

Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection

Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

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

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2006560750>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu010010>

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2010
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Collection Summary

Title: Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection

Span Dates: 1901-1992

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1936-1990)

Call No.: ML31.C78

Creator: Cowell, Sidney Robertson

Extent: 5067 items

Extent: 28 containers

Extent: 13 linear feet

Language: Material in English

Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2006560750>

Summary: Sidney Robertson Cowell (1903-1995) was a folksong and ethnic music collector and recordist, ethnographer, ethnomusicologist, teacher, writer, and wife of composer Henry Cowell. The collection consists of her personal papers which document all aspects of her life and work. The collection includes correspondence relating to personal and professional matters; fieldwork reports, fieldnotes, song lists and other materials from her field recording projects and trips; articles, essays, reviews, and papers written by Sidney Robertson Cowell; articles and narratives by and about Henry Cowell; autobiographical narratives and essays, clippings, family histories and other materials relating to her professional career and personal life; photographs; teaching materials; and song sheets and song books. In addition, the collection contains photocopies of a selection of Henry Cowell holographs, several annotated by Sidney Robertson Cowell, and a selection of folk songs with piano settings by Henry Cowell in his own hand.

Online Content: The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress has digitized and made available a large portion of their W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection. *California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the Thirties* (<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/collafc.af000002>) includes sound recordings, still photographs, drawings, and written documents from a variety of European ethnic and English- and Spanish-speaking communities in Northern California. The Traditional Music and Spoken Word Catalog from the American Folklife Center (<http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/ihas/html/afccards/afccards-home.html>) provides title and bibliographic information for many of Sidney Robertson Cowell's ethnographic sound recordings accessioned in the Archive of American Folk Song up until about 1950. The *Wisconsin Folksong Collection, 1937-1946* (<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WiscFolkSong/#>) contains recordings collected by Sidney Robertson Cowell during the summer of 1937 for the Resettlement Administration. These recordings were digitized from the original discs at the Library of Congress American Folklife Center.

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

Adams, Ansel, 1902-1984--Correspondence.

Bacon, Ernst, 1898-1990--Correspondence.

Bloch, Suzanne, 1907-2002--Correspondence.

Bronson, Bertrand Harris, 1902-1986--Correspondence.

Brown, Frank Clyde, 1870-1943--Correspondence.

Cage, John--Correspondence.

Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965--Correspondence.

Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965--Photographs.

Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965.

Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995--Archives.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995--Correspondence.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995--Ethnomusicological collections.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995--Photographs.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995.

Cowell, Sidney Robertson, 1903-1995.
Dornbush, Adrian--Correspondence.
Eskin, Sam--Correspondence.
Ford, Warde H.
Franke, Grete--Correspondence.
Frankenstein, Alfred V. (Alfred Victor), 1906-1981--Correspondence.
Grainger, Percy, 1882-1961.
Grover, Carrie B., 1879-1959.
Harrison, Lou, 1917-2003--Correspondence.
Hitchcock, H. Wiley (Hugh Wiley), 1923-2007--Correspondence.
Ives, Charles, 1874-1954.
Karpeles, Maud, 1885-1976--Correspondence.
Kirkpatrick, John, 1905-1991--Correspondence.
Lichtenwanger, William, 1915-2000--Correspondence.
Lomax, John A. (John Avery), 1867-1948--Correspondence.
Maynor, Dorothy--Correspondence.
McPhee, Colin, 1900-1964--Correspondence.
Powell, Laurence, 1899-1990--Correspondence.
Saylor, Bruce--Correspondence.
Seeger, Charles, 1886-1979--Correspondence.
Seeger, Peggy, 1935- --Correspondence.
Seeger, Pete, 1919-2014--Correspondence.
Slonimsky, Nicolas, 1894-1995--Correspondence.
Spackman, Stephen--Correspondence.
Thomson, Virgil, 1896-1989--Correspondence.
Valiant, Margaret--Correspondence.
Van Hyning, Robert--Correspondence.
Weisgall, Hugo--Correspondence.
Wyner, Yehudi, 1929- --Correspondence.
Yuize, Shin'ichi--Correspondence.

Organizations

Archive of Folk Song (U.S.)
United States. Farm Security Administration.
United States. Farm Security Administration.
United States. Resettlement Administration.
United States. Resettlement Administration.
W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection, 1938-1940 (Library of Congress)
W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection, 1938-1940 (Library of Congress)

Subjects

Ballads, English--United States.
Ethnomusicologists--United States--Correspondence.
Field recordings--United States.
Folk dance music--United States.
Folk music--Appalachian Region.
Folk music--Asia.
Folk music--California.
Folk music--Canada.
Folk music--Ireland.
Folk music--Middle East.
Folk music--Middle West.
Folk music--Southern States.
Folk music--United States--History and criticism.
Folk music--United States.

Folk songs, English--Appalachian Region.
Folk songs, English--California.
Folk songs, English--Middle West.
Folk songs, English--Southern States.
Folk songs, English--United States.
Folk songs--California.
Folk songs--United States.
Political ballads and songs.
Protest songs.

Form/Genre

Clippings (Information artifacts)
Correspondence.
Diaries.
Drafts (Documents)
Ethnography.
Field notes.
Memorandums.
Photographic prints.
Proposals.
Songbooks.
Songs (Document genre)

Provenance

Gift; Sidney Robertson Cowell; 1977-1994.

Custodial History

The Library of Congress has enjoyed a long and mutually supportive relationship with Henry and Sidney Robertson Cowell that began in the 1930s and continued until Sidney's death in 1995. Their donations to the Library have allowed researchers and scholars to study most of Henry Cowell's music manuscripts, view materials that provide an exhaustive account of Sidney's life and work, and better understand the Cowells' professional contributions and personal lives.

Sidney Robertson first visited the Archive of American Folk Song, then housed in the Library's Music Division, in 1936, to discuss some points about American folksong. Her interest led to meetings with Charles Seeger, who hired her to collect and record folk music for the New Deal's Resettlement Administration. Through her work with Seeger, her ties to various Archive heads, and with Harold Spivacke, chief of the Music Division, were strengthened. Much of the fieldwork done at the Resettlement Administration is now part of the Library's collections.

The Work Projects Administration California Folk Music Project, conceived and managed by Sidney Robertson Cowell, was jointly sponsored by the Music Department of the University of California, Berkeley and the Library of Congress. Harold Spivacke provided important support by supplying Cowell with blank acetate discs on which to record--with the provision that these recordings be given to the Library—and offering cataloging guidance. The original field recordings became part of the Archive of American Folk Song in 1939 and 1940. These recordings and other materials from the project form the core of the American Folklife Center's *W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection*. In addition, some of the recordings that Sidney made on field trips at home and abroad, including Rockefeller Foundation trips to Asia with Henry, reside in the American Folklife Center.

Henry Cowell began depositing his music manuscripts with the Library in the 1940s. Through Henry and Sidney's generosity, the Music Division would ultimately hold the majority of Henry Cowell's holograph music manuscripts, which number about 1100 items and date from 1907 to 1965, the year he died. The other repository holding any sizable number of these is the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, which also holds most of Henry Cowell's personal papers. His music manuscripts at the Library of Congress have been cataloged under the Library of Congress call number

ML96.C823, with the exception of works commissioned by various Music Division foundations and a group of folksongs, with accompaniments in Henry Cowell's hand, located in the Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection. Additional material relating to Henry Cowell, including correspondence and some writings, can be found in numerous collections throughout the Music Division.

Sidney kept in close contact with former Library of Congress Music Division chiefs Harold Spivacke and Don Leavitt, and others within the division, throughout the remainder of her life. Not only did she oversee the Henry Cowell manuscript donations, but she regularly made donations of her own personal and professional papers which comprise the Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection in the Library of Congress and are described in this finding aid.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection was processed and a finding aid made by Nancy Seeger in 2009. The finding aid was coded for EAD by Nancy Seeger in 2010.

Other Repositories

The other major repository of Sidney Robertson Cowell material is the Music Library of the University of California, Berkeley. The [Inventory of the California Folk Music Project Records, 1938-1942](#) provides access to the records that were donated by the local Work Projects Administration in 1942. The collection includes administrative documents; English translations of articles on folk music; material on music in the California missions; lists of California songsters and hymnals; song texts with references to California; material on Portuguese, Spanish, and Latin American folk songs; sketches, scale drawings, and tracings of folk instruments; sound tape reel copies of performances, and original glass sound discs. There are also 3x5 card file indexes of known recordings, photographs of performers, instruments, songsters, hymnals, and bibliographies.

The New York Public Library holds the Henry Cowell Papers and additional materials related to Sidney Robertson Cowell.

The Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections housed in the Smithsonian Institution's Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage contains duplicates of some of Cowell's Ireland recordings.

Related Material

Additional material relating to Sidney Robertson Cowell is in the following collections in the Library of Congress Music Division: Charles Seeger Collection, [Nicolas Slonimsky Collection](#), [Modern Music Archives](#), and [Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation Collection](#). Additional correspondence to and from Sidney Robertson Cowell is located in Music Division Old Correspondence and in a small collection that is entitled [Sidney Robertson Cowell Correspondence](#) which is cataloged separately under ML94.C69.

The American Folklife Center (AFC) of the Library of Congress holds significant primary source material by and relating to Sidney Robertson Cowell, primarily sound recordings accessioned into AFC's Archive beginning in 1937. The Resettlement Administration Recordings Collection contains 165 field recordings of instrumentals and songs recorded in 1936 and 1937, in various states, by Cowell and others for the Resettlement Administration. It also includes her 1937 recordings of performances at the Fourth Annual National Folk Festival, in Chicago. The [W.P.A. California Folk Music Project Collection](#) in the AFC spans 1936 to 1991 and contains 239 discs that Cowell gave to the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library in 1939 and 1940. This collection surveys traditional music and folk song of many ethnic groups in northern California and also includes publicity materials, correspondence, song texts/transcriptions, notes on songs, interview forms, field reports, 170 photographic prints, and twenty-four drawings of instruments. A substantial portion of the collection, with interpretive essays, is available as "California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the Thirties"

(see Online Content below). The recordings that Cowell made of Carrie Grover from Gorham, Maine also reside in the AFC. These recordings of folk songs, ballads and popular songs were recorded in Teaneck, New Jersey, in 1941.

The AFC has several additional collections related to Sidney Robertson Cowell. There are twelve tapes of folk music recorded in Ireland, Iran, Pakistan and Malaya in the mid-1950s accompanied by additional documentation. The Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection of Writings and Reminiscences contains her recollections about doing fieldwork and folksong collecting. It ranges from the 1950s to 1990 and includes additional biographical, music, and research material. Eight tapes of folksongs recorded by Maud Karpeles and Cowell in North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia in 1950 reside in the AFC along with accompanying documentation. AFC holds fourteen tapes of interviews and music recorded from 1952 to 1956 in Bangladesh, California, Canada, Iran, Ireland, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Nova Scotia, Pakistan, Wisconsin and Wyoming. This collection also includes correspondence, journals, logs, notes, postcards, transcriptions, and articles. In addition, there is one tape of Wisconsin fiddle tunes originally recorded on disc in 1937 and one disc containing songs sung by Ford-Walker family members recorded in Wisconsin in 1937.

Please contact the Folklife Reading Room, Library of Congress at folklife@loc.gov for more information about these Sidney Robertson Cowell collections.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions

The Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Online Content

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The Traditional Music and Spoken Word Catalog from the American Folklife Center (<http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/ihas/html/afccards/afccards-home.html>) provides title and bibliographic information for many of Sidney Robertson Cowell's ethnographic sound recordings accessioned in the Archive of American Folk Song up until about 1950.

The *Wisconsin Folksong Collection, 1937-1946* (<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WiscFolkSong/#>) contains recordings collected by Sidney Robertson Cowell during the summer of 1937 for the Resettlement Administration. These recordings were digitized from the original discs at the Library of Congress American Folklife Center.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1903 June 2	Born Sidney William Hawkins, San Francisco, California
1917	Met Henry Cowell for the first time
1922-1923	French government exchange student at the Lycée de jeunes filles, Tours, France
1924	B.A., Romance Languages, Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif. Married Kenneth Robertson (divorced 1933)
1925	Studied analytic psychology with Carl Jung, Zurich, Switzerland
1925-1926	Studied piano with Alfred Cortot, Ecole normale de musique, Paris, France
1926-circa 1932	Music teacher, head of music department, Peninsula School, Palo Alto, Calif.
1927-1930	Studied music theory with Ernest Bloch, San Francisco Conservatory of Music and with Charles Koechlin, Berkeley, Calif.
1932	Studied piano with Harold Bauer in California
1935-1936	Studied music with Henry Cowell, New York City Head of social music, Henry Street Settlement, N.Y. Notated songs of elderly Jews, New York City
1936	Music assistant to Charles Seeger, KL Division, Music Unit, Special Skills Division, Resettlement Administration (RA), Washington, D.C. Accompanied John Lomax and Frank C. Brown on recording trip to western North Carolina where she assisted in recording melismatic singing and African-American singing in chain gang road camps for the RA Collected and recorded traditional singers and music in Arkansas, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia for the RA
1937	Regional representative, Special Skills Division, Resettlement Administration Recorded in Minnesota and Northern Wisconsin (including Warde Ford and his extended family) Relief community manager, Special Services Section, Region 2 (Wis., Minn., Mich.), Farm Security Administration Recorded Finnish, Serbian and Gaelic communities in Great Lakes states Recorded Swedish, Lithuanian, Norwegian and Finnish musicians at the Fourth National Folk Festival in Chicago, Ill. Recorded lumberjacks in Michigan Began to develop folksong collecting projects through New Deal arts organizations and private grants organizations Began folk music research in her native California
1938	WPA approved California Folk Music Project co-sponsored by Library of Congress and the University of California, Berkeley California Folk Music Project officially opened (brought to a close in 1940)
1939	Founder of Archive of California Folk Music, University of California, Berkeley
1940	Published with Eleanora Black <i>The Gold Rush Song Book</i> . San Francisco: Colt Press
1941	Consultant in folk music, Music Division, Pan American Union, Washington, D.C. Married Henry Cowell (died 1965) Recorded Carrie Grover of Gorham, Maine in Teaneck, N.J.
1942	Published with Alan Lomax <i>American Folk Song and Folk Lore: A Regional Bibliography</i> . New York: Progressive Education Association Moved to Shady, New York
1942-circa 1950	Music instructor, Mills College of Education, N.Y.
1950	American correspondent, International Folk Music Council Presented folk performers at the Ditson Festival of American Music at Columbia University, N.Y. Accompanied by Maud Karpeles, re-recorded singers in Appalachians who had performed for Cecil Sharp
1950-1951	Visiting lecturer during the summers, University of Southern California

1952-1955	Recorded Ford-Walker family in Crandon, Wisconsin; California; Wyoming; and Germany
1953	Recorded American Folk Music Concert at the Sixth Annual Festival of Contemporary American Music, Columbia University, N.Y. Recorded bagpipe tunes and Scottish Gaelic singing on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia Recorded Spanish and Persian singing in Alameda and Berkeley, California
1954	Published with Henry Cowell <i>Charles Ives and His Music</i> . New York: Oxford University Press
1954-1960	Instructor, New School, New York, N.Y.
1955	Instructor, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Published with John P. Hughes <i>Songs from Cape Breton Island</i> . New York: Folkways Records
1955-1956	Traveled with Henry Cowell to Europe and Asia on State Department assignments Recorded in the Aran Islands and Carna, Connemara, Ireland Recorded traditional music in Iran, Thailand, Pakistan, and Malaya
1956	Published <i>Wolf River Songs</i> . New York: Folkways Records
1956-1957	Travelled to several Asian countries with Henry Cowell on Rockefeller Foundation grant to report on status of traditional and classical music in Asia Recorded music in Asia and Iran
1957	Published <i>Songs of Aran</i> . New York: Folkways Records
1995 Feb. 23	Died, Shady, New York

Scope and Content Note

The Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection, numbering more than 5,000 items, contains material from her work as a folk song collector and ethnographer; voluminous correspondence to her family, friends and colleagues--many of whom are prominent figures in 20th century American music--published and unpublished essays, reviews, and articles; biographical narratives; instructional materials from various stints as a music teacher, and an extensive subject file. The collection contains a great amount of information on Sidney Robertson Cowell's husband, modernist composer Henry Cowell, including material pertaining to their marriage, writings by and about him, material dealing with his professional relationships with other notables in the music world, and documents concerning his musical legacy, which was carefully nurtured by Sidney Robertson Cowell.

A large part of the collection deals with two major aspects of Cowell's life: her innovative and groundbreaking work as an ethnographer and folksong and ethnic music collector and recordist; as well as her role as husband Henry Cowell's personal and professional partner and proprietor of his musical legacy. The extensive fieldwork materials she collected exemplify Sidney Robertson Cowell's keen insights into the people and music she encountered and offer a behind-the-scenes look at the history and process of her work. The collection is also rich in material that details Cowell's complex life with Henry Cowell, whom she married in 1941. There is material dealing with their personal lives as well as extensive material related to their writing and travelling collaborations and business and publishing ventures. After Henry Cowell's death in 1965, Sidney took charge of his personal and professional reputation, which is reflected in correspondence and other material from the 1970s through the 1990s. The collection consists of nine series: Correspondence, Materials Relating to Fieldwork, Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, Biographical Material, Writings and Publications, Subject Files, Photographs, Teaching Materials, and Songs and Song Books.

The Correspondence series is divided into two subseries: Personal (non-family) and Professional Correspondence; and Family Correspondence. The first series covers a myriad of topics with a primary focus on professional matters. Correspondence with Suzanne Bloch, John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Lukas Foss, Alfred Frankenstein, Lou Harrison, Colin McPhee, Ned Rorem, and Virgil Thomson concerns professional projects and interests, and offers personal news and viewpoints. Issues relating to Henry Cowell, such as music publishing, discographical entries, and biographical topics are the focus of extensive correspondence with H. Wiley Hitchcock, John Kirkpatrick, William Lichtenwanger, Bruce Saylor, and others. A large amount of the Lichtenwanger and Hitchcock correspondence deals with the catalog of Henry Cowell's music, which was compiled by Lichtenwanger and published by Hitchcock's Institute for the Study of American Music. Richard Franko Goldman, Nicolas Slonimsky, and Hugo Weisgall are also frequent correspondents. Sidney Robertson Cowell maintained relationships with many notables in the folk music field, including Bertrand Bronson, Sam Eskin, Charles, Peggy and Pete Seeger, and Margaret Valiant, all of whom are represented in this subseries.

The second subseries, Family Correspondence, contains correspondence with several family members, including Cowell's parents Charles Hawkins and Mabel "Muz" Morrison Hawkins; husbands Henry Cowell and Kenneth Robertson; siblings Charles Ernest Hawkins, John "Bud" Hawkins, Anne Cotton, and Jeane Mibach; and Henry Cowell's stepmother, Olive Cowell. Letters to her family, particularly to her mother, shed light on Cowell's early life during the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. Extensive correspondence with her sister Anne captures Cowell's thoughts and feelings on a host of personal and professional topics. In addition, these letters contain a great deal of information about relatives and ancestors from both the Hawkins and Morrison sides of her family.

The Materials Relating to Fieldwork series deals with Cowell's major folksong and ethnographic music collecting and recording projects. Contained therein are not only finished reports, articles, and song lists derived from these activities, but also handwritten diaries, fieldnotes, letters and draft reports that reveal personal and procedural details about the projects. The series is divided into nine sections. The Resettlement Administration Field Trip to North Carolina with John Lomax section chronicles Cowell's summer 1936 trip to Western North Carolina with John Lomax and Frank Brown. Cowell was hired in 1936 as Charles Seeger's music assistant in the Special Skills Division of the Resettlement Administration (RA). Although she had already done some field collecting, Seeger wanted her to become better acquainted with the recording equipment and to benefit from Lomax and Brown's field experience. The material includes her fieldnotes, correspondence that provides context and background information on the trip, and the final report for the RA.

The Resettlement Administration (RA) section contains extensive fieldnotes, correspondence, memoranda and reports for the remaining field trips that Cowell made during her tenure at the RA, beginning around the autumn of 1936, through 1937, when the Resettlement Administration was reorganized under the Farm Security Administration (FSA). The RA was a New Deal program designed to provide economic aid to struggling rural, and to a lesser extent urban, families during the Great Depression. Cowell explained in a letter that the RA was using the native music of these rural communities as an agent of socialization and cooperation. She recorded extensively in the Ozarks, the Appalachians, and the Great Lakes Region during her time with the RA. Under the FSA, she served as regional representative and relief community manager in the Great Lakes Region for much of 1937. The material included in this subseries reveals Cowell's sensitive and perceptive prose that offers insights into the communities in which she was living and working. The correspondence, memos, and reports to her RA colleagues, including Adrian Dornbush, Robert Van Hyning, and Grete Franke, illuminate behind-the-scenes problems, issues, and relationships within the RA on almost a weekly basis.

The California Folk Music Project (CFMP) section contains materials relating to Cowell's most innovative and ambitious project. The CFMP was a New Deal collecting project that Cowell conceived of and managed for the Northern California Work Projects Administration. It was one of the earliest major attempts at documenting traditional and ethnic music in a specific region. Material in the section includes the final report for the project, in addition to notes and an outline for a book on folksong in California that she never completed. Extensive lists of recordings she made of traditional English-language, Western European, and Hispanic ethnic music contain date and place of recording, performer name, and annotations by Cowell.

The Carrie Grover from Gorham, Maine section contains a list of songs by Grover that Cowell recorded in 1941. The Appalachian Trip with Maud Karpeles section contains Cowell's handwritten diary and notes from the 1950 trip to Appalachia during which she and Karpeles re-recorded performers originally recorded from 1916 to 1918 by English folksong collector Cecil Sharp. A list of the recordings also is included.

The Wolf River Songs and Ford-Walker Family section documents Cowell's ongoing work with the music-making Ford-Walker family of Wisconsin. The material contains notes and drafts for the Folkways publication *Wolf River Songs* as well as annotated song sheets and lists of the Anglo-Irish ballads and lumber camp songs that she collected from the family.

The Songs from Cape Breton Island section contains handwritten drafts and annotated song sheets and transcriptions for her Folkways publication *Songs from Cape Breton Island*. Correspondence sheds light on preparations for the recording trip to Nova Scotia. The material also includes transcriptions of songs recorded by the North Shore Singers during that time and on other occasions.

The Songs of Aran section contains annotated song sheets and transcriptions from Cowell's 1955 recording trip to Inishmore, the largest of Ireland's Aran Islands. Cowell used this material in producing *Songs of Aran* for Folkways.

In the mid-1950s, Sidney Robertson Cowell and her husband Henry Cowell travelled extensively in Asia and the Middle East for both the State Department and the Rockefeller Foundation to lecture, assess grant requests, and report on the status

of classical and traditional music in various countries. Sidney Robertson Cowell took the opportunity to record many of the traditional musicians she encountered during these trips. The Travels in Asia and Middle East section contains notes, drafts, and finished reports written by Cowell detailing their activities and describing an area's music and culture.

The Materials Relating to Henry Cowell series consists of a variety of materials, including correspondence, narratives, articles, and music holographs that are either by or about Henry Cowell. Henry Cowell permeates practically the entire Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection, but it was deemed necessary to create a separate series to accommodate the large amount of material related directly to him. It is divided into three sections. The Miscellaneous Material by and about Henry Cowell section contains narratives written by Sidney Robertson Cowell in later years about various aspects of Cowell's life and work. In addition, there are essays and articles on music written by Henry Cowell, items relating to his discography, as well as commemorative articles on Cowell written for various occasions. This section also includes materials related to his two stepmothers. The "Henry by Sidney" section contains draft material for a biography of her husband that Sidney Robertson Cowell never completed. In her later years, she recorded onto tape personal and professional reminiscences about Henry Cowell and their life together which she planned to turn into a book. The transcriptions of those tapes are included here with Sidney Robertson Cowell's notes and annotations. The Music by Henry Cowell section contains a small group of photocopies of musical holographs by Henry Cowell that are held in the Library of Congress.

Of particular interest in the Biographical Material series are narratives and essays written by Sidney Robertson Cowell in the 1970s that offer a revealing look back on her career and life with Henry Cowell. The series also contains a travel diary, notes, anecdotes, and random thoughts about her work, travels, and life in general. This series also includes clippings and articles about Cowell and reviews of her work, in addition to detailed family histories and documents relating to her ancestors from the Morrison-Tonnelle (mother's side) and Hawkins (father's side) families. One can also find her diploma, passports, and drawings in this series.

The Writings and Publications series offers a rich trove of Cowell's writings, many in various stages of creation, from handwritten notes and annotated drafts to finished published products. Some items contain annotations that Robertson Cowell made long after the item was published. The series is divided into three sections. The Published Writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell section consists of her major publications as well as reviews, articles and obituaries of Percy Grainger and Charles Seeger. It also contains three items that were attributed to Henry Cowell, but were actually written by Sidney. Of particular interest in the Unpublished Writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell section is the part containing her Narratives on Collecting, which are revealing and lively accounts of past collecting and recording activities written in the 1980s and 1990s. The Drafts of Reviews, Papers, and Reports part contains drafts for many of the pieces found in the Published Writings section. Of particular interest are several drafts for an unfinished piece called "Three Generations of Folk Singers in the United States" and a draft for an article entitled "Music in Ghana" that was never published. The Miscellaneous part includes items such as project proposals, notes from courses, and fiction and poetry. The third section, Publications Written by Others, contains books, journals, and reports dealing primarily with folklore and traditional and world music. Explanatory narratives by Sidney Robertson Cowell accompany *Midsummernight* by Carl Wilhelmson and her Farsi primer.

The Subject Files series contains an assortment of materials related to people, organizations, and topics that figured prominently in Cowell's personal and professional life. There is a significant amount of material (correspondence, articles, narratives and clippings) related to Charles Ives, about whom Sidney and Henry Cowell wrote a highly-respected book entitled *Charles Ives and his Music*. In addition, there is correspondence, accompanied by related notes, drafts, and essays, with individuals such as Bruce Saylor, Stephen Spackman, and James Ross, asking for advice, discussing writing projects, or consulting on issues related to Henry Cowell. There is background material related to music festivals and conferences in which Sidney Robertson Cowell took a major role. This series also includes material dealing with Cowell's teaching career and some items relating to the Pan American Union where she worked in the early 1940s, including copies of *Recordings of Latin American Songs and Dances: An Annotated Selected List of Popular and Folk Music* by Gustavo Duran and edited by Sidney Robertson Cowell.

The Photographs series consists mostly of black and white photographs of Sidney Robertson Cowell; Henry Cowell; their families; and various friends, colleagues, and associates. Photography was Sidney Robertson Cowell's avocation and she took many of the photographs found in this series. Folk and ethnic music performers that Cowell recorded throughout her career are the subjects of numerous photographs. Photographs of the offices and staff of the California Folk Music Project are included here as well as photographs of nature scenes, landscapes, abstracts, and animals taken by Sidney Robertson Cowell.

The Teaching Materials series contains notes, outlines, song sheets, reports, and narratives related to Cowell's music classes for children and for a course on rhythm that she taught at the New School.

The Songs and Song Books series contains lists and books of songs that were collected by Sidney Robertson Cowell throughout her career. Of particular interest is a collection of folk songs with piano settings by Henry Cowell. This series also contains a collection of protest and propaganda songs from the 1930s and 1940s and a collection of songs sung by Cinderella Kinnaird, whom Cowell recorded.

Organization of the Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection

The Sidney Robertson Cowell Collection is organized into nine series:

- [Correspondence, 1908-1988](#)
- [Materials Relating to Fieldwork, 1936-1962](#)
- [Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, 1915-1992](#)
- [Biographical Material, 1901-1989](#)
- [Writings and Publications, 1911-1990](#)
- [Subject Files, 1942-1990](#)
- [Photographs](#)
- [Teaching Materials, 1948-1959](#)
- [Songs and Song Books](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-5	<u>Correspondence, 1908-1988 , bulk 1920-1979</u>
BOX 1-4	<u>Personal (non-family) and Professional, 1913-1988</u> <p>Correspondence to and from friends, acquaintances, colleagues, associates, businesses and organizations relating to personal and professional activities. May include material attached to letters. Correspondents who are identified by first name only, or are unidentified, are placed at the end of the subseries. Correspondence from a particular individual or organization to Cowell are filed together with items from Cowell to that person or organization.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 4-5	<u>Family, 1908-1988</u> <p>Correspondence to and from husbands, parents, siblings, in-laws and other family members relating to personal and professional activities. May include material attached to letters. Family members identified by first name only and correspondence addressed to “family” are placed at the end of the subseries. Correspondence both to and from Cowell and a particular individual are usually filed together within each folder. It will be noted when correspondence is separated.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of person and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 6-9	<u>Materials Relating to Fieldwork, 1936-1962</u> <p>Materials related to Cowell’s field recording trips, from various phases of her career, including reports, fieldnotes, correspondence, memoranda, training documents, lists of songs and recordings, song pamphlets, song transcriptions, articles, drafts of reports and handwritten notes.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 9-16, 28	<u>Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, 1915-1992</u> <p>Personal narratives by Sidney Robertson Cowell on Henry Cowell's life and work; articles and essays by and about Henry Cowell; discographical material; and photocopies of a selection of Henry Cowell holographs with annotations by Sidney Robertson Cowell.</p>
BOX 17	<u>Biographical Material, 1901-1989 , bulk 1929-1985</u> <p>Autobiographical narratives and essays; anecdotes, personal thoughts and musings on various subjects; articles, clippings and reviews; family histories and documents; drawings; diary; passport; diploma from Stanford University.</p>
BOX 18-20	<u>Writings and Publications, 1911-1990</u> <p>Published articles, essays, program notes, and reviews by Sidney Robertson Cowell; unpublished writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell, including drafts, anecdotes, personal narratives, project proposals, class notes, fiction and poetry; also includes books, journals, and reports written by others.</p>
BOX 21-22	<u>Subject Files, 1942-1990, bulk 1950-1988</u> <p>Correspondence, narratives, planning documents, programs, articles, clippings, and notes relating to individuals, organizations, and personal and professional interests and activities.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of person, organization, or topic.</p>

BOX 26-28

Photographs

Chiefly black and white photographs of Sidney Robertson Cowell, Henry Cowell, their families, friends and colleagues in the music world, and musicians and performers that Sidney Robertson Cowell recorded throughout her career. Many of the photographs in this series were taken by Sidney Robertson Cowell. Includes artistic photographs taken by Cowell as well as photographs of the California Folk Music Project staff and offices.

BOX 22-23

Teaching Materials, 1948-1959

Notes, outlines, song sheets, reports and narratives relating to courses Cowell taught. Arranged chronologically.

BOX 24-25

Songs and Song Books

Some songs set to music, others include lyrics only. Includes single song sheets, sheets with multiple songs, and the following groupings: songs with piano settings by Henry Cowell, protest and propaganda songs of the 1930s-1940s, and songs collected from Cinderella Kinnaird.

Single song sheets are arranged alphabetically by song title. Protest and propaganda songs and Kinnaird's songs are arranged alphabetically by song title within those groupings.

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BOX-FOLDER 7/8	“Records of the Singing and Fiddle Playing of Mrs. Carrie Grover, from Gorham, Maine” Appalachian Trip with Maud Karpeles, 1950 see also Photographs of Appalachian trip with Maud Karpeles Handwritten diary, notes, list of recordings.
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BOX-FOLDER 7/17	Cowell, Sidney Robertson and John P. Hughes. <i>Songs from Cape Breton Island</i> . New York: Folkways Records, 1955.
BOX-FOLDER 7/18	Drafts for sections of <i>Songs from Cape Breton Island</i> , undated
BOX-FOLDER 7/19	Song sheets with notes and annotations, undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/1	Transcriptions of songs recorded of North Shore Singers in Nova Scotia, Newton, Mass. and at Harvard, 1950-1953 or 1954
BOX-FOLDER 8/2	Lists of recordings from the project, including from a Library of Congress Sidney Robertson Cowell duplication project
BOX-FOLDER 8/3	Correspondence, 1953-1955
BOX-FOLDER 8/4	Abstract of “The Connection between the Presenting of Psalms on Cape Breton Island and in Colonial New England Churches,” 1962
BOX-FOLDER 8/5	Miscellaneous
BOX-FOLDER 8/6	Program sheets, 1953
BOX-FOLDER 8/7	Travel materials Songs of Aran, 1955-1957 Song sheets and transcriptions with annotations.
BOX-FOLDER 8/8	Cowell, Sidney Robertson. <i>Songs of Aran</i> . New York: Folkways Records, 1957
BOX-FOLDER 8/9	Song sheets and transcriptions with notes and annotations, [1955-1956?]. Includes sheets of recordings from the Sidney Robertson Cowell Duplication Project at the Library of Congress. Travels in Asia and the Middle East, 1955-1957 Final reports, drafts, anecdotes, notes. Arranged alphabetically by country.
BOX-FOLDER 8/10	“A Note on Music in Colombo (Ceylon),” undated

Materials Relating to Fieldwork, 1936-1962

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 8/11	"Report on Music in Hong Kong," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/12	"A Note on Music in Macao (Macau)," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/13	"Report on Music in Madras and Bombay," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/14	"A Report to the Rockefeller Foundation on Music in Iran," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/15	"Persian Tales: SRC to S.E. Iran," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/16	"Persian Tales: Iranian WPA," undated
BOX-FOLDER 8/17	"Persian Tales and Travelogue, cont'd.," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/1	"From SRC's Notebook: Recording Session at Nomad Encampment outside Abadan," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/2	Random anecdotes, notes and comments about Iran, undated Includes list of recordings from the Sidney Robertson Cowell Duplication Project at the Library of Congress.
BOX-FOLDER 9/3	"A Note on Korean Performances (Orchestra, Ballet) Heard in Hong Kong," March 1957
BOX-FOLDER 9/4	"A Report to the Rockefeller Foundation on Music in Lebanon," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/5	"A Report to the Rockefeller Foundation on Music in Pakistan," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/6	"A Report on Music in Singapore," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/7	"Report on Music in Thailand," undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/8	"A Report to the Rockefeller Foundation on Music in Turkey," undated
BOX 9-16, 28	Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, 1915-1992 Personal narratives by Sidney Robertson Cowell on Henry Cowell's life and work; articles and essays by and about Henry Cowell; discographical material; and photocopies of a selection of Henry Cowell holographs with annotations by Sidney Robertson Cowell. Miscellaneous Material by and about Henry Cowell, 1920-1992 Personal narratives by Sidney Robertson Cowell, discographical material, information about family, articles and essays by Henry Cowell, articles about Henry Cowell, clippings.
BOX-FOLDER 9/9	Narratives about Henry Cowell and Sidney Robertson Cowell written by SRC, 1971, undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/10	Biographical essay on Henry Cowell (possibly written by SRC), undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/11	Narrative on honors bestowed upon Henry Cowell, written by SRC, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 9/12	"HC and Foreign State Department Assignments," written by SRC, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 9/13	Material on Henry Cowell and Iran, 1957, 1975-1977, 1988, undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/14	"HC and the National Institute of Arts and Letters," written by SRC, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 9/15	Narrative on Henry Cowell's wristwatch, written by SRC, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 9/16	Materials relating to Henry Cowell's discography Includes SRC's addenda to <i>American Music Recordings: A Discography of 20th-Century U.S. Composers</i> , 1992
BOX-FOLDER 9/17	"Anniversary Pieces: Music by Henry Cowell for His Wife, 1941-1965," list compiled in 1979
BOX-FOLDER 9/18	"Music photocopied for me in 1985, from a closed private collection, which I may not identify, in Northern California," 1985 see also Container 29
BOX-FOLDER 9/19	Materials relating to Olive Cowell (Henry Cowell's stepmother), 1976, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 9/20	"Henrietta," by Sidney Robertson Cowell, undated A narrative about Henry Cowell's first stepmother.
BOX-FOLDER 9/21	Miscellaneous documents by SRC on Henry Cowell, undated
BOX-FOLDER 9/22	"The Composer's World," by Henry Cowell, 1961

Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, 1915-1992

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 9/23	“International Music?” by Henry Cowell, 1961
BOX-FOLDER 9/24	“Oriental Influence on Western Music,” by Henry Cowell, 1961
BOX-FOLDER 9/25	“Piano Instruction Course,” by Henry Cowell, 1920
BOX-FOLDER 9/26	“Music is My Weapon” essay by Henry Cowell, [194?] Photocopy of essay from <i>This I Believe (Series 2)</i> , ed. by Raymond Swing, 1954.
BOX-FOLDER 9/27	“Tonal Therapy,” by Henry Cowell, 1922
BOX-FOLDER 9/28	“The Music of Henry Cowell,” by Hugo Weisgall Reprint from <i>The Musical Quarterly</i> , October 1959.
BOX-FOLDER 9/29	<i>Henry Cowell: March 10, 1912, 50th Anniversary/March 11, 1897, 65th Birthday</i> . S.l.: Broadcast Music, Inc., 1962
BOX-FOLDER 9/30	“Piano Music” by Henry Cowell. New York: Folkways Records, 1963 Handwritten comment by SRC: “mostly by SRC.”
BOX-FOLDER 9/31	“How May a Composer Live in the Whole World of Music?” by David Hall, 1964
BOX-FOLDER 10/1	“Henry Cowell BMI.” S.l.: Broadcast Music, Inc., 1965
BOX-FOLDER 10/2	Newspaper clipping annotated by SRC, 1987 “Henry by Sidney” Material, circa 1980-circa 1990 Draft material for a biography that Sidney Robertson Cowell was planning to write about Henry Cowell called “Henry by Sidney.”
BOX-FOLDER 10/3-26	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 11/1-15	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 12/1-23	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 13/1-18	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 14/1-16	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 15/1-12	Draft material for biography
BOX-FOLDER 16/1-9	Draft material for biography
	Music by Henry Cowell, 1915-circa 1950 Photocopies of a selection of Henry Cowell holographs that are held in the Library of Congress Music Division. Many contain annotations by Sidney Robertson Cowell. Arranged alphabetically by title.
BOX-FOLDER 28/7	“The Changes Change” Continuation, 1917 Lichtenwanger no. 954.
BOX-FOLDER 28/16	Chrysanthemums, 1936 Lichtenwanger no. 526.
BOX-FOLDER 28/17	Clusteriana no. 1: Analysis of tone cluster examples in the form of movement of one cluster, 1916-1917? Lichtenwanger no. 956.
BOX-FOLDER 28/8	Consecration, 1917 Lichtenwanger no. 230.
BOX-FOLDER 28/9	For Violin, [1924-1926?] Lichtenwanger no. 962.
BOX-FOLDER 28/10	For Xmas '20, 1920 Lichtenwanger no. 312.
BOX-FOLDER 28/18	Japanese children’s song A transcription of Chi Papa (The Bird) by Henry Cowell from SRC’s tape made circa 1950.
BOX-FOLDER 28/11	Letter [to J.O. Varian], [1915-1916?] Lichtenwanger no. 217.

Materials Relating to Henry Cowell, 1915-1992

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 28/12	Polyphonica no. 1, 1916 Lichtenwanger no. 953.
BOX-FOLDER 28/13	Polyphonica no. 2, 1916 Lichtenwanger no. 953.
BOX-FOLDER 28/14	System, 1918-1919 Lichtenwanger no. 258.
BOX-FOLDER 28/15	The Word Eternal, 1917? Lichtenwanger no. 955
BOX 17	Biographical Material, 1901-1989 , bulk 1929-1985 Autobiographical narratives and essays; anecdotes, personal thoughts and musings on various subjects; articles, clippings and reviews; family histories and documents; drawings; diary; passport; diploma from Stanford University.
BOX-FOLDER 17/1	Autobiographical narratives (drafts), 1970, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/2	Autobiographical narratives (drafts), 1971, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/3	Biographical essays and curriculum vita, 1978, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/4	Anecdotes from travels in the 1930s, circa 1947
BOX-FOLDER 17/5	Diary--Ireland, London, Amsterdam, Lugano, Greece, 1956
BOX-FOLDER 17/6	Personal health history, 1984
BOX-FOLDER 17/7	Anecdotes from various dates
BOX-FOLDER 17/8	Personal thoughts
BOX-FOLDER 17/9	"What It Is to Grow Old," handwritten by SRC, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/10	Notices of activities, 1951, 1959, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/11	Miscellaneous notes, musings
BOX-FOLDER 17/12	Articles about Sidney Robertson Cowell, 1957, 1980, 1982
BOX-FOLDER 17/13	Clippings about Sidney Robertson Cowell and reviews of her work, 1929-1985, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/14	Identity documents, 1921, 1969
BOX-FOLDER 17/15	Leland Stanford Junior University diploma of graduation, 1924
BOX-FOLDER 17/16	Miscellaneous biographical material
BOX-FOLDER 17/17	Drawings by Sidney Robertson Cowell
BOX-FOLDER 17/18	Miscellaneous
BOX-FOLDER 17/19	Hawkins and Morrison-Tonnelle family histories, undated
BOX-FOLDER 17/23	"Hawkins Family History" by Sidney Robertson Cowell, 1987 Transcribed from tape. Includes a three-page document "About C.A. Hawkins and Mabel Hawkins," supplementary to tapes by SRC for family members, September 20, 1989
BOX-FOLDER 17/20	Miscellaneous Hawkins family documents
BOX-FOLDER 17/21	Documents relating to Odelia Comba Hawkins relatives, 1901
BOX-FOLDER 17/22	Letter to John regarding the Binkley family relations, 1982
BOX 18-20	Writings and Publications, 1911-1990 Published articles, essays, program notes, and reviews by Sidney Robertson Cowell; unpublished writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell, including drafts, anecdotes, personal narratives, project proposals, class notes, fiction and poetry; also includes books, journals, and reports written by others.

Writings and Publications, 1911-1990

Container

Contents

Published Writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell, 1938-1988

Articles, essays, program notes, reviews, and obituaries.

Arranged chronologically.

- BOX-FOLDER 18/1** "The Songs of a Nation Collect a Forgotten Claim," 1938
- BOX-FOLDER 18/2** "The Recording of Folk Music in California," 1942
- BOX-FOLDER 18/3** *American Folk Song and Folk Lore: A Regional Bibliography*, 1942
- BOX-FOLDER 18/4** "White Spirituals," 1943
- BOX-FOLDER 18/5** Program notes written for Boston Symphony Orchestra performance of Henry Cowell's *Short symphony no. 4*, 1947
- BOX-FOLDER 18/6** "Old Harp Singing," 1951
- BOX-FOLDER 18/7** Review of *Dances of Early California Days*, by Lucile K. Czarnowski, [1950?]
- BOX-FOLDER 18/8** Review of *American Folk Songs of Protest*, by John Greenway, [1953?]
- BOX-FOLDER 18/9** "Songs from Cape Breton Island," 1955
- BOX-FOLDER 18/10** "Wolf River Songs," 1956
- BOX-FOLDER 18/11** "Songs of Aran," 1957
- BOX-FOLDER 18/12** Review of *The Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads, vol. I*, by Bertrand Harris Bronson, [1959?]
- BOX-FOLDER 18/13** Review of *Shanties from the Seven Seas*, compiled by Stan Hugill, 1961
- BOX-FOLDER 18/14** "The Connection between the Presenting of Psalms on Cape Breton Island and in Colonial New England Churches," 1962
- BOX-FOLDER 18/15** Obituary of Percy Grainger, 1962
- BOX-FOLDER 18/16** Review of *The Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads, vol. II*, by Bertrand Harris Bronson, 1963
- BOX-FOLDER 18/17** "Early American Spirituals," 1967
- BOX-FOLDER 18/18** Obituary of Charles Seeger, 1979
- BOX-FOLDER 18/19** Introduction in *Jaime de Angulo: The Music of the Indians of Northern California*, 1988
- BOX-FOLDER 18/20** Two reviews attributed to Henry Cowell but were actually written by SRC, 1945, 1959
- BOX-FOLDER 18/21** Miscellaneous items, 1956, 1987, undated

Unpublished Writings by Sidney Robertson Cowell, 1911-1990

Narratives on Collecting, 1986-1990

Narratives, drafts of talks, notes, anecdotes, letters.

- BOX-FOLDER 19/1** Narrative on California field collecting, undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/2** "Cinderella Kinnaird," undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/3** Narrative on Mrs. Dusenberry, undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/4** Narrative on California field collecting, 1990
- BOX-FOLDER 19/5** Narrative on field recordings, undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/6** "Fieldwork in Three Great Lake States," undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/7** "First Solo Field Recordings, Nov. 10, 1936," undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/8** Narrative on Leon Henderson, 1986
- BOX-FOLDER 19/9** "Lady on Wheels," undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/10** "Missing Uncle Charlie," 1990
- BOX-FOLDER 19/11** "My collection of folk music is unusual in these respects ..." undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/12** "Random notes on SRC's folksong collecting in late 1930s," undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/13** "The Walker-Ford Family of Singers," 1990
- BOX-FOLDER 19/14** Wayfaring Stranger—song sheet #9, undated
- BOX-FOLDER 19/15** 1936 remembrance, 1990
- BOX-FOLDER 19/16** Resettlement Administration story, 1990

Writings and Publications, 1911-1990

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 19/17	Collecting anecdote, 1990
BOX-FOLDER 19/18	Edson's tune book, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/19	Narrative about traveling in Japan, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/20	Letters on folk singing, to Sam Eskin, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/21	Handwritten narrative on folk song collecting, undated Drafts of Reviews, Papers, and Reports, 1949-circa 1967
BOX-FOLDER 19/22	Draft of review for <i>American Folk Songs of Protest</i> , [1953?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/23	Draft of "The Connection between the Melismatic Psalm Singing of Cape Breton and of Colonial New England Churches," 1961
BOX-FOLDER 19/24	Draft of "Early American Carols," [1967?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/25	Draft of "Early American Spirituals," 1966 Includes letter from the editor, song sheets and other notes.
BOX-FOLDER 19/26	Draft of review for <i>England's Dances</i> by Douglas Kennedy, [1949?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/27	Draft of review for <i>The English and Scottish Popular Ballads and Great British Ballads Not Found in Child</i> , undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/28	Draft of paper on improvisation, rhythm in education and children's music, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/29	Draft of "Lessons with the Boston Symphony," 1954 This was ghost-written for Henry Cowell.
BOX-FOLDER 19/30	Drafts for "Music in Ghana," [196-]
BOX-FOLDER 19/31	Draft of review for <i>Negro Folk Music of Alabama</i> , undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/32	Draft of review for Vance Randolph's publications on the Ozarks, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/33	Draft of an obituary for Ruth Crawford Seeger, 1954
BOX-FOLDER 19/34	Draft of review for <i>Shanties from the Seven Seas</i> , [1961?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/35	Draft of review for <i>Songs of the Irish</i> , [1960?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/36	Drafts of "Three Generations of Folk Singers in the United States," [195-?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/37	Draft of review for <i>The Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads, vol. I</i> , [1959?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/38	Draft of review for <i>The Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads, vol. II</i> , [1963?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/39	Draft of a review for <i>Wayfaring Stranger</i> , undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/40	Draft and notes for "White Spirituals," undated Miscellaneous, 1911-1967 Project proposals, class notes, fiction and poetry.
BOX-FOLDER 19/41	Materials related to project proposals, 1950-1951, undated Includes correspondence, notes and draft reports.
BOX-FOLDER 19/42	Draft project proposals, 1937, 1951, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/43	"Asia by Ear" notes, 1959
BOX-FOLDER 19/44	Notes from Japanese language course, 1967, undated
BOX-FOLDER 19/45	Notes from Lycée de jeunes Filles class, 1922-1923 In French.
BOX-FOLDER 19/46	"Anecdotes in the Chronicles of Matthew Paris," [192-] A graduate English course thesis.
BOX-FOLDER 19/47	Fiction by SRC, 1923
BOX-FOLDER 19/48	Poems by SRC, 1911, [194-?]
BOX-FOLDER 19/49	Miscellaneous notes, undated

Writings and Publications, 1911-1990

Container	Contents
BOX 20	Publications Written by Others Books, journals, and reports. Two items are accompanied by explanatory narratives written by SRC.
BOX 21-22	Subject Files, 1942-1990, bulk 1950-1988 Correspondence, narratives, planning documents, programs, articles, clippings, and notes relating to individuals, organizations, and personal and professional interests and activities. Arranged alphabetically by name of person, organization, or topic.
BOX-FOLDER 21/1	Africa, 1954, 1966, 1974, 1980 Correspondence, SRC narratives, and a program.
BOX-FOLDER 21/2	The Boardman School Inc., 1949
BOX-FOLDER 21/3	Cage, John, 1986 Materials relating to 75th birthday celebration for Cage on the Westdeutscher Rundfunk Koln in Cologne, Germany.
BOX-FOLDER 21/4	Columbia University, Sixth Annual Festival of Contemporary American Music, 1950 Correspondence, program, planning materials.
BOX-FOLDER 21/5-7	East-West Music Encounter, 1960-1961 Correspondence, program, notes, planning documents, clippings related to Henry Cowell's trip to Japan and Iran.
BOX-FOLDER 21/8	Friends of SRC, A-E Obituaries and other materials relating to friends and colleagues of SRC.
BOX-FOLDER 21/9	Friends of SRC, H-S Obituaries and other materials relating to friends and colleagues of SRC.
BOX-FOLDER 21/10	Gifts to libraries, 1971-1977, 1990 Materials relating to organizations receiving Cowell materials, including Library of Congress, New York State Historical Association and State University College at New Paltz.
BOX-FOLDER 21/11-13	Harvard University, Conference on Folk Music and Ballads, 1955 Correspondence, programs, clippings, notes.
BOX-FOLDER 21/14	Hayes, Roland, 1976 see also Container 3, Rooks, Shelby Mostly correspondence between SRC and others regarding efforts to assist an ailing Mr. Hayes.
BOX-FOLDER 21/15	Hulme, Kathryn, 1984 Correspondence to various people in effort to reach Ms. Hulme.
BOX-FOLDER 21/16	International Folk Music Council, 1955-1979 Conference programs. Iran see East-West Music Encounter
BOX-FOLDER 21/17-18	Ives, Charles, 1967-1988 see also Container 1, Bronson, Bertrand see also Containers 1-2, Hitchcock, H. Wiley see also Container 2, Kirkpatrick, John Correspondence, narratives, articles, clippings. Japan see East-West Music Encounter
BOX-FOLDER 22/1	Letters of introduction, 1953-1956
BOX-FOLDER 22/2	Mills College, 1944, 1950, 1955-1956
BOX-FOLDER 22/3	Pan American Union, 1942-1943
BOX-FOLDER 22/4	Photography of SRC, 1962-1965 see also Photographs Series

Subject Files, 1942-1990, bulk 1950-1988

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 22/5-6	Ross, James, [195-?] Letter from Mr. Ross and two works that he wrote: "The Sub-Literary Tradition in Scottish Gaelic Song-Poetry" and "A Classification of Gaelic Folksong."
BOX-FOLDER 22/7	Saylor, Bruce, 1975-1976 see also Container 3, Saylor, Bruce
BOX-FOLDER 22/8-9	Spackman, Stephen, 1978-1983, undated
BOX-FOLDER 22/10	University of Southern California, 1950-1951
BOX-FOLDER 22/11	Miscellaneous clippings
BOX 26-28	Photographs Chiefly black and white photographs of Sidney Robertson Cowell, Henry Cowell, their families, friends and colleagues in the music world, and musicians and performers that Sidney Robertson Cowell recorded throughout her career. Many of the photographs in this series were taken by Sidney Robertson Cowell. Includes artistic photographs taken by Cowell as well as photographs of the California Folk Music Project staff and offices.
BOX-FOLDER 26/1	Sidney Robertson Cowell, alone 37 photographs One negative Includes photographs of SRC throughout her life.
BOX-FOLDER 26/2	Sidney Robertson Cowell, with others see also Appalachian trip with Maud Karpeles 17 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 26/3	Sidney Robertson Cowell with Henry Cowell 4 photographs (one includes SRC's father)
BOX-FOLDER 26/4	Henry Cowell, alone 22 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 26/5	Henry Cowell, with others 12 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 26/6	Sidney Robertson Cowell's family 16 photographs Includes color photograph of Cowell house in Shady, N.Y.
BOX-FOLDER 26/7	California Folk Music Project (some with Sidney Robertson Cowell) 10 black and white photographs Includes photographs taken by Sidney Robertson Cowell.
BOX-FOLDER 26/8	Notable individuals 16 photographs Several of Vance Randolph, including one inscribed to SRC.
BOX-FOLDER 26/9	Performers that SRC recorded for the California Folk Music Project, 1937-1938 19 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 26/10	Performers that SRC recorded in North Carolina 6 photographs Includes relatives of performers.
BOX-FOLDER 26/11	Performers that SRC recorded in Arkansas and Missouri 12 photographs Includes photographs of Emma Dusenbury.
BOX-FOLDER 26/12	Performers that SRC recorded in Wisconsin and Michigan 11 photographs Includes photographs of Warde Forde.
BOX-FOLDER 26/13	Appalachian trip with Maud Karpeles, 1950

Photographs

Container

Contents

[see also Diaries and notes that identify individuals in these photographs](#)

26 photographs

Includes photographs of SRC with Maud Karpeles. Some photographs are identified on back.

BOX-FOLDER 26/14

Harvard IFMC Conference, 1955

8 photographs

Includes photographs of the North Shore Singers, and one unidentified Cape Breton singer.

BOX-FOLDER 27/1

Street scenes, photo from plane, Ernest Bloch death mask, African people and musicians

Thirteen black and white photographs

Three negative strips (two photos from the negatives are in this file)

BOX-FOLDER 27/2

Natural scenes, landscapes

Seven black and white photographs

BOX-FOLDER 27/3

Street scenes, landscapes, nature shots

Seventeen black and white photographs

BOX-FOLDER 27/4

SRC's cats

Twenty-six black and white photographs

BOX-FOLDER 27/5

SRC's cats, animal shots, abstract shots

Sixteen black and white photographs

BOX 28/1-6

Miscellaneous oversize photographs

Seven black and white photographs

All taken by SRC, except for one of SRC as a baby.

BOX 22-23

Teaching Materials, 1948-1959

Notes, outlines, song sheets, reports and narratives relating to courses Cowell taught.

Arranged chronologically.

BOX-FOLDER 22/12-14

Teaching materials for Hamilton School, 1948

Notes, outlines, song sheets, curriculum information for teaching children music and an outline for a play.

BOX-FOLDER 22/15-23

Music for Young Children, 1951, undated

Training materials, including notes, reports, narratives.

BOX-FOLDER 23/1-13

Teaching materials for course on rhythm at the New School, 1953-1959

BOX 24-25

Songs and Song Books

Some songs set to music, others include lyrics only. Includes single song sheets, sheets with multiple songs, and the following groupings: songs with piano settings by Henry Cowell, protest and propaganda songs of the 1930s-1940s, and songs collected from Cinderella Kinnaird.

Single song sheets are arranged alphabetically by song title. Protest and propaganda songs and Kinnaird's songs are arranged alphabetically by song title within those groupings.

BOX-FOLDER 24/1-21

Folk songs, some with piano settings by Henry Cowell

BOX-FOLDER 25/1

Miscellaneous songs, A-B

BOX-FOLDER 25/2

Miscellaneous songs, C-D

BOX-FOLDER 25/3

Miscellaneous songs, E-G

BOX-FOLDER 25/4

Miscellaneous songs, H-I

BOX-FOLDER 25/5

Miscellaneous songs, J-K

BOX-FOLDER 25/6

Miscellaneous songs, L-M

BOX-FOLDER 25/7

Miscellaneous songs, N-O

Songs and Song Books

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 25/8	Miscellaneous songs, P-R
BOX-FOLDER 25/9	Miscellaneous songs, S
BOX-FOLDER 25/10	Miscellaneous songs, T-U
BOX-FOLDER 25/11	Miscellaneous songs, V-W
BOX-FOLDER 25/12	Miscellaneous songs, X-Z
BOX-FOLDER 25/13	Miscellaneous songs, multiple songs per sheet
BOX-FOLDER 25/14	Unidentified songs
BOX-FOLDER 25/15	Miscellaneous song material
BOX-FOLDER 25/16	Mrs. Kinnaird's songs, 1937
BOX-FOLDER 25/17	Protest /Propaganda songs of the 1930s-1940s
BOX-FOLDER 25/18	Potamkin, Harry Alan. <i>Pioneer Song Book: Songs for Workers' and Farmers' Children</i> . New York: New Pioneer, 1933
BOX-FOLDER 25/19	"Song Book: New York City School for Workers," 1934
BOX-FOLDER 25/20	International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union song sheets, undated