

**Marquis James Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2013**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79027631>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013098>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2013

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Marquis James Papers

**Span Dates:** 1914-1955

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1930-1949)

**ID No.:** MSS27631

**Creator:** James, Marquis, 1891-1955

**Extent:** 14,000 items

**Extent:** 48 containers

**Extent:** 19 linear feet

**Extent:** 1 microfilm reel

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79027631>

**Summary:** Author. Diary, correspondence, book material, literary and biographical articles, radio scripts and plays, legal and financial papers, clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other papers relating mainly to James's work as a biographer.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965.

Garner, John Nance, 1868-1967.

Grace, William Russell, 1832-1904.

Houston, Sam, 1793-1863.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845.

James, Cynthia, 1924- --Correspondence.

James, Marquis, 1891-1955.

Ross, Harold Wallace, 1892-1951--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Writers' War Board.

### Places

Cherokee Strip (Okla. and Kan.)--History.

Oklahoma--History.

Texas--History.

### Titles

*American Legion monthly.*

*New Yorker.*

*Scoop (Chicago, Ill.)*

### Occupations

Authors.

## Provenance

The papers of Marquis James, author, were given to the Library of Congress in 1958 by his widow, Jacqueline James. An addition of a microfilm of an original diary in private hands was reproduced by the Library in 1965.

## Processing History

The James Papers were processed in 1959 and expanded with the addition of microfilm of a diary in 2003. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

## Additional Guides

A note on the Marquis James Papers appeared in the Library's *Information Bulletin* 18, no. 2 (12 Jan. 1959): 16.

## Transfers

Original issues of the *Chicago Ledger* have been transferred to the Library's Serial & Government Publications Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Marquis James in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Marquis James are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on one reel. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Marquis James Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

| Date      | Event   |
|-----------|---|
| 1891      | Born, Springfield, Mo.  |
| 1897-1909 | Educated in public schools, Enid, Okla.   |
| 1909-1913 | Reporter, Enid, Okla.; Kansas City, Mo.; St. Louis, Mo., and New Orleans, La.                 |
| 1914      | Married Bessie Williams Rowland (divorced)  |
| 1914-1916 | Worked on <i>Chicago Tribune</i> , <i>Chicago Daily Journal</i> , and <i>New York Tribune</i> |
| 1917-1919 | Served in World War I   |
| 1919-1923 | National Director of Publicity, American Legion   |
| 1923-1932 | Staff member, <i>American Legion Monthly</i>  |
| 1925      | Member, editorial staff, the <i>New Yorker</i>  |
| 1930      | Pulitzer Prize winner for biography, <i>The Raven; A Biography of Sam Houston</i>             |

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1938          | Pulitzer Prize winner for biography, <i>Andrew Jackson; Portrait of a President</i> |
| 1954          | Married Jacqueline Mary Parsons   |
| 1955, Nov. 19 | Died, Rye, N.Y.   |

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Marquis James (1891-1955) span the years 1914-1955, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1930-1939. The collection consists of a diary, correspondence, book material, literary and biographical articles, radio scripts and plays, legal and financial papers, clippings, printed material, photographs, and other papers related largely to James's work as a biographer. The papers are organized into nine series: [General Correspondence](#), [Literary File I](#), [Newspaper Clippings](#), [Printed Matter](#), [Photographs and Miscellany](#), [Literary File II](#), [Legal File](#), [Personal Correspondence](#), and [Miscellany](#).

Included with manuscripts of James's books are voluminous notes covering extensive research on historical events in Texas and Oklahoma in preparation for a biography of Sam Houston and writing of *The Cherokee Strip*. The printed material includes articles published in various magazines, especially the *New Yorker*, *American Legion Monthly*, and *Scoop* (Chicago, Ill.).

Twice a Pulitzer Prize winner, James had considerable correspondence with residents of Texas and Oklahoma in which the writers volunteered further information about Sam Houston and Andrew Jackson, whose biographies won this prize for the author. Included also is correspondence with Harold Wallace Ross of the *New Yorker* in the early years of the magazine's birth and growth. Other material consists of manuscripts prepared for the Writers' War Board during World War II; memoirs of Bernard M. Baruch and related correspondence; and material on John Nance Garner. Also included is the manuscript of James's unpublished "The Story of William R. Grace" and a diary from 1904-1905 reproduced from the original in private hands and available only on microfilm.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in nine series:

- [General Correspondence, 1921-1955](#)
- [Literary File I, 1928-1949](#)
- [Newspaper Clippings](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1914-1952](#)
- [Photographs](#)
- [Literary File II, 1934-1937](#)
- [Legal File, 1930-1951](#)
- [Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955](#)
- [Miscellany](#)

## Description of Series

| Container | Series   |
|-----------|--|
| BOX 1-9   | <p><b><u>General Correspondence, 1921-1955</u></b><br/>Letters sent and received.<br/>Alphabetically arranged by name of correspondent.</p>  |
| BOX 10-27 | <p><b><u>Literary File I, 1928-1949</u></b><br/>Includes manuscripts, notes, photographs, and correspondence relating to major works, magazine articles, and radio scripts.<br/>Arranged by title or work or topic.</p>      |
| BOX 28-30 | <p><b><u>Newspaper Clippings</u></b><br/>Newspaper clippings by and about James and topics of interest to him.<br/>Unarranged.</p>   |
| BOX 31-33 | <p><b><u>Printed Matter, 1914-1952</u></b><br/>Mainly articles by James.<br/>Partially arranged by title of magazine.</p>  |
| BOX 34    | <p><b><u>Photographs</u></b><br/>Miscellaneous photographs and other material.<br/>Unarranged.</p>   |
| BOX 35-40 | <p><b><u>Literary File II, 1934-1937</u></b><br/>Manuscripts, notes, and correspondence relating to “Memoirs of Bernard Baruch.” Also the final proof of “The Story of William R. Grace.”<br/>Arranged by title of work.</p> |
| BOX 41    | <p><b><u>Legal File, 1930-1951</u></b><br/>Correspondence and other papers pertaining to a lawsuit regarding the <i>The Raven</i> and motion picture rights of <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i>.</p>                            |
| BOX 42-45 | <p><b><u>Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955</u></b><br/>Letters sent and received.<br/>Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of correspondent.</p>  |
| BOX 46-48 | <p><b><u>Miscellany</u></b><br/>Diary, financial papers, duplicates, and miscellaneous material. <i>Diary available only on microfilm, shelf no. 13,093.</i></p>   |

# Container List

| Container        | Contents  |
|------------------|---|
| <b>BOX 1-9</b>   | <b>General Correspondence, 1921-1955</b><br>Letters sent and received.<br>Alphabetically arranged by name of correspondent.   |
| <b>BOX 1</b>     | A-Baum  |
| <b>BOX 2</b>     | Beals-Chambers  |
| <b>BOX 3</b>     | Chambers-Dutton   |
| <b>BOX 4</b>     | E-G   |
| <b>BOX 5</b>     | H-L   |
| <b>BOX 6</b>     | M-N   |
| <b>BOX 7</b>     | O-R   |
| <b>BOX 8</b>     | S-V   |
| <b>BOX 9</b>     | W-Z   |
| <b>BOX 10-27</b> | <b>Literary File I, 1928-1949</b><br>Includes manuscripts, notes, photographs, and correspondence relating to major works, magazine articles, and radio scripts.<br>Arranged by title or work or topic. |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | Books   |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | <i>The Raven</i> , 1928-1949  |
| <b>BOX 10</b>    | Chapters 1-13   |
| <b>BOX 11</b>    | Chapters 14-28; footnotes   |
| <b>BOX 12</b>    | Miscellaneous notes   |
| <b>BOX 13</b>    | Miscellaneous notes, correspondence, photographs, photostats, and printed matter  |
| <b>BOX 14</b>    | <i>The Cherokee Strip</i> .   |
| <b>BOX 14</b>    | Chapters 1-16   |
| <b>BOX 15</b>    | Miscellaneous notes   |
| <b>BOX 16</b>    | <i>Andrew Jackson; Portrait of a President</i> , 1928-1949  |
| <b>BOX 16</b>    | Chapters 1-11   |
| <b>BOX 17</b>    | Chapters 12-23  |
| <b>BOX 18</b>    | <i>Andrew Jackson; The Border Captain</i> , chapters 1-20, 1928-1949  |
| <b>BOX 19-22</b> | <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i> , 1928-1949   |
| <b>BOX 19-22</b> | Miscellaneous   |
| <b>BOX 19-22</b> | Notes   |
| <b>BOX 23</b>    | Correspondence  |
| <b>BOX 24</b>    | Photographs   |
| <b>BOX 24</b>    | Photostats and printed matter   |
| <b>BOX 24</b>    | Newspaper clippings   |
| <b>BOX 25</b>    | <i>Mr. Garner of Texas</i> , manuscript   |
| <b>BOX 25</b>    | Memoirs of Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, 1938-1939   |
| <b>BOX 25</b>    | Manuscripts   |

## Literary File I, 1928-1949

| Container | Contents   |
|-----------|--|
| BOX 25    | Miscellaneous notes  |
| BOX 25    | Related correspondence   |
| BOX 26    | Articles   |
| BOX 27    | Radio scripts and plays, manuscripts and related correspondence, 1940-1949   |
| BOX 28-30 | <b>Newspaper Clippings</b><br>Newspaper clippings by and about James and topics of interest to him.<br>Unarranged.   |
| BOX 28    | <i>Chicago Ledger</i> , 1915-1918  |
| BOX 29-30 | Miscellany   |
| BOX 31-33 | <b>Printed Matter, 1914-1952</b><br>Mainly articles by James.<br>Partially arranged by title of magazine.  |
| BOX 31    | <i>New Yorker</i> , 1925-1952  |
| BOX 32    | <i>American Legion Monthly</i> , 1930-1937   |
| BOX 32    | Miscellany   |
| BOX 33    | Miscellany   |
| BOX 34    | <b>Photographs</b><br>Miscellaneous photographs and other material.<br>Unarranged.   |
| BOX 34    | Garner, John Nance, and others   |
| BOX 35-40 | <b>Literary File II, 1934-1937</b><br>Manuscripts, notes, and correspondence relating to "Memoirs of Bernard Baruch." Also the final proof of "The Story of William R. Grace."<br>Arranged by title of work. |
| BOX 35    | "Memoirs of Bernard Baruch"  |
| BOX 35    | Miscellaneous chapters   |
| BOX 36    | Chapters 6-13  |
| BOX 37    | Chapters 14-17   |
| BOX 38    | Chapters 20-23 and miscellaneous notes   |
| BOX 39    | Miscellaneous notes and related correspondence   |
| BOX 40    | "The Story of William R. Grace," final proof   |
| BOX 41    | <b>Legal File, 1930-1951</b><br>Correspondence and other papers pertaining to a lawsuit regarding the <i>The Raven</i> and motion picture rights of <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i> .                          |
| BOX 41    | Lawsuit regarding <i>The Raven</i>   |
| BOX 41    | Motion picture rights regarding <i>Life of Andrew Jackson</i>  |
| BOX 42-45 | <b>Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955</b><br>Letters sent and received.  |

## Personal Correspondence, 1924-1955

### Container

### Contents

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Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of correspondent.

**BOX 42**

Books-Green

**BOX 43**

Hospital-James, Bessie R.

**BOX 44**

James, Cynthia

**BOX 45**

James, Cynthia-Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt

**BOX 46-48**

#### **Miscellany**

Diary, financial papers, duplicates, and miscellaneous material. *Diary available only on microfilm, shelf no. 13,093.*

**BOX 46-48**

Miscellaneous items, financial material, and duplicates

Diary, 1904-1905

Available only on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,093