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Inventory

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Papers of David Thomson (1914-88)

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This collection consists of the papers of David Thomson, author researcher and BBC radio producer. It includes the scripts and correspondence of many BBC radio programmes from the 1950's and 60's, original scripts and correspondence regarding his published and unpublished books, and additional correspondence spanning forty five years working for UNESCO, the BBC, and as a full time writer.

A. DRAFTS/SCRIPTS/PROOFS/BOOK RESEARCH

The People of the Sea (first published, 1954)

1. MSS, music and printed proofs.
2. MSS drafts and notes.
3. Notes.
4. Notebooks.
5. Typescripts and drafts.
6. Typescripts and drafts. Agreements, c. 1954.
7. Radio scripts, abridgements and contracts, c. 1954.

Daniel (first published, 1962)

8. Notebook, 1.
9. Notebook, 2.
10. Notebook, 3.
11. Notebook, 4.
12. Notebook, 5.
13. Notebook, 6.
14. Notebook, 7.
- 14a. Miscellaneous notebook, largely Daniel.

Break in the Sun (first published, 1965)

15. Notebook, 1.
16. Notebook, 2.

17. Notebook, 3.
18. Notebook, 4.
19. Notebook, 5.
20. Typescripts and proofs.
21. Typescript. (Complete carbon copy).
22. Discarded pages.

THE LEAPING HARE (First published, 1972)

23. "Hare Notes".
24. Draft notebook.
25. Draft notebook.
26. Draft notebook. (Fertility).
27. Draft notebook. (Trickster).
28. Draft notebook. (Witchcraft).
29. Notebook.
30. Typescripts, notes and editorial.
31. Printed proofs.
32. Xeroxed articles about hares.
- 32a. Miscellaneous notes and press cuttings about hares/Ireland.

WOODBROOK

33. Script and typescript, part 1 & 2.
34. Typescript, parts 3 & 4.
35. Notes, clippings, typescripts, inserts and photostats.
36. Discarded pages, carbons, etc.
37. Notes on Irish folklore and miscellaneous photostats.
38. Lord Leitrim photostats.

39. Typescript.
40. Typescript.
41. Manuscript, "1-79". Written, 1967 with revisions, 1971.
42. Manuscript, II, "80-160".
43. Manuscript, III, "161-240".
44. Manuscript, IV, "241-318".
45. Manuscript, V, "319-466".
46. Manuscript, VI, "467-563".
47. Manuscript, later notebook, n.d.
48. Manuscript, notebook, n.d.
49. Manuscript, part 2, chapters 3 & 7.

THE IRISH JOURNALS OF ELIZABETH SMITH, 1840-50

50. Appendix material.
51. Appendix material.
52. Appendix material, final selection.
53. Typescripts for inserts and scraps from microfilm notes.
54. Working script.
55. Typed notes. List of newspapers for appendix.
56. Notes and appendix.
57. Newspaper cuttings, notes and typed notes.
58. Notes and typescript.
59. Proof copy of the "Journals".
60. Exercise book; introductions to the "Journals".
61. Notebook.

DANDIPRAT'S DAYS, (First published, 1983)

62. Typescripts.
63. Script, Book I.
64. Script, Book II.
65. Script, Book III.
66. Script, Book IV.
67. Proofs.
68. Miscellaneous works.

IN CAMDEN TOWN, (First published, 1983)

69. Typescripts, part I.
70. Miscellaneous notes and typescripts.

NAIRN IN DARKNESS AND LIGHT, (First published, 1987)

71. MSS Book I.
72. Book I. (Revised).
73. Book Ia. (Revised Book I).
74. Book II. (Additions and revisions).
75. Book III.
76. Book IV.
77. Book V.
78. Book VI.
79. Book VII.
80. Book VIII.
81. Book IX.
82. Book IXa.
83. Book X.

84. Book XI.
85. Notebook; Nairn Plan, 1986.
86. Notebook: "Strokestoun I and Nairn".
87. Nairn proofs.
88. Nairn proofs and questionnaire.
89. Script and typescript notes for Nairn.
90. Script and typescript notes for Nairn.
91. BBC Radio script: Return Journey to Nairn (1964). Typescript of conversations between David Thomson and natives of Nairn.
- 91a. Notebook of words for Nairn glossary.
- 91b. Notebook: Woodbrook and Nairn.
92. BBC radio script: Nairn. ("Book at Bedtime". August 1987).
93. Nairn: Miscellaneous notes, scripts and cuttings.

DANNY FOX

94. Proofs, radio scripts, manuscripts and drafts.
95. Danny Fox at the Palace. Script and typescript.
96. Danny Fox and the Wolf. Script and typescript.
97. Danny Fox: Paintings by schoolchildren.

BBC RADIO SCRIPTS

98. The Great Hunger. Written and produced by David Thomson. BBC Third Programme, March-April 1948. (Bound typescript).
99. The Great Hunger. n.d. (Typescript).
100. Black House into White. Written and produced by David Thomson, BBC Third Programme, March-April, 1949.
101. Sons of Senda. Typescript, 1950.

102. Typescripts for programmes in the series “The Irish Storyteller”. Introduction, The Fisherman from Connemara, The White bird of the Lowlands, Magnus and Sheila and the Buck Goat, The Golden Ball. Various other scripts.
103. The Otter, 1951. Radio scripts, related notes and correspondence. John of Islay, 1953, including notes on J F Campbell of Islay.
104. Under Milkwood, by Dylan Thomas, Radioscript, 1954.
When Greek meets Gael, by Kay Cicellis, 1955.
Songs of the Lapps, by David Thomson, 1955. Typescript for radio, related notes, correspondence and maps.
Radioscripts for UNESCO, 1955, including The Travel of Gulliver’s Travels by David Thomson.
105. Typescripts for programmes in the series “Writing for Sound”, 1956.
106. The Big House, by Brendan Behan, 1957.
107. “Travellers Tales”. BBC radio series, 1966. Script and notes.
1. The Bishop’s Last Journey, from The Last Journals of James Hannington. Bishop of East Equatorial Africa, 1885. Read by Donald Wolfitt. 7 June 1966.
 2. Through Russia Under Escort. Sir Ralph Richardson as Captain Alexander. 14 June 1966.
 3. Fanny Kemble’s Journal. Read by Prunella Scales, 21 June 1966.
 4. The Diary of a Slaveowner, from Journal of a West Indian Proprietor, 1817-18. 5 July 1966.
 5. A Journey through Tibet, 1811-12, from Journey to Lhasa by Thomas Manning. Sir John Gielgud as Thomas Manning. 16 August 1966.
108. A Grotto for Miss Maynier, by F C Ball, 1967.
The Country Child, by George Ewart Evans, 1967.
Now Barrabas was a Publisher, by Eric Ewans, 1967.
- 109a. To Have and to Hold, by Julius Hay, 1967 typescript.
- 109b. To Have and to Hold, notes and typescript.
110. Going to Burton, by George Ewart Evans, 1968.
Cupid and Psyche, n.d.
111. The Black Cat and the White, 1968. Written and produced by David Thomson. Radio script and related notes.
What David’s Diary Said, by Keith Willis, 1968.
The Truth Teller, by R T Jones, 1968.
The Whaler’s Return, by George Mackay Brown, 1969.
The Maid of France, by Ian Grimble, 1969.
Gulliver’s Way, by Michael Sadler, 1969.
The Leader of the People, by Desmond Greig, 1970.

Franz Schubert, by David Thomson, 1970. Scripts and typescript, related notes and correspondence.

The Question of an Exhibition, by J A Dooley, 1970.

La Lupa, by Giovanna Verga. Introduced and translated by Alfred Alexander, n.d.

Drama repertory company lists. 20 March 1970.

111a. The Black Cat and the White.

112. Life of Mozart, typescript, notes and correspondence, 1967.

Jonathan Swift, by Simon Dubralin, n.d.

113. Extracts from Quinze Jours a la Fin de 1815, by De Foicoupret, n.d.

I Remember, by Miss N Ransom, n.d.

Two Plays of Japan, by Arthur Waley, n.d.

Animal Mothers, by David Thomson, n.d.

Love's Intelligence, by Philip O'Connor.

The Devil in Love, by Jean Forest, from Le Diable Amoureux, by Jacques Cazotte. (Translated by Philip O'Connor).

114. Gorki, Programme notes by David Thomson, n.d.

115. The Quare Fellow. Playscripts, n.d.

The Simon Community, 1968. Radio script and notes, n.d.

116. La Composition de Calcul, by Jacques Perret and Jean Forest. Playscript, n.d.

MISCELLANEOUS SCRIPTS AND PAPERS OF AND BY DAVID THOMSON

117. Roan. The Poisoned Damsel and other stories. Typescripts and correspondence, c. 1983. (Flying Carpet Series).

118. Unpublished playscripts by David Thomson, c. 1986. Sandstorm, Flood and Crimea.

119. Miscellaneous Royalty receipts, c. 1965-82.

120. Regent's Park Terrace Committee papers, c. 1976.

121. "McVitie's Prize", 1987. Newspaper cuttings, correspondence and photographs.

122. Correspondence, photographs and speech drafts regarding the opening of Strokestoun Park House, 1987.

123. Radio Times Magazine. Nos.1/1, 1/10, 2/16.

Socialist Leader, 11 May 1964.

Various travel brochures and time tables, c. 1950's.

Skull x-ray, 1935: David Thomson.

123a. Miscellaneous papers.

124. "Profumo", press cuttings book. To Have and to Hold. (Part).

125. Radio Times billings and press cutting book, 1950.
The Sons of the Sea.

126. Press cuttings book, c. 1975. Woodbrook and Daniel.

127. Press cuttings book, 1960.

128. Newspapers and press cuttings, c. 1960.

EXERCISE BOOKS AND NOTEBOOKS

129. School Exercise Book, "Anglo-Saxon Grammar".

130. King Alfred School Exercise Book, "A Survey of English Life and Literature".

131. Notes on the French Revolution.

132. History: School Exercise Book.

133. History: School Exercise Book.

134. Essays, c. 1929-30.

135. Oxford University Class Notes. (1 folder).

136. Old Grimbly's. Volume 1.

137. Old Grimbly's. Volume 2. (Typescript for a novel).

138. Manuscript notebook for novel, c. 1945.

139. Manuscript notebook for novel, n.d.

140. Manuscript notebook for novel, n.d.

Small Notebooks

141a. "1970 Woodbrook", etc.

141b. "Woodbrook Maps".

141c. "Cats and Woodbrook", 1968.

- 141d. "Hares and some Woodbrook", 1970.
- 141e. Hares only", 1970.
- 141f. "Cats".
- 141g. "Danny Fox".
- 141h. "Daniel & Laziness. Philip O'Connor".
- 141i. "Hares and Woodbrook".
- 141j. "Woodbrook: Book reference and sources".
- 141k. Turkish translations.
- 142a. "Turkish" notebook/diary.
- 142b. BBC notebook.
- 142c. BBC notebook. "Beds", 1949.
- 142d. BBC notebook. "Paris".
- 142e. "Dandiprat" notebook.
- 142f. "Cats" notebook.
- 142g. Address book belonging to David Thomson.
- 142h. Notebook.
- 142i. Notebook.
- 142j. International Certificates of Vaccination, 1961, belonging to David Thomson (UNESCO).
- 142k. Electrical definitions and formulae, 1932.
- 143. Miscellaneous material (mainly printed) relating to Ireland. Kilkenny Arts Week material, 1976-8.
 - a. Kilkenny Arts Week Brochures, 1976.
 - b. Kilkenny Arts Week Brochures, 1978.
 - c. Miscellaneous folder: Kilkenny Arts Week, 1978.
 - d. Journal of the Butler Society, no.2, December 1969.
 - e. The Story of Kilkenny, by Robert Wyse Jackson. Mercer Press, 1974.
 - f. Miscellaneous Irish newspapers and press cuttings, c. 1977.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

144. Letters to David Thomson, 1935, from Alan Davis, Denis Hills and Michael Wharton.
145. Letters to and from David Thomson, 1943-70, including:
- Winifred Foley; 3 March 1958, 11 February 1970.
 - C L R James; 24 February 1958.
 - Alastair Campsie; 6 November 1958.
 - Kevin Andrews; 6 May 1959, 21 March 1960, 2 September 1960.
 - Michael Hamburger; 17 December 1959.
 - Professor Seamus Delagry; ?1963, January 1965, 23 April 1968, 25 July 1968, 25 September 1968, 4 January 1969.
 - Ludwig Koch MBE; 19 March 1963, 11 July 1963.
 - Alan Sillitoe; 30 June 1963.
 - Louis Umfreville Wilkinson ("Louis Marlow"); July, August and October, 1963, February, April, May & October 1964.
 - George Ewart Evans; 18 December 1963, February, March, April, May, August, October 1964, January, February, August 1965, 26 February 1966.
 - Professor Arthur Sewell; 29 October 1964.
 - Robert Lorimer; 16 November 1964.
 - "Prime Minister's Office", 3 February 1966.
 - Sir Donald Wolfitt; 8 April 1966.
 - Sir Michael Redgrave; 13 April 1966.
 - Sir Ralph Richardson, 27 April 1966, 7 June 1966.
 - Sir Paul Schofield CBE; 1 May 1966.
 - Victor Pritchard; 14 May 1966.
 - Nadine Gordimer; 19 May 1966.
 - William Samson; 12 May 1966.
 - George Ewart Evans; 16 June 1966, 30 September 1967, 14 April 1968, 7 March 1969, 18 December 1969, December 1969.
 - Trevor Hall; July 1965.
 - Ernest Milton; 20 June 1967, 20 July 1967.
 - George Mackay Brown; 5 April 1969.
146. Letters to David Thomson, 1959-78, from Arthur Waley; 31 December 1959, 3 May 1961, 8 May 1965, 23 June 1961, 27 October 1963.
- E M Foster; 24 July 1958.
 - Sir Cyril Cusack; 26 October 1956, 1959, 9 March 1978.
 - Willa Muir, 16 October 1962.
 - J B Priestley; 14 March 1964, Thomson to Priestley: 15 March 1958.
147. Letters to Thomson, 1971-87, including:
- Dr A Comfort; 17 November 1971.
 - Professor Seamus Delargy, 10 February 1972.
 - George Ewart Evans; 3 May 1977.
 - ?Seamus Heaney; 17 August 1980, 27 September 1980.

148. Letters, scripts and correspondence, 1960-61, concerning the BBC Radio Programme "Laziness", (written and produced by David Thomson).
149. Letters, 1967-69, concerning the BBC Radio Programme The Black and the White (written and produced by David Thomson).
Correspondence re radio scripts, 1967-74 (including To Have and to Hold).
150. Kilkenny Arts Week; letters and papers, 1976-8.
151. Letters to David Thomson from Denis Hills; c. 1970's.
152. BBC reports and newspaper cuttings, c. 1970. Broadcasting in the Seventies.
153. "MacMillan" correspondence, 1982-5. MacMillan's Children's Book Catalogue, 1984. Script and typescript for School talk, Tunbridge Wells, 1985.
154. Papers relating to the NRC Award for Literature. Letters from Century Hutchison Books to Mrs Martina Thomson, 1988.
155. Tributes to David Thomson, 1988, including Seamus Heaney. (Typescripts and photocopies).
156. Miscellaneous book reviews and newspaper cuttings, etc, c. 1980.
157. Miscellaneous book reviews, typescripts and related correspondence, c. 1980.
158. Miscellaneous correspondence and papers, n.d.
159. Miscellaneous photographs and postcards.
160. Letters from Philip O'Connor, author and poet, to David Thomson, 1958-70.
161. Letters from Philip O'Connor to David Thomson, 1971-87.
162. Photographs, newspaper cuttings and envelopes from Philip O'Connor.
163. Postcards from Philip O'Connor to David Thomson, 1967-75, n.d.
164. Letters from Philip O'Connor to David Thomson, n.d.

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO DAVID THOMSON'S LITERARY WORKS

165. The People of the Sea, 1950-66.
- 165a. The People of the Sea, 1970-84. (Some "hares").
- 165b. The People of the Sea, Nairn and Daniel, press cuttings.

166. Daniel, 1960-63. (Includes typed synopsis).
167. The Leaping Hare and hares, 1964-73.
168. Woodbrook, 1969-77, n.d., including royalties.
169. The Irish Journals of Elizabeth Smith, 1974-81.
170. Dandiprat's Days, 1976-83.
171. In Camden Town, 1979-87.
172. Nairn, 1983-88.
173. Danny Fox, c. 1955-86 (mainly business).
174. Danny Fox, letters of appreciation, 1965-86.
175. Danny Fox, miscellaneous letters of appreciation, n.d.
176. Correspondence re "Sons of the Sea", and "Sons of Senda". (Radio programmes leading to The People of the Sea).
Agreements for The People of the Sea, 1964-
176-9. **NOT FOR ISSUE**