed manuscripts about Edith Wharton, as well as the speech on Wharton given at Hofstra University.

SUBJECTS

Names:

Acostas, Nichols
Auchincloss, Adele
Auchincloss, Joseph Howland
Auchincloss, Louis
Dixon, Priscilla
Lee, Andrew, 1917-2010
Mason, Ellsworth
Wharton, Edith 1862-1937
Groton School
Hofstra University
Museum of the City of New York
University of Virginia
Yale University

Subjects:

Auchincloss family
Auchincloss, Louis – Bibliography
Auchincloss, Louis – Childhood and youth

Places:

Lawrence, (NY)
New York, (NY)

Form and Genre Terms:

Articles
Magazines
Manuscripts
News clippings
Photographs

The Louis Auchincloss Collection is arranged in eight Series:

Series 1 - Family and Personal Life, 1935-1972
Series 2 - Publications by Auchincloss, 1936-1976
Series 3 - Bibliographies Compiled by Auchincloss, 1965-1970
Series 4 - Reviews of Louis Auchincloss' Works, 1952-1974
Series 5 - Other Articles, References and Reviews, 1961-1971
Series 6 - Ellsworth Mason Correspondence, 1965-1970
Series 7 - Exhibit Materials, 1967-1968
Series 8 - Edith Wharton Materials, 1960-1968

Louis Auchincloss Collection, 1935-1986
Box and Folder Listing

Series 1-Family and Personal Life

Box 1

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
1	Cabinet card reproductions of family photographs c.1890s	c. 1960's
2	Family Tree	1967
3	Auchincloss Family	1965-1969
4	Groton School	1935-1966
5	Biographies	1954-1972
6	Interviews	1965-1968
7	The Tastemakers, by Mary Tanenbaum	1968-1969

Series 2-Publications by Auchincloss

Box 1

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
8	The Trial of Mr. M., <i>Harper's</i>	Oct 1956
9	The Legends of Henry Everett, <i>Harper's</i>	Dec 1952
10	The Colonel's Foundation, <i>New Yorker</i>	Dec 17, 1955
11	Marquand and O'Hara: The Novel of Manners, <i>Nation</i>	Nov 19, 1960
12	Wally, <i>New Yorker</i>	Jan 17, 1953
13	Loyalty Up and Loyalty Down, <i>New Yorker</i>	Nov 15, 1952
14	The Whispers of Fancy, Book Excerpt, <i>Good Housekeeping</i>	1962
15	Emma in the Suburbs, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Jan 9, 1966
16	Lytton Strachey Endures, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	May 5, 1965
17	The Creative Process, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Jan 9, 1966
18	A Strategy for James Readers, <i>Nation</i>	Apr 4, 1960
19	The Deductible Yacht, <i>Harper's</i>	Feb 1963
20	The Novel as a Forum, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Nov 10, 1965
21	The Money Juggler, <i>New York/World Tribune</i>	Mar 12 1967
22	The Club Bedroom	1966-1967
23	Rector of Justin	1965-1966

Box 4

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
-	<i>Yale Literary Magazine</i> and <i>Yale Daily News</i>	1936-1938
-	Old New York on Skates, Premier Issue of <i>Book Week</i>	Sep 15, 1963
-	The Rector and the Rogue, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Nov 10, 1968
-	Nancy Mitford's Versailles, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Dec 14, 1969
-	The Trick of Author as Character, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Feb 1, 1970
-	Living Well is the Best Revenge, <i>N.Y. Times</i> Book Review	Jul 18, 1971
-	<i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	Jun 19, 1954
-	The Power of Appointment, <i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	Mar 9, 1963
-	Power in Trust, <i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	May 4, 1963
-	The Landmarker, <i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	May 23, 1964
-	Sabina and the Herd, <i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	Jan 29, 1966
-	The Secret Journal of Waring Stohl, <i>Saturday Evening Post</i>	Apr 23, 1966
-	The Club Bedroom, <i>Esquire</i>	Dec 1966

Box 5

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
-	The Best Man, Vintage 361 A.D., <i>Life</i>	Jun 12, 1964
-	Urbane Echo of a Graceful Past, <i>Life</i>	Apr 15, 1966
-	<i>Ladies Home Journal</i>	Mar 1976
-	A World of Profit, <i>Ladies Home Journal</i>	Jan 1969
-	The Cup of Coffee, <i>Ladies Home Journal</i>	Jul 1973
-	The Wagnerians, <i>McCall's</i>	Jul 1966
-	Collector of Innocents, <i>McCall's</i>	Apr 1967
-	The Cathedral Builder, <i>McCall's</i> (2 copies)	May 1969

Series 3-Bibliographies Compiled by Auchincloss

Box 2

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
1	Bibliography	1965
2	Bibliography	Mar 1965
3	Bibliography	Sep 1967
4	Bibliography	May 1970

Series 4-Reviews of Louis Auchincloss' Works

Box 2

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
5	Reviews	1952-1968
6	Reviews	1965-1974

Series 5-Other Articles, References and Reviews

Box 2

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
7	The Institution and the Intellectual, by Paul Pickrel, Yale Alumni Seminar	1966
8	Lawyers at the Top: The Fiction of Louis Auchincloss, by Patricia Kane, Critique	1964-65
9	Louis Auchincloss in New York society	1970-1971
10	Reviews written by Louis Auchincloss	1961-1969
11	References to Louis Auchincloss	1965-1970

Series 6-Ellsworth Mason Correspondence

Box 2

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
12	Correspondence between Ellsworth Mason and Louis Auchincloss	1965-1970

Series 7-Exhibit Materials

Box 3

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
1	Auchincloss exhibit at Hofstra University	1967-1968

Series 8-Edith Wharton Materials

Box 3

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Inclusive dates</u>
2	Edith Wharton and Her Letters, Manuscript edited by Auchincloss	1967-1968
3	Edith Wharton and Her Letters, Lecture at Hofstra, including a magnetic recording tape of the lecture (see box 2)	1967-1968
4	Final typescript of article about Edith Wharton	c. 1960
5	Corrected typescript of article about Edith Wharton	c. 1960
6	Handwritten manuscript of an unpublished article about Edith Wharton, first pencil draft	c. 1960
7	Handwritten draft of an article for McCall's bought but unpublished, which became the source for the book	c. 1960