

# A Guide to the John Steinbeck Collection

John Steinbeck Collection 1934-1964

1934-1964

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A Collection in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature 6239-I

Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

1997

## History

**Processed by:** Special Collections Department Staff

**Date Completed:** 1997

**Encoded by:** Courtney Boissonnault

## Title Statement

A Guide to the John Steinbeck Collection

**Subtitle:** Steinbeck, John.

**Collection:** 6239-I

**Author:** Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Courtney Boissonnault

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## Profile Description

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## Revision Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Collection Number**

6239-I

**Language**

English

**Extent**

15 items

**Repository**

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
USA

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open to research.

**Use Restrictions**

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

**Acquisition Information**

Purchase 1974 May 6

**Funding Note**

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

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John Steinbeck Collection, Accession 6239-I, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

## Item Listing

### Letters

**John Steinbeck to [William] A. Gilfry**

**Unit Date** 1963 Aug 13

**Extent** ALS,6 p.w/env

**Scope and Content**

[Discusses the burdensome quantity of mail, receipt of the Nobel Prize in Literature, finances, lifestyle, the difficulty of giving things away, dogs, the blacks' fight for civil rights and a childhood trip to Big Basin; briefly discusses aftermath of eye surgery, the demands of writing, upcoming travel for the State Department, Robert Frost, Charley's grave, Gilfry's poems, Sea of Cortez and his boys [Thom Steinbeck and John Steinbeck IV]; mentions New York City, Europe, Air Forces Aid Society, a book [Bombs Away], England, Santa Cruz County, California and [Elworthy W. Somerset Word-book]; includes a note in another hand regarding Yale Review article on verso of envelopes and "Answered August 19" on face.]

**Mavis McIntosh to John Flemming**

**Unit Date** 1974 Mar 27

**Extent** TLS,1 p.w/env

**Scope and Content**

[Discusses the break-up of John Steinbeck's marriage to Carol Henning Steinbeck as background information for a set of letters Flemming has bought from her, a trip to California, Carol's trip to Hawaii, Gwyndolyn Conger, unfounded claims of pregnancy by both Carol and Gwen, and Carol's moving to New York City; mentions George [Riphey] Stewart, [McIntosh and Otis Literary Agency], Los Angeles and San Francisco.]

**Note of [Mavis McIntosh] on an envelope stating that the following letters are from May 1941-September 1941**

**Unit Date** n. d.

**Extent**

## **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Apr 16

**Extent**

ALS,  
1 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses marital problems, his telling Carol Henning Steinbeck of his involvement with [ Gwyndolyn Conger], Carol's unwillingness to give him up, claims of pregnancy by Carol and Gwen, his decision to stay with Carol, selling the ranch, buying a house in Pacific Grove, a near breakdown and his work suffering; mentions Elizabeth [R. Otis.]

## **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] ca. late Apr Wednesday night

**Extent**

ALS,  
1 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses his separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, Carol's going to New York City, Carol's need for McIntosh's support, financial support for Carol and his breakdown; mentions [ Gwyndolyn Conger], [ Pascal Covici. ]

## **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941]

**Extent**

TLS,  
2 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses his separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, marital incompatibilities, Carol's going to New York City, [ Gwyndolyn Conger], [Webster F.] "Toby" Street's financial recommendations, Carol's need for moral support from McIntosh, his breakdown, push for second draft typescript [of Sea Of Cortez], Carol's watch and Gwen's losing her baby.]

## **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Sunday

**Extent**

TL,  
2 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses his separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, financial settlement being handled by [Webster F.] "Toby" Street, letters from Carol, his health, work on [ Sea of Cortez], a visit from Carol's father, Carol's mother's feelings towards him, [ Gwyndolyn Conger], receipt of two letters, one from [ Pascal Covici] and [ Antonia Seixas Jackson]; mentions Elizabeth [R. Otis]and Annie Laurie [Williams].]

## **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Friday

**Extent**

ALS,  
1 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses his work [ Sea of Cortez] as his survival [following his separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck]; [ Antonia Seixas Jackson] beginning the typescript sale of a car and pictures for Sea of Cortez; mentions Carol Henning Steinbeck. ]

### **[ John Steinbeck] to Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Tuesday

**Extent**

AL,  
1 p.

#### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses work with [ Antonia Sexias Jackson] on [ Sea of Cortez], his separation from Carol Henning Steinbeckhis health, [Webster F.] "Toby" Street's handling the financial settlement and limited social contacts; mentions [ Pascal Covici], Ritch[ie Lovejoy], [Natalya Lovejoy], Ed[ward Flanders Ricketts]and Elizabeth [R. Otis]. ]

### **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1942 ca. May]Wednesday

**Extent**

TL,  
2 p.

#### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, [ Pascal Covici's ] handling of [ Sea of Cortez], the Mexican book [ The Forgotten Village], financial settlement, [ Gwyndolyn Conger], [Webster F.] "Toby" Streetand Ed[ward Flanders Ricketts]

### **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Saturday

**Extent**

ALS,  
2 p.

#### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses [ Pascal Covici's ] handling of [ Sea of Cortez], separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, Elizabeth [R. Otis], The Red Ponycontract with [Lewis] Milestone, the [ Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer] deal, his dislike for Hollywood, her and Carol's feelings about [ Sea of Cortez], his health, [ Gwyndolyn Conger], The Viking Pressand [ Annie Laurel Williams]; mentions Nuland's father, Stanford University Press, Gone with the Wind, [John] Fordand Donn Byrne. ]

### **John Steinbeckto Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941 ca late June] Sunday

**Extent**

TL,  
2 p.

#### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses [ Sea of Cortez], separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, his philosophy of life, the ranch, the [ Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer] deal falling through, his health, [" God in the Pipes"] and his father [ John Ernst Steinbeck]; mentions Maine, Carol's father, [ Gwyndolyn Conger], Elizabeth [R. Otis], [ Pascal Covici] and Zarathustra. ]

## **John Steinbeck to Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941] Thursday

**Extent**

TL, w/ANS

3 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses financial settlement with Carol Henning Steinbeck, the contrast between life with Carol and life with [ Gwyndolyn Conger], [ Elizabeth Steinbeck Ainsworth], Ed[ward Ricketts, Jr.], [Webster F.] "Toby" Street, the ranch, the [Lewis] Milestone contract [ The Red Pony] and an [ Associated Press] rumor report; mentions Ed[ward Flanders Ricketts]. ]

## **John Steinbeck to Elizabeth [R. Otis] and Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941 ca. Aug]

**Extent**

ALS,

3 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses a newspaper article about his and Carol Henning Steinbeck's private life; [ Pascal Covici's ] handling of [ Sea of Cortez], upcoming work, separation from Carol, his health, the ranch, [" God in the Pipes"], The Red Pony script with [ Lewis Milestone] and a letter from Carol's sister [ Idell Henning]; mentions Los Angeles, San Francisco, Stanford University Press and The Viking Press. ]

## **John Steinbeck to Mavis [McIntosh]**

**Unit Date** [1941 Sep] Wednesday

**Extent**

ALS,

2 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Discusses his relationship with [ Gwyndolyn Conger], separation from Carol Henning Steinbeck, his having been a nuisance to [ McIntosh and Otis Literary Agency], a letter from [ Idell Henning], [ Sea of Cortez] and work with [Lewis] Milestone on The Red Pony, [" God in the Pipes"]; mentions The Viking Press and Elizabeth [R. Otis]. ]