

**FOSTER, JOHN WILSON.**  
**John Wilson Foster papers, 1965-2018**

Emory University  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Foster, John Wilson.  
**Title:** John Wilson Foster papers, 1965-2018  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1102  
**Extent:** 21.5 linear feet (22 boxes) and 1 oversized papers box (OP)  
**Abstract:** Papers of John Wilson Foster, professor and critic of Irish literature, including writings, correspondence, photographs, printed material, audiovisual material, and writings by others.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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**Administrative Information**

**Restrictions on Access**

Special restrictions apply: Selected correspondence from Gerald Dawe, Denis Donoghue, and Medbh McGuckian is restricted.

Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

**Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

**Source**

Purchased from John Wilson Foster, 2008.

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], John Wilson Foster papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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**Appraisal Note**

Acquired by Curator of Literary Collections, Rosemary Magee, as part of the Rose Library's holdings in Irish Literature. All material that formed the original purchase has been retained.

**Processing**

Material arrived at the Rose Library organized broadly by subject by the donor. Rose Staff retained these categories. During arrangement, archivists reboxed the collection material into acid free boxes. Original folders, which contain the donor's notes have been retained.

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**Collection Description****Biographical Note**

John Wilson Foster, professor and critic of Northern Irish literature, was born in Belfast in 1944. Foster received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon, and in 1974 joined the faculty at the University of British Columbia. His publications include *Forces and Themes in Ulster Fiction* (1974), *Fictions of the Irish Literary Revival: A Changeling Art* (1987), *Colonial Consequences: Essays in Irish Literature and Culture* (1991), and *The Achievement of Seamus Heaney* (1996). He also co-edited *The Poet's Place: Ulster Literature and Society* (1981).

**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of the papers of John Wilson Foster from 1973-2003. The papers include writings, correspondence, photographs, printed material, and writings by others. Writings by Foster include drafts of his critical work in addition to some original poetry. Also included are correspondence from and writings by many Irish writers, such as Seamus Heaney, Benedict Kiely, Philip Hobsbaum, Ciaran Carson, Gerald Dawe, Michael Longley, James Simmons, and others. The collection also includes correspondence and printed material relating to several conferences and summer programs, in addition to the publication of the *Field Day Anthology of Irish Literature* (Foster served as a contributing editor for this publication). Additions consist of additional writings by Foster and subject files he compiled while researching his numerous books. Subject files concern the literature, culture, and politics of Ireland and Northern Ireland; the natural history of Northern Ireland; the Passenger Pigeon; and the Titanic. Additions also include some audiovisual material.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

### John Wilson Foster

Box	Folder	Content
1		John Wilson Foster, professional correspondence
1		John Wilson Foster writings
1		John Wilson Foster writings
1		Miscellaneous

### Anthologies

1		CBC Anthology
1		Field Day Projects and Anthology
1		Northern Irish poetry - bibliography
1		The Poet's Place
1		Projected Ulster fiction anthology

### Author files

2		Carson, Ciaran
2		Dawe, Gerald (1 of 3)
2		Dawe, Gerald
2		Heaney, Seamus
2		Hewitt, John
2		Hobsbaum, Philip
2		Kavanagh, Patrick
2		Kielly, Benedict
3		Kielly, Benedict
3		Longley, Edna
3		Longley, Michael
3		Miscellaneous Irish writers
3		Mahon, Derek
3		McGuckian, Medbh
3		Montague, John
3		Moore, Brian
3		Muldoon, Paul
3		Paulin, Tom
3		Rodgers, W.R.
2		Simmons, James

### Conferences

4		Canadian Association for Irish Studies Conference, Vancouver, 1979
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- 4 International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures (IASIL) Conference,  
Belfast, 1985
- 4 Irish writers at University of British Columbia 2001
- 4 John Hewitt Summer School

**Printed material**

- 4 Cultural politics miscellany
- 4 Poetry magazines
- 4 Prism International

**Other**

- 4 Photographs
- 5 Audiovisual material

**Correspondence [Restricted]**

- 6 Dawe, Gerald [RESTRICTED]
- 6 Donoghue, Denis [RESTRICTED]
- 6 McGuckian, Medbh [RESTRICTED]

**Additions, 1965-2018**

- 7 Literature subject files
- 8 Literature subject files
- 9 Literature subject files
- 23 Literature subject files
- 31 Literature subject files
- 32 Literature subject files
- 33 Literature subject files
- 34 Literature subject files
- 35 Literature subject files
- 36 Literature subject files
- 37 Literature subject files
- 10 Irish natural history subject files
- 11 Northern Irish politics and culture of the Troubles subject files
- 29 Northern Irish politics and culture of the Troubles subject files
- 25 Passenger pigeon subject files
- 26 Passenger pigeon subject files
- 27 Passenger pigeon subject files
- 28 Passenger pigeon subject files
- 12 Titanic subject files
- 13 Titanic subject files
- 14 Titanic subject files

15		Titanic subject files
16		Titanic subject files
30		Titanic subject files
17		Publications; literature subject files
24		Publications; periodicals
18		Natural history and literature subject files
19		Natural history subject files
20		Natural history and politics subject files
21		Natural history, politics, and culture subject files
22		Subject files, books and VHS tapes relating to the Titanic
38		Books and audiovisual material relating to the Troubles
OP1	1	Posters
OP1	2	Newspaper clippings

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