

<b>COLLECTION TITLE</b>	Papers of Eric Rolls
<b>COLLECTION IDENTIFIER</b>	MSS 139
<b>INCLUSIVE DATE(S)</b>	1950 to 1988
<b>EXTENT</b>	22 boxes + 4 oversize + 2 AV boxes
<b>CREATOR</b>	Eric C. Rolls, 1923-2007
<b>RELATED ENTITIES</b>	Eric C. Rolls, 1923-2007
<b>RELATED COLLECTIONS</b>	Papers of Eric Rolls
<b>ACCESS POINTS</b>	Australian poetry -- 20th century Authors Eric C. Rolls, 1923-2007 -- Archives Naturalists Nature in literature Poets

#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Wikipedia article: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric\\_Charles\\_Rolls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_Charles_Rolls)

Eric Rolls was born to a farming family in Grenfell, New South Wales in 1923. After attending Fort Street High School, he served with the Australian Imperial Force as a signaller in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville. From 1948 until 1986 he farmed in north-west New South Wales as well as writing, often spending time researching at the Mitchell Library in Sydney. As a writer for children and adults, he wrote poetry and prose works on a variety of topics including Australia's natural history, food and China's relationship with Australia

References:

Austlit : Eric Rolls <https://www.austlit.edu.au/austlit/page/A10160> retrieved 14 April 2020

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection relates to Eric Rolls and his work as an author and poet, including correspondence, notes, news clippings, drafts, typescripts, magazines and cassettes. Works include 'The green mosaic', 'A million wild acres', 'Celebration of the senses', 'Doorways' and Rolls' history of the Chinese in Australia

#### ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

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#### SOURCE OF ACQUISITION

This material was acquired from Eric Rolls in two consignments in 1989

#### RELATED ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

## Related Material

Further papers of Eric Rolls are held by the National Library of Australia at [MS 7027](#), and the State Library of New South Wales at [MLMSS 1583](#)

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## EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ORIGINALS

Special Collections, UNSW Canberra

Collection Contents

### Papers of Eric Rolls (MSS 139)

1950 to 1988 (Inclusive date(s))

This collection relates to Eric Rolls and his work as an author and poet, including correspondence, notes, news clippings, drafts, typescripts, magazines and cassettes. Works include 'The green mosaic', 'A million wild acres', 'Celebration of the senses', 'Doorways' and Rolls' history of the Chinese in Australia

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### Audiovisual material (MSS 139.AV)

#### AV Box 1 (MSS 139.AV.1)

Nine (9) Cassette tapes  
Two (2) Cassette tapes  
Four (4) Cassette tapes

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#### AV Box 2 (MSS 139.AV.2)

11 audio cassette tapes of Chinese book readings

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### Box 1 (MSS 139.B1)

#### Folders 1-3 (MSS 139.B1.1-3)

Correspondence regarding *A Million Wild Acres*

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#### Folders 4-6 (MSS 139.B1.4-6)

Correspondence: Joan; John Tierney's first letter; John Thompson; miscellaneous correspondence

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#### Folders 7-8 (MSS 139.B1.7-8)

*Celebration of the Senses* - working notes and correspondence

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### Box 10 (MSS 139.B10)

#### Folder 63 (MSS 139.B10.63)

Correspondence: regarding talks or in appreciation (76 letters)

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#### Folders 64-65 (MSS 139.B10.64-65)

Correspondence: agents, publicity, Literary Board (148 letters in folders 64 and 65)

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#### Folder 66 (MSS 139.B10.66)

Correspondence: regarding natural history (62 letters)

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**Folder 67 (MSS 139.B10.67)**

Correspondence: general business (64 letters)

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**Folder 68 (MSS 139.B10.68)**

Correspondence: family (50 family letters)

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**Folders 69-71 (MSS 139.B10.69-71)**

1984 (Inclusive date(s))

Correspondence: Chinese letters pre 1984 - research

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**Box 11 (MSS 139.B11)**

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**Folder 72 (MSS 139.B11.72)**

1984 (Inclusive date(s))

Correspondence: Chinese letters pre 1984 - research

Correspondence in folders 69-72 includes letters to and from Ian Mudie, Gavin Souter, Ronald McKie, Geoffrey Blainey, Anne Bell, Douglas Stewart, Angus and Robertson (agent Richard Walsh), applications re grants, referees for grants (Professor CP Fitzgerald, Alex Chisolm)

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**Folders 73-76 (MSS 139.B11.73-76)**

1984 (Inclusive date(s))

Correspondence: Chinese letters after 1984 - research and general

Correspondence in folders 73-76 includes letters to and from Lady Ebury, Professor Wang Gungwu, Richard Walsh, Joh Hallows, Brian Castro, Richard Kimber, Ed Duyker, Professor CB Thornton-Smith, Nancy Keesing, Geoffrey Dutton

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**Folder 77 (MSS 139.B11.77)**

Chinese correspondence

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**Folder 78 (MSS 139.B11.78)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - manuscript

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**Box 12 (MSS 139.B12)**

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**Folder 79 (MSS 139.B12.79)**

'Doorways', Cumberland Diary

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**Folder 80 (MSS 139.B12.80)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - correspondence

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**Folder 81 (MSS 139.B12.81)**

'Dairy' - handwritten notes

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**Folder 82 (MSS 139.B12.82)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - correspondence

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**Folder 83 (MSS 139.B12.83)**

(9 cassette tapes formerly filed in Box 12/Folder 83 were removed and placed in AV Box 1)

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**Folder 84 (MSS 139.B12.84)**

(2 cassette tapes formerly filed in Box 12/Folder 84 were removed and placed in AV Box 1)

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**Folder 85 (MSS 139.B12.85)**

Literary towns

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**Box 13 (MSS 139.B13)**

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**Folder 86 (MSS 139.B13.86)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - index

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**Folder 87 (MSS 139.B13.87)**

'Dairy' - notes

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**Folder 88 (MSS 139.B13.88)**

'Joan'

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**Folder 89 (MSS 139.B13.89)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - Eric Rolls' copy

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**Folder 90 (MSS 139.B13.90)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - notes

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**Box 14 (MSS 139.B14)**

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**Folder 91 (MSS 139.B14.91)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - corrections

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**Folder 92 (MSS 139.B14.92)**

'Chinese' manuscript - Volume 1, Chapters 4-10

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**Folders 93-95 (MSS 139.B14.93-95)**

'Chinese' manuscript - Chapters 1-3, handwritten

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**Folder 96 (MSS 139.B14.96)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Volume I 'Sojourners', Chapter I 'Adventurers and Shepherds'

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**Folder 97 (MSS 139.B14.97)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Chapter 2 'Gold Mountain Guests'

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**Box 15 (MSS 139.B15)**

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**Folder 98 (MSS 139.B15.98)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Chapter 3 'Gold and Tin'

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**Folder 99 (MSS 139.B15.99)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Chapter 4 'Mining in the Northern Territory', Chapter 5 'Smallpox'

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**Folder 100 (MSS 139.B15.100)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Chapter 6 'The Plague and Leprosy', Chapter 7 'Gambling', Chapter 8 'Opium'

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**Folder 101 (MSS 139.B15.101)**

1888 (Inclusive date(s))

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - Chapter 9 'Food', Chapter 10 '1888'

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**Folders 102-103 (MSS 139.B15.102-103)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - notes, photocopies, chapter 2

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**Folder 104 (MSS 139.B15.104)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - notes, photocopies, chapter 3

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**Box 16 (MSS 139.B16)**

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**Folder 105-111 (MSS 139.B16.105-111)**

*Flowers and the Wide Seas: China and Australia*(biography) - notes, photocopies, chapter 3

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**Box 17 (MSS 139.B17)**

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**Folder 112 (MSS 139.B17.112)**

1957 (Inclusive date(s))

*The Bulletin*: 3 April 1957; 22 May 1957; 19 June 1957; 4 September 1957; 11 September 1957; 18 September 1957; 9 October 1957; 8 January 1958; 7 January 1959; 6 May 1959; 24 June 1959; 1 July 1959

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**Folder 113 (MSS 139.B17.113)**

1960 (Inclusive date(s))

*The Bulletin*: 20 April 1960; 27 April 1960; 25 May 1960; 29 June 1960; 3 August 1960; 17 August 1960; 24 August 1960; 14 September 1960; 12 October 1960; 30 November 1960; 7 December 1960; 28 December 1960

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**Box 18 (MSS 139.B18)**

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**Folder 114 (MSS 139.B18.114)**

1961 (Inclusive date(s))

*The Bulletin*: 4 January 1961; 15 March 1961; 29 March 1961; 12 April 1961; 3 May 1961; 17 May 1961; 17 May 1961; 24 May 1961; 10 June 1961; 24 June 1961; 8 July 1961; 15 July 1961; 22 July 1961; 29 July 1961; 5 August 1961; 12 August 1961; 19 August 1961; 23 September 1961

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**Folder 115 (MSS 139.B18.115)**

1962 (Inclusive date(s))

*The Bulletin*: 17 March 1962; 15 June 1963; 31 March 1973

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**Folder 116 (MSS 139.B18.116)**

1974 (Inclusive date(s))

Journals: *Royal Australian Historical Society*, Vol. 60 Part 2, June 1974; *Australian Studies*, Number 15, November 1984; *Australian Museum Magazine*, Vol. 1, No. 2, August 1921; *Fraser Island* by Angela Burger

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**Box 19 (MSS 139.B19)**

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**Folder 117 (MSS 139.B19.117)**

Reviews

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**Folder 118 (MSS 139.B19.118)**

Photocopies of material in Folder 115

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**Folders 119-120 (MSS 139.B19.119-120)**

*They All Ran Wild*- notes

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**Folder 121 (MSS 139.B19.121)**

*The River* - galleys

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**Folder 122 (MSS 139.B19.122)**

1985 (Inclusive date(s))

'Folk in Perth' - February 1985

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**Folder 123 (MSS 139.B19.123)**

National Photographic Index of Australian Wildlife

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**Folder 124 (MSS 139.B19.124)**

1987 (Inclusive date(s))  
*The Fatal Shore* - review, May 1987  
Notes for *The Age* article 'The Great Australian Beach'

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**Box 2 (MSS 139.B2)**

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**Folder 9 (MSS 139.B2.9)**

Notes - mining

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**Folders 10-11 (MSS 139.B2.10-11)**

China - notes, correspondence and miscellanea

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**Folders 12-13 (MSS 139.B2.12-13)**

Chinese - notes

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**Folder 14 (MSS 139.B2.14)**

Hong Kong - expenses; Notes - Volumes I and II, Chapters 1 and 2

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**Box 20 (MSS 139.B20)**

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**Folder 125 (MSS 139.B20.125)**

'Islands in the Stream' - manuscript

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**Folder 126 (MSS 139.B20.126)**

1988 (Inclusive date(s))  
Article for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, January 1988

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**Folder 127 (MSS 139.B20.127)**

Selected poetry

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**Folders 128-132 (MSS 139.B20.128-132)**

1950 (Inclusive date(s))  
Poetry - manuscripts - published and unpublished - mostly 1950s

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**Box 21 (MSS 139.B21)**

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**Folder 133 (MSS 139.B21.133)**

'Doorways', letters regarding Cumberland Diary

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**Folder 134 (MSS 139.B21.134)**

Various papers, including rough drafts of important letters

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**Folder 135 (MSS 139.B21.135)**

Various talks

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**Folder 136 (MSS 139.B21.136)**

John Peel, 'That place called New South Wales'

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**Folders 137-138 (MSS 139.B21.137-138)**

after 1940 (Inclusive date(s))  
Unpublished short stories, c1940-50s

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**Folder 139 (MSS 139.B21.139)**

1987 (Inclusive date(s))  
Article, 'Country; City', 'The Age' newspaper, 1987

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**Folder 140 (MSS 139.B21.140)**

Manuscripts including talks, public reviews

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**Box 22 (MSS 139.B22)**

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**Folder 141 (MSS 139.B22.141)**

Manuscripts including talks, public reviews

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**Folders 142-143 (MSS 139.B22.142-143)**

after 1940 (Inclusive date(s))  
Unpublished short stories, suggestions for plays c1940-50s

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**Folders 144 (MSS 139.B22.144)**

(11 cassette tapes formerly filed in Box 22/Folder 144 were removed and placed in AV Box 2)

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**Box 3 (MSS 139.B3)**

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**Folder 15 (MSS 139.B3.15)**

Notes - Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

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**Folders 16-17 (MSS 139.B3.16-17)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - manuscript plus first typescript

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**Folder 18 (MSS 139.B3.18)**

'New Guinea Mosaic' (*The Green Mosaic : Memories of New Guinea*)

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**Folder 19 (MSS 139.B3.19)**

'The Fortean' - High School Magazine

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**Folder 20 (MSS 139.B3.20)**

Correspondence  
School Books

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**Box 4 (MSS 139.B4)**

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**Folder 21 (MSS 139.B4.21)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - galleys

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**Folders 22-23 (MSS 139.B4.22-23)**

*A Million Wild Acres*

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**Box 5 (MSS 139.B5)**

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**Folders 24-26 (MSS 139.B5.24-26)**

*A Million Wild Acres*

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**Folders 27-29 (MSS 139.B5.27-29)**

'Smallpox and Leprosy'

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**Folder 30 (MSS 139.B5.30)**

'Leprosy'

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**Folder 31 (MSS 139.B5.31)**

'Smallpox and Leprosy'

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**Folder 32 (MSS 139.B5.32)**

'Opium'

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**Box 6 (MSS 139.B6)**

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**Folders 33-34 (MSS 139.B6.33-34)**

Chapter 1 material

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**Folder 35 (MSS 139.B6.35)**

'Opium'

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**Folder 36 (MSS 139.B6.36)**

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Chapter 1 material

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**Folder 37 (MSS 139.B6.37)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - alterations to second edition

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**Folder 38 (MSS 139.B6.38)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - master set

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**Box 7 (MSS 139.B7)**

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**Folders 39-41 (MSS 139.B7.39-41)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - correspondence

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**Folder 42 (MSS 139.B7.42)**

Early correspondence and works

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**Folder 43 (MSS 139.B7.43)**

*A Million Wild Acres* - treatment

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**Folder 44 (MSS 139.B7.44)**

*Celebration of the Senses* - manuscript

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**Folders 45-46 (MSS 139.B7.45-46)**

Photocopies of articles published in newspapers and magazines

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**Box 8 (MSS 139.B8)**

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**Folders 47-48 (MSS 139.B8.47-48)**

Photocopies of articles published in newspapers and magazines

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**Folder 49 (MSS 139.B8.49)**

'Food' - first typescript and photocopy

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**Folders 50-51 (MSS 139.B8.50-51)**

'Smallpox and Leprosy' - first typescript

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**Folder 52 (MSS 139.B8.52)**

'Gambling', 'Opium'

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**Folder 53 (MSS 139.B8.53)**

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'Food' - clippings and notes

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**Folder 54 (MSS 139.B8.54)**

Chinese - correspondence and miscellanea

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**Folder 55 (MSS 139.B8.55)**

'Opium' - modern news clippings

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**Box 9 (MSS 139.B9)**

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**Folder 56 (MSS 139.B9.56)**

'Opium' - modern news clippings

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**Folder 57 (MSS 139.B9.57)**

Chapter 4 - N.T.

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**Folder 58 (MSS 139.B9.58)**

1888 (Inclusive date(s))  
1888

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**Folders 59-60 (MSS 139.B9.59-60)**

'Gambling'

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**Folder 61 (MSS 139.B9.61)**

Personal correspondence (90 letters)

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**Folder 62 (MSS 139.B9.62)**

Correspondence from writers (44 letters)

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**Oversize Material (MSS 139.OS)**

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**Folio 1 (MSS 139.OS.1)**

'Doorways'

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**Folio 2 (MSS 139.OS.2)**

Newspapers, National Times, Tabloid Story and miscellaneous

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**Folio 3 (MSS 139.OS.3)**

Maps, Chapter 2

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**Folio 4 (MSS 139.OS.4)**

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