
Guide to the William M. Roth Correspondence

Collection number: MS 170

The University Library
Special Collections and Archives
University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: William M. Roth correspondence,

Date (inclusive): 1941-1965

Collection number: MS 170

Creator: Roth, William M. (William Matson), 1916-

Extent: 0.2 linear ft.

Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections and Archives
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Abstract: This collection contains outgoing and incoming correspondence (letters from William Roth, Kenneth Patchen, Miriam Patchen, Jonathan Williams, J. B. de C. H. Sanders and Josephine Miles) documenting professional and personal relationship between William M. Roth and Kenneth Patchen.

Physical location: Stored in Special Collections and Archives: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.

Language: English

Access

Collection open for research.

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Preferred Citation

William M. Roth correspondence. MS 170. Special Collections and Archives, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Acquisition Information

Gift of William M. Roth, August 1993, to The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley. Correspondence with reference to Kenneth Patchen transferred to Special Collection and Archives, UC Santa Cruz, November 1994.

Biographical Note

William Matson Roth, along with Jane Grabhorn, was one of the acting managers of the Colt Press of San Francisco in the 1940's. The Colt Press published writers such as Ann Stanford, Edmund Wilson, Henry Miller, J. V. Cunningham. Through the association with the press William M. Roth, later to be U.S. Ambassador, businessman, and a negotiator, established a friendship with novelist and poet Kenneth Patchen.

Scope and Contents Note

A set of correspondence by William Roth, Kenneth Patchen, Miriam Patchen, Jonathan Williams, J. B. de C. H. Sanders and Josephine Miles documenting Kenneth Patchen's early publishing history (1941-1942), and his financial and medical plight in the 1960's. Material is organized into three series; Outgoing, Incoming, and Other Related Letters.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Roth, William M.
Printers--California
Poets, American y 20th century x Correspondence

Other Index Terms Related to this Collection

Patchen, Kenneth, 1911-1972. Kenneth Patchen archive
Patchen, Miriam
Williams, Jonathan, d 1929
Sanders, J. B. de C. H
Miles, Josephine, d 1911-
Colt Press
Grabhorn Press

[Title: William M. \(William Matson\) Roth Papers,](#)

[Date \(bulk\): 1914-1973, 1950-1973](#)

[Identifier/Call Number: M0333](#)

[Contributing Institution: Dept. of Special Collections, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford](#)

[Title: Colt Press Records,](#)

[Date \(inclusive\): 1920-1973](#)

[Identifier/Call Number: M0240](#)

[Contributing Institution: Dept. of Special Collections, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford](#)

Title: Colt Press Records,

Date (inclusive): 1938-1958

Contributing Institution: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

Title: Colt Press Records,

Date (inclusive): ca. 1941-1942

Contributing Institution: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

Title: The Colt Press: Oral history transcript and related material,

Date (inclusive): 1965-1966

Contributing Institution: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

Title: [Grabhorn Press Records,](#)

Date (inclusive): 1917-1973

Identifier/Call Number: [BANC MSS 73/109 c](#)

Contributing Institution: [The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley](#)

Outgoing correspondence, 1964-1965,

Physical Description: 8 letters

Scope and Content Note

Letters written to Kenneth Patchen, Jonathan Williams and Josephine Miles as a response to Kenneth Patchen's financial and medical circumstance.

Box-folder 1:1 **Kenneth Patchen, 6 carbon copies [7 pp], Feb. 19, 1964-Mar. 24, 1965**
Box-folder 1:2 **Jonathan Williams, carbon [1 pg], Mar. 30, 1964**
Box-folder 1:3 **Josephine Miles, carbon [2 pp], Jul. 17, 1964**

Incoming correspondence, 1941-1942, 1963-1965

Physical Description: 20 folders

Scope and Content Note

Kenneth Patchen correspondence contains details about his writing and publishing activity in the 1940's, and later shifting to intimate descriptions of financial and medical troubles both by him and his wife Miriam. Also included are two responses from Jonathan Williams to William Roth about the Patchen situation, four letters from the Kenneth Patchen's physicians Saunders and Lucas, and a letter from Josephine Miles in regards to Kenneth Patchen's employment at UCLA.

Key to acronyms: TLS= typed letter signed, ALS = autographed letter signed, APCS = autographed postcard signed.

- Box-folder 1:4-14 **Patchen, Kenneth, 1941-1942, 1964-1965**
- Box-folder 1:4 **ALS, "The two enclosures - a sample exhibit of bills..." [2 pp], Feb. 24, 1965**
- Box-folder 1:5 **ALS, "I went into U.C. Medical Center in early July..." [2 pp], Nov. 10, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:6 **ALS, "Perhaps you can help me -..." [3 pp], Feb. 4, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:7 **APCS, " My new address: 'The Water Gypsy'..." , May 21, 1942**
- Box-folder 1:8 **ALS, "Needless to say I am sorry that The Colt is..." [1 pg], Apr. 20, 1942**
- Box-folder 1:9 **ALS, "I have heard that The Colt is having rather..." [1 pg], Apr. 3, [1942]**
- Box-folder 1:10 **TLS, "Yes, that will be fine: drawing up the contract..." [1 pg], Dec. 29, 1941**
- Box-folder 1:11 **TLS, "I've finally settled a few things in connection..." [1 pg], Nov. 3, 1941**
- Box-folder 1:12 **ALS, "I am having steps taken to sever relations..." [1 pg], Oct. 1, 1941**
- Box-folder 1:13 **ALS, "How soon are you coming to New York..." [1 pg], Jul. 13, 1941**
- Box-folder 1:14 **Attached canceled checks (4), and pharmacy receipts (9), 1964-1965**
- Box-folder 1:15-17 **Patchen, Miriam, 1964-1965**
- Box-folder 1:15 **ALS, "Each day suspicions get strengthened..." [6 pp], Oct. 21, 1965**
- Box-folder 1:16 **ALS, "These just arrived late yesterday -..." [1 pg], Dec. 1964**
- Box-folder 1:17 **TLS, "Thousands of thanks for your wire..." [3 pp], Feb. 25, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:18-19 **Williams, Jonathan, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:18 **TLS [5 pp], Feb. 24, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:18 **TLS [1 pg], Apr. 28, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:19 **Forwarded TLS from Miriam Patchen, [2 pp], (enclosed with Apr. 28, 1964 letter). [1964]**
- Box-folder 1:20 **Miles, Josephine 1964**
- Box-folder 1:20 **TLS [1 pg], Jun. 30, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:20 **Forwarded TLS from Hugh G. Dirk [1 pg], Jun. 18, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:21 **Sanders, J. B. de C. H. (M.D.), 1963-1964**
- Box-folder 1:21 **TLS [1 pg], Mar. 10, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:21 **Plus attached carbon [1 pg] from Dr. Lucas to Kenneth Patchen, Mar. 10, 1964**
- Box-folder 1:21 **TLS [1 pg],**
- Box-folder 1:21 **Dec. 20, 1963**
- Box-folder 1:21 **Sep. 6, 1963**

Other Related Letters, 1965,

Physical Description: 1 letter

Scope and Content Note

An invitation from Donald Sutherland to Kenneth Patchen to lecture at University of Colorado, Jan. 27, 1965 [see Box/folder 1:22]