The Frederick R. Karl Archive, 1961-1995
Collection: Mss. 2000:1

Contact information:
Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections
University of South Carolina Libraries
1322 Greene Street
Columbia SC 29208
(803) 777-3847
(803) 777-4661 fax
email: tclrare@mailbox.sc.edu
http://library.sc.edu/p/Collections/Rare

© 2016 University of South Carolina Libraries
Descriptive Summary

Title: The Frederick R. Karl Archive, 1961-1995

Collection Number: Mss. 2000:1

Creator: Frederick R. Karl

Extent: 64 boxes

Administrative Information


Processed by: Elizabeth Sudduth

Access Restrictions: Collection open to research.

Preferred Citation: [Item], Frederick R. Karl Archive, Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of South Carolina Libraries

Publication Rights: All rights reside with the creator. For permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

Chronology

1927 Born April 10 in Brooklyn, NY

1944 – 1946 U.S. Navy

1948 B.A. Columbia College

1949 M.A. Stanford University

1957 Ph.D. Columbia University

1957 – 1982 English Department, City College of the City University of New York
1959  A Reader’s Guide to Great Twentieth Century English Novels
1960  A Reader’s Guide to Joseph Conrad
1961  The Quest
1962  The Contemporary English Novel
1963  C.P. Snow: The Politics of Conscience
1963  Co-editor, The Existential Imagination
1963  Co-editor, Short Fiction of the Masters
1965  A Reader’s Guide to the Nineteenth Century British Novel
1966  Fulbright Grant in American Literature; Guggenheim Fellowship
1967  Co-author, The Shape of Fiction: British and American Short Stories
1974  The Adversary Literature; the English Novel in the Eighteenth Century
1978, 1988  National Endowment for the Humanities senior research grant
1978  Co-author, Everything You Need to Know About Grammar
1979  Joseph Conrad: Three Lives
1982  Professor of English, New York University
1984  New York University research fellow
1985  Modern and Modernism: The Sovereignty of the Artist 1885 – 1925

1986  Afterword, *The Story of King Arthur and His Knights* written and illustrated by Howard Pyle

1989  *William Faulkner American Writer: A Biography*

1991  *Franz Kafka: Representative Man*

1994  Editor, *Biography and Source Studies*, v. 1

1995  *George Eliot: Voice of a Century*

**Scope and Contents Note**

The distinguished literary biographer and critic Frederick R. Karl was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1927. After service in the US Navy, 1944-46, he attended Columbia University and Stanford. He taught at City College of CUNY from 1957-1982, and since 1982 has been Professor of English at New York University.

Mr. Karl's literary archive covers his biographies of four major writers - Joseph Conrad (1979), William Faulkner (1989), Franz Kafka (1991), and George Eliot (1995) - with a very full (and well organized) record of the stages through which he researched, drafted, developed, and edited each project. In addition, the archive includes similarly detailed material both for Mr. Karl's other books - his novel of world War II Italy, *The Quest* (1961) and two major critical works on modern American fiction - and also for a major long-term editorial project, the Joseph Conrad letters (1983-), for which he corresponded with over 2000 Conrad collectors, scholars and librarians. The archive includes letters from other leading bibliographers (Leon Edel, Joseph Blotner, Lionel Trilling), as well as from other significant correspondents (for instance, Bertrand Russell, John Barth).

The Frederick R. Karl Archive supports Thomas Cooper Library's project of building research collections (book and manuscript materials) to document the achievements of literary biography.
Series I: Literary Biographies and Letters 1-31
Series II: Novels 32
Series III: Literary History Criticism 33-45
Series IV: Unpublished Manuscript 46
Series V: General Correspondence 47
Series VI: Collected Letters of Joseph Conrad 48-64

Container List

Series I: Literary Biographies and Letters


**Box 1**
Typewritten “Ur-manuscript” with extensive handwritten revisions, cancelled passages and pages, showing the original numbering of sections or chapters, Parts I-III

**Box 2**
Typewritten “Ur-manuscript” with extensive handwritten revisions, cancelled passages and pages, showing the original numbering of sections or chapters, Parts IV-VI

**Box 3**
Typewritten “Ur-manuscript” with extensive handwritten revisions, cancelled passages and pages, showing the original numbering of sections or chapters, Part VII

**Box 4**
Typewritten “Ur-manuscript” with extensive handwritten revisions, cancelled passages and pages, showing the original numbering of sections or chapters, Part VIII-IX

**Box 5**
Copy-edited typescript, with additional handwritten revisions, p. I-629

**Box 6**
Copy-edited typescript, with additional handwritten revisions p. 630-1075

**Box 7**
Copy-edited typescript, with additional handwritten revisions, p. 1076-Afterword p.2


**Box 8**
Typewritten Ur-manuscript, which includes extensive handwritten material, as well as alternate pages and passages, p.1-558D

**Box 9**
Typewritten Ur-manuscript, which includes extensive handwritten material, as well as alternate pages and passages, p. 673-1185

**Box 10**
Copy-edited typescript, including the editor’s suggestions for changes and handwritten revisions, Half-title page – p. 499

**Box 11**
Copy-edited typescript, including the editor’s suggestions for changes and handwritten revisions, p. 500-1028

**Box 12**
Copy-edited typescript, including the editor’s suggestions for changes and handwritten revisions, p. 1029-Notes

**Box 13**
Supplementary material: including photographs (both used and Rejected), individual folders on works by Faulkner, newspaper clippings, correspondence with Faulkner scholars and publishers, and a calendar of dates for the writing of the biography. Frederick Karl considers these of supplementary materials on Faulkner to be the most complete set of files related to any of his biographical works.

**Box 14**
Supplementary material: including photographs (both used and Rejected), individual folders on works by Faulkner, newspaper clippings, correspondence with Faulkner scholars and publishers, and a calendar of dates for the writing of the biography. Frederick Karl considers these of supplementary materials on Faulkner to be the most complete set of files related to any of his biographical works.

*Franz Kafka: Representative Man* (1991)

**Box 15**
Typed worksheets with handwritten revisions, Presentation-Chapter 7

**Box 16**
Typed worksheets with handwritten revisions, Chapters 8-11

**Box 17**
Typed worksheets with handwritten revisions, Chapters 12-13

**Box 18**
Typescript with the editor’s comments and revisions, early segments are heavily revised, Chapters 1-8

**Box 19**
Typescript with the editor’s comments and revisions, early segments are heavily revised, Chapter 9-Notes

**Box 20**
Page proofs, Chapters 1-9

**Box 21**
Page proofs, Chapter 10-Index

**Box 22**
Supplementary material including correspondence with Ticknor and Fields, permissions, requests for materials (including a letter in turn from Kafka’s niece), manuscript notes on additions, changes, and a folder of related Prague and Czech news articles, mainly in English, some in German.
Box 23
Supplementary material including correspondence with Ticknor and Fields, permissions, requests for materials (including a letter in turn from Kafka’s niece), manuscript notes on additions, changes, and a folder of related Prague and Czech news articles, mainly in English, some in German.

Box 24
Typewritten Ur-manuscript, includes extensive handwritten revisions, Foreword-Chapter 2
Box 25
Typewritten Ur-manuscript, includes extensive handwritten revisions, Chapters 13-23
Box 26
Rewritten Ur-manuscript, with further additions and cancellations, Foreword-Chapter 9
Box 27
Rewritten Ur-manuscript, with further additions and cancellations, Chapters 10-16
Box 28
Rewritten Ur-manuscript, with further additions and cancellations, Chapter 17-Epilogue
Box 29
Complete typescript, including notes and index, ready for production, Title page –Chapter 13
Box 30
Complete typescript, including notes and index, ready for production, Chapter 14-Index
Box 31
Supplementary material, including newsletter of the George Eliot Fellowship, notes, photographs and permissions, writing calendar, samples of dust-jackets, etc.

Series II: Novel
The Quest (Heinemann, 1961)
Box 32
Background information, notes, and chiefly handwritten Ur-manuscript

Series III: Literary History, Criticism
Modern and Modernism: the Sovereignty of the Artist, 1885-1925 (1985)
Box 33
Ideas
Box 34
Notes on individual works
Box 35
Typed manuscript, Chapters 1-8
Box 36
Typed manuscript with corrections and revisions, Foreword-Chapter 6
Box 37
Typed manuscript with corrections and revisions, Chapters 7-9
   Box 38
Edited typescript, Title page – Chapter 7
   Box 39
Edited typescript, Chapters 8-9
   Box 40
Final manuscript with layout for photographs, Chapter 1-Index, photographs

   Box 41
Source Material and clippings
   Box 42
Ur-manuscript
   Box 43
Ur-manuscript
   Box 44
Ur-manuscript
   Box 45
Master typescript

Series IV: Unpublished manuscript
   Box 46
   “Literary Enclosures,” Unpublished, complete manuscript

Series V: General Correspondence
   Box 47
   Correspondence

Series VI: Collected Letters of Joseph Conrad (five of eight volumes published by Cambridge University Press, 1983-)
Correspondence files divided by collector, library, and archive, chronicle Frederick Karl’s research over thirty years.
   Box 48
   Correspondence Folders 1-15
   Box 49
   Correspondence Folders 16-30
   Box 50
   Correspondence Folders 31-44
   Box 51
Correspondence Folders 45-54

**Box 52**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 1&2 [1861-May 30, 1895]

**Box 53**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 3 [June 7, 1895-Dec. 31, 1897]

**Box 54**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 3 [1903-1905]

**Box 55**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 3 [1906-1907]

**Box 56**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 4 [1908]

**Box 57**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 4 [1909-1910]

**Box 58**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 4. [1910-1911]

**Box 59**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 5 [1912-1913]

**Box 60**
Ur-manuscripts, Vol. 5 [1914-1917]

**Box 61**
Original manuscript with final revisions, Vol. 3 [1903-1905]

**Box 62**
Original manuscript with final revisions, Vol. 3 [1906-1907]

**Box 63**
Marked set, Vol. 3 [1903-1907]

**Box 64**
Marked set, Vol. 3 [1908-1911]