Inventory of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Collection
(Collection #67)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
June 13, 1991

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Physical Description:
The Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission of 1985 was formed by three Kennebunk men (Edmund R. Thompson, Milton C. Paige, and Harlan D. Taylor) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kenneth Roberts. Roberts, a Maine author of distinction, was born in Kennebunk, and as a practicing and successful novelist made his home in Kennebunk and Kennebunkport.

From 1985 until its dissolution in 1990, the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission was active in collecting and exhibiting Kenneth Roberts memorabilia. During the centennial year, various activities were planned and executed by the Commission. In 1989 the Commission gave its collection to the Brick Store Museum for safe keeping and continued use in celebrating and publicizing the achievement of Kenneth Roberts.
The Commission’s collection is distinguished by the fact that it includes not only materials collected by the Commission itself, but also by the inclusion of the Kenneth Roberts editions and various papers of Robert’s editor at Doubleday and Company, Clara Clasen. Clasen, who was contacted by the Commission, gave her collection of Roberts books, etc., to the Commission. The Commission also was able to acquire the Roberts books and materials of Philip Monohon, a Roberts bibliographer who for years pursued Roberts contacts and materials. Interestingly, the Commission, as an adjunct to their Roberts holdings, was able to acquire Booth Tarkington memorabilia. Tarkington was one of Roberts’s mentors, thus this supplemental collection is a natural one.

This very interesting and important collection includes almost 200 books – editions of Kenneth Roberts books, both American and foreign editions, and books from Roberts’ personal library and the personal library of Booth Tarkington. It includes original and photocopies of Kenneth Roberts correspondence, early literary productions (such as one-act plays), a large collection of magazines which include Kenneth Roberts articles, photographs, various Kenneth Roberts memorabilia (such as annotated catalogues from the auction held at this estate some years after his death), copies of inventories of Roberts collections at other institutions, the business and publicity files of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, correspondence with contemporary Kenneth Roberts scholars, and Kenneth Roberts artifacts.

As a service to researchers, this inventory includes a listing of the Kenneth Roberts editions and other books that comprise Collection #30, which was given by Robert’s niece and secretary, Marjorie Mosser Ellis. This collection of about 150 books includes inscribed books by Ben Ames Williams, Philip and A. Hamilton Gibbs, Booth Tarkington, and John F. Marquand, all personal friends of the Roberts household. It also includes Kenneth Roberts books given by him to Ellis. The Kenneth Roberts inscriptions in these books will be of particular interest to Roberts scholars.

This inventory also includes a listing of Kenneth Roberts editions and artifacts that have come to the Brick Store Museum from other donors or by purchase.

To assist researchers, a separate Kenneth Roberts Index has been compiled. This card file is being supplemented by a Kenneth Roberts subject index (an ongoing project), which will alert researchers to the materials we hold pertaining to particular books by Roberts, or people he corresponded with, etc. It is hoped an alphabetical listing of magazine articles by Kenneth Roberts will be compiled and made available to researchers. A working card file of such articles by magazine name is available.

Researchers interested in working with Kenneth Roberts material at the Brick Store Museum should be aware that the Museum’s earlier collections and ongoing collections of Kenneth Roberts material are not part of Collection #67 and are indexed in the general card catalogue.

The Kenneth Roberts Centennial Collection bears the acquisition number 90.22.106 (see the KEY TO THE COLLECTION).
Key to the Collection:

Various items in the collection bear the following acquisition numbers:

90.22.1 = Books
90.22.2 = Magazines
90.22.3 = Photographs
90.22.4 = Manuscript materials (including clippings)
90.22.5 = Artifacts
90.22.6 = Miscellaneous and all other

Acquisition numbers with the following suffixes indicate:

PM = Collected by the Kenneth Roberts bibliographer, Philip Monohon
CC = Owned by Kenneth Roberts’s editor, Clara Claasen
MME = Collection 30, which was given to the Brick Store Museum by Kenneth Roberts’s niece and secretary, Marjorie Mosser Ellis
BSM = Collected by the Brick Store Museum from various donors
KRCC = Collected by the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission

Box and Folder Breakdown:

Books:

The many editions of Kenneth Roberts books and other books which are a part of this collection are shelved as the following collections:

Collection of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission
Collection of Clara Claasen
Collection of Marjorie Mosser Ellis (Collection #30)
Collection of the Brick Store Museum
Collection of Kenneth Roberts (personal library)
Collection with introductions or chapters by Kenneth Roberts
Collection of Booth Tarkington (personal library, including Kenneth Roberts books)

The acquisition numbers of the above books are keyed with the following suffixes:

Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission = KRCC
Clara Claasen = CC
Majorie Mosser Ellis = MME
The Brick Store Museum = BSM

For a complete listing of these books alphabetically by title and divided by the above collections’ section heading, see the notebook labeled BOOKS – INVENTORY.
For a complete listing of these books alphabetically by title divided by the above collections’ section headings (EXCEPT that the Kenneth Roberts editions from Collection #30 and #67 filed together chronologically) see the KENNETH ROBERTS INDEX card file.

Box 1: Most of this material was collected by Philip Monohon

Folder 1: Biographical material about Kenneth Roberts.
Folder 2: Bibliographical material about Kenneth Roberts.
Folder 5: Kenneth Roberts letters (2) to Mrs. Alexander Burr, Kennebunk, 1943. With two recipes.
Folder 6: Kenneth Roberts correspondence to Dr. James H. Macdonald, Kennebunk, 1948 – 1954. Four letters, one postcard.
Folder 8: Miscellaneous Kenneth Roberts letters and cards.
Folder 9: Kenneth Roberts letters to various people and book inscriptions. Photocopies. Some duplications.
Folder 12: Correspondence of Nelson Bond with Kenneth Roberts, Mrs. Kenneth Roberts and Marjorie Mosser, 1951 – 1972. Photocopies. Also copy of manuscript Bond and Kenneth Roberts were working on together.
Folder 15: Articles by Kenneth Roberts. Photocopies and originals.
Folder 16: Manuscripts by Kenneth Roberts. Photocopies. Typescript and typeset.
Folder 17: Articles from books about Kenneth Roberts and his work. Some originals. Some copies.
Folder 18: Articles about Kenneth Roberts. Some originals. Some copies.
Folder 19: Miscellaneous articles pertaining to Kenneth Roberts subject matter or local events as follows:

N. C. Wyeth’s painting for *Trending into Maine*.
Bateau used for Arnold march
Biographical on Storer family of Wells/Kennebunk
Lafayette in Maine, 1925.

Folder 20: Philip Monohon materials including receipts for purchase of seven of Kenneth Roberts letters in Folder 8.

Box 2: Most of this material was collected by Philip Monohon.


Folder 2: Correspondence of Philip Monohon with various people, including the artist, Elizabeth Tracy Montminy, and Mildred Burrage, about the mural, 7/17/1978 – 12/1978.

Folder 3: Letter, 11/31/1978, from Tracy Montminy to Philip Monohon with newspaper articles about a mural she was working on in Columbia, MO.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous research materials collected by Philip Monohon relative to the Kennebunkport post office mural. Mostly photocopies.

Folder 5: Philip Monohon notes and photocopies of letters in Folder 2.

Folder 6: Photographs (2) and copies of slides (2) of the Kennebunkport mural, which were sent to Philip Monohon by the artist, October 25, 1978. Photographs (3) taken by Philip Monohon in 12/1978 of the post office in Kennebunkport. Postcard of the mural that replaced the Elizabeth Tracy mural. 90.22.3.1-8


Folder 9: Correspondence of Joyce Butler, Brick Store Museum, with various agencies and individuals, winter/spring 1991, concerning whereabouts of Elizabeth Tracy Montminy mural.

Box 3: This is partly the Clara Claassen Collection, bequeathed to the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission.

Folder 1: Miscellaneous, including typed Arnold Trail itinerary.

Folder 2: Photocopy of the Journal of John Pierce, advance surveyor, Arnold expedition.

*Kenneth Roberts: A Biographical Sketch...*


Folder 5: Letter from Clara Claasen to Gordon Weed, March 11, 1976. Mentions Kenneth Roberts dropping “L” from his name.


Folder 8:  *John Pierce Journal* (as above). Autographed by Kenneth Roberts to M. J. Walsh, 7/4/1940. With covering letter. 90/22/1/6 KRCC

Folder 9:  *Know New England. 80 cities and Towns*, by Kenneth Roberts. (Boston: Boston Herald-Traveler Corp., no date [c. 1950] Paper. 90.22.1.7 KRCC (Two photocopies contest entries and one original, all dated 1950 are in Flat Box 9, Folder 1).

Folder 10: Still photos, ten, from movie “Lydia Bailey,” 20th Century Fox, 1952. 90.22.3.9.1-10 KRCC

Folder 11:  *Life* magazine article on film “Northwest Passage,” c. 1940, and flyer announcing publication of book.


Folder 12: Parts catalogue and price list for Kenneth Roberts rototiller (used at Rocky Pasture).

Folder 13: Miscellaneous booklets and brochures pertaining to Kenneth Roberts or the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission (KRCC).

Folder 14: Miscellaneous correspondence and receipts pertaining to KRCC purchase of Roberts materials. Also copies of list of books they had for sale.

Folder 15: Various inventories of KRCC. Inventory of their collection. Inventories and lists of KR materials owned or offered for sale by various individuals and dealers with whom KRCC dealt.

Folder 16: Miscellaneous printed materials pertaining to Kenneth Roberts: Bookmark postcards, two *Arundel* dust jackets, poster for 300th anniversary of Kennebunkport edition of *Arundel*, etc.

Folder 17: Miscellaneous materials pertaining to Kenneth Roberts biographer, Jack Bales: Vitae, proposal for Kenneth Roberts book, reviews of his Kenneth Roberts book, etc. Photocopies.
Folder 18: Correspondence, 1986, relating to Anna Mosser Roberts Trust and KRCC.

Folder 19: Miscellaneous items pertaining to Marjorie Mosser Ellis and Kenneth Roberts, including new release about gift Kenneth Roberts papers to Dartmouth College. Photocopies.

Folder 20: Comment on Kenneth Roberts collected by Jack Bales and sent to Milton Paige of the KRCC. Photocopies.

Folder 21: Articles by local writers about Kenneth Roberts. Written during centennial celebration.


Folder 23: Kenneth Roberts military stencil, World War I. 6” x 14 ½”

“Capt. K. L. Roberts
American Expeditionary Forces, Siberia.”

With acquisition information.

Folder 24: Miscellaneous flyers, etc., pertaining to Kenneth Roberts and Booth Tarkington

Folder 25: Information sheet concerning framed map #90.22.5.24 KRCC

Box 4:

Folder 1: Photographs from the Clara Claasen collection

Folder 2: Photographs from the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Collection

Folder 3: Negatives for photographs 90.22.3.19-22 KRCC

Folder 4: Photographs from the Brick Store Museum’s collection

Also: Framed photograph of Kenneth Roberts at his desk. Autographed to Clara Claasen. 90.22.3.7 CC

Framed photograph of Booth Tarkington. Autographed to ? (Name not clear) saying, “Let’s go to Africa next winter and keep warm.” July 25, 1924. 90.22.3.17.6 KRCC

Framed photograph of unknown woman. See correspondence, Box 4, Folder 2. 90.22.3.18 KRCC

Box 5: Laurel Tarkington Collection

Laurel Tarkington address book. Portsmouth, NH, 1916. 90.22.6.13 KRCC

Laurel Tarkington Composition[s] Collection in binder. 90.22.6.14 KRCC

Inventory of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Collection - Collection #67

Brick Store Museum 117 Main Street Kennebunk, ME 04043 207-985-4802 www.bricksstoremuseum.org
Laurel Tarkington Compositions. Collection in notebook 90.22.6.15 KRCC
Laurel Tarkington booklets (12) 90.22.6.16.1-12
Laurel Tarkington History [book] Class I.C. 90.22.6.20 KRCC

Folder 1: Postcard to Laurel Tarkington from Mother 1918 90.22.6.17 KRCC
Miscellaneous items (maps, etc.) removed from Laurel Tarkington school books.
(See Box C)

Note: This collection was purchased by the KRCC at the Tarkington house auction. See full inventory with KRCC inventories Box 3, Folder 15.

Box 6:

Folder 1: Ten pages of working manuscript of Lydia Bailey. Removed from book #90.22.1.16 CC
Folder 2: Miscellaneous items removed from CC books. Each marked with the book’s acquisition number.
Folder 3: Dust jackets in poor condition removed from CC books, each marked with book’s acquisition number.
Folder 4: Same as above.
Folder 5: Miscellaneous removed from KRCC books. Marked as above.
Folder 6: Photographs, correspondence, etc. removed from Wedgwood by J. M. Graham II and H. C. Wedgwood. 90.22.1.94 KRCC
Folder 8: Papers removed from R. W. Stanley’s copy of Arundel, 90.22.2.120 KRCC
Folder 10: Miscellaneous correspondence, KRRC, 1985 and 1986
Folder 11: Miscellaneous correspondence, KRCC, 1987 – 1989
Folder 12: Joy Dow letters to KRCC, 1985 and 1987
Folder 13: Letters regarding items given to KRCC collection
Folder 15: KRCC and George Storer Foundation materials.
Folder 16: KRCC plans and projects, centennial year.
Folder 17:KRCC and the Storer Mansion. Documents and correspondence concerning buying/selling.
Folder 18: Historical note on Storer mansion. Fundraising and restoration plans of the KRCC.
Folder 19: KRCC correspondence with Jack Bales
Folder 21: Correspondence and contracts concerning KRCC’s printing of special edition of *Arundel*.
Folder 22: Correspondence and contracts concerning KRCC’s commission of Cissy Buchanan painting on KR’s life.
Folder 23: Correspondence and contracts concerning KRCC’s commission of prints of Ron Goyette’s *Lively Lady* painting.
Folder 24: KRCC membership lists
Folder 25: Newspaper articles about KR books. Source?
Folder 26: Miscellaneous correspondence and photographs from Jack Bales to the Brick Store Museum. 1986 “Discover the Kennebunks. Letters and photographs from Polly Mosser and Jake Mosser.

Box 7:
Folder 1: KRCC insurance policies
Folder 2: KRCC I.R.S. (tax) papers
Folder 3: KRCC Maine sales tax papers
Folder 4: KRCC checkbook

Pamphlet Boxes:
P. Box 1: Magazines with articles by Kenneth Roberts
P. Box 2: Magazines with articles about Kenneth Roberts
P. Box 3: Magazines and booklets with articles related to Kenneth Roberts or his subjects
P. Box 4: Magazines with articles by Kenneth Roberts
P. Box 5: Magazines with articles about Kenneth Roberts
P. Box 6: Book reviews by Kenneth Roberts
P. Box 7: Miscellaneous related booklets
P. Box 8: Miscellaneous related booklets

Other Pamphlet boxes: Please note that the Clara Claasen Collection includes a pamphlet box for smaller items.

The KRCC collection of books includes a pamphlet box for smaller items.

The U. S. paperback editions of Kenneth Roberts novels are held in a series of pamphlet boxes, alphabetically by title.
The foreign language paperback editions of Kenneth novels are held in a series of pamphlet boxes, alphabetically by title.

Pamphlet Box A: Thirty-three glass plate negatives for illustrations for Booth Tarkington’s *Some Old Portraits*, as follows:

- Lord Castlehave, 4
- Louise De Keroualle, 4
- George the Fourth, 3
- John Milton, 1
- Augusta Montagu, 1
- Sarah Jennings, 1
- Edward Morris, 3
- Mary Stuart, 3
- Sir William Blackstone, 5
- Ben Jonson, 2
- Arabella Penelope Reynolds, 4
- Mary Countess of Rothes, 1
- Sir Edward Hughes, 1

Some are black and white; some colored. (A few were spoiled and were discarded.) Acq. #90.22.6.22.1-33 KRCC

NOTE: See Collection #47

Flat Box 1: *Saturday Evening Post*, 1917 – 1923. Miscellaneous not consecutive, with articles by Kenneth Roberts

Flat Box 2: *Saturday Evening Post*, 1924 – 1926. Miscellaneous not consecutive, with articles by Kenneth Roberts

Flat Box 3: *Saturday Evening Post*, 1927 – 1930. Miscellaneous not consecutive, with articles by Kenneth Roberts

Flat Box 4: *Saturday Evening Post*, 1931 – 1934. Miscellaneous not consecutive, with articles by Kenneth Roberts

Flat Box 5: *Saturday Evening Post*, 1935 – 1948. Miscellaneous not consecutive, with articles by Kenneth Roberts

Flat Box 6: Miscellaneous magazines (*Life, Colliers, Country Gentleman*) with articles by and about Kenneth Roberts.

Flat Box 7: *Saturday Evening Post* articles by Kenneth Roberts. Loose (not bound magazines as above).


Flat Box 8: Clippings collected by Philip Monohan. Book reviews, editorials, newspaper articles about Kenneth Roberts. Photocopies.

Flat Box 9: Readers copy of *Boon Island*. Typescript with 1955 Doubleday cover letter. Acq. #90.22.6.9 PM

- Folder 1: *Know New England* entries. One original, two photocopies.

- Folder 2: Copy of print of Fountains Abbey, Skeldale [England].

Poster. 4th Annual Antiques Show, Kennebunkport Historical Society, 198? With special exhibit and lectures to celebrate 100th birthday of Kenneth Roberts.


Inventory of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Collection - Collection #67
Folder 3: Twenty-seven (27) clipped stories by Kenneth Roberts from Saturday Evening Post, 1919 – 1936.


Folder 5: “Captain Caution,” clipped from Saturday Evening Post, August 18, 1934 – September 22, 1934.

Flat Box A: Galleys, etc., for reprinting of Arundel by the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission. Includes first edition copy of Arundel that was reproduced.

Flat Box B: Posters, brochures, newspapers, etc., that were produced by the KRCC. Duplicates.

Flat Box C: Northwest Passage MGM Press Book for 1956 Re-release of movie. With mailer to Philip Monohon. 90.22.6.24 PM

Flat Box D: Miscellaneous mounted photographs, magazine articles and labels from Brick Store Museum’s exhibit on N. C. Wyeth 1992.


Notebook 2: Photocopies of photographs in the KRCC Collection. Locations of originals given.

Box C:

A collection of 38 of Laurel Tarkington’s school books on the following subjects: literature, history, arithmetic, languages, geography, music, spelling. They are inscribed with her name, the years c. 1916 – 1920, “Mrs. Marshall’s school, Briarcliffe Manor, N.Y.” etc. A few are inscribed “Louise Kiefer, Miss Thomas’s school.” Acq. #s 90.22.6.21.1-38 KRCC

Items which are part of this collection, but are stored else where:

File Cabinet #1, Drawer #1: Cassette tapes (3) of interview of Kenneth Roberts by Henry Morgan, 7/8/1937. Radio interview. From the Baker Library Kenneth Roberts Collection at Dartmouth College. 90.22.6.18.1-3


Items which are part of this collection:

See the following listing of artifacts (Numbered 90.22.5.1-22)

Please see the Museum’s Registrar for locations of these objects.
90.22.5.1 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
Art. Original

Painting
Portrait: LYDIA BAILEY
Artist: Kiyoko Komoda
American (New York City, New York)  mid 20th century
Oil on board painting of Lydia Bailey by Kiyoko Komoda for the dust jacket of the international edition of the novel, Lydia Bailey by Kenneth Roberts. Painting depicts a woman clad in a blue-green dress with black hair and holding a black fan, King Dick is in the background wearing a uniform and holding a sword.

L. 11 ½”   W. 9 ¾”   L. 29.2 cm   W. 24.7 cm  (framed)

Very Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Note: Donated to the KRCC by the artist in 1986
See object file for more information.

90.22.5.2 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
Art, Commercial Decorative

Engraving
Engraved: John Jones
London, England  c. 1784
Engraving of a portrait of Miss Kemble by Sir Joshua Reynolds done by John Jones. Print shows the subject seated and clad in a maroon gown with a white scarf and a blue cap tied under her chin.

L. 20 ½”   W. 16 ½”   L. 52 cm   W. 42 cm  (framed)

Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk Maine
6/19/1990
Note: Purchased by the KRCC at the Tarkington Auction

90.22.5.3 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
Art

Collage
Artist: Sarah F. Bancroft
Kennebunkport, Maine  1927

L. 23”   W. 15”   L. 58.5 cm   W. 38 cm  (framed)

Poor (dirty)
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Inscription: “Mr. N. Booth Tarkington with best wishes from S. FP. Bancroft, October 29th 1927” on back of photo in pen
90.22.5.4 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
                  Art, Commercial Decorative

Engraving
Hodgson, Boys & Graves  c. 1834
London, England

L. 16 ½”    W. 13 ¼”  L. 42 cm.  W. 33.6 cm  (framed)

Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Note:  Purchased by the KRCC at a F. O. Bailey Auction

90.22.5.5 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
                  Art, Commercial Decorative

Print
Artist:  Ron Goyette
American (Kennebunkport, Maine)  c. 1980 – 1985
Print of an oil on canvas painting of “The Lively Lady” by Ron Goyette from a novel by Kenneth Roberts of the same name. Print shows the vessel under sail and in an engagement with another vessel on the high seas. Signed, titled, and numbered.

L. 22 ½”    W. 28”  L. 57 cm.  W. 71 cm  (framed)

Very Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Where is original? Did KRCC commission painting?
Ron Goyette  The Lively Lady  14/550

90.22.5.6 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
                  Art, Original

Painting
Artist:  Cissy Buchanan
American (Kennebunk, Maine)  c. 1985

L. 32”    W. 38”  L. 81.3 cm.  W. 96.5 cm  (framed)

Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Back of painting: The Life of Kenneth Roberts, painted especially for the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Inc. All rights Reserved 1985.
90.22.5.7 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts
                        Art, Original

Painting
Artist:  George Augusta
American (Kennebunkport, Maine)  late 1950s – early 1960s
Oil on canvas painting of “Seawood,” home of N. Booth Tarkington, South Maine Street, Kennebunkport, Maine, by George Augusta. Painting shows the house from the front with the right wing and drive during the summer. Signed in the lower left corner in red: “G Augusta”.
L. 29”  W. 35”  L. 73.7 cm.  W. 89 cm.  (framed)
Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Note:  Oscar Cox owned house after Tarkington.

90.22.5.8 (KRCC)  Recreational Artifacts
                        Sports Equipment

Club, Golf (Putter)
Maker:  Macgregor, Dayton, Ohio  mid-20th century
Golf club (putter) made by The Crawford, Macgregor & Canby Company. Club has stainless steel head, wooden shaft and a rubber hand grip. The initials KLR are engraved in the face of the putter.
L. 34 ½”  L. 87.6 cm
Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
See object file for more detailed information.

90.22.5.9 (KRCC)  Tools & Equipment for Communication
                        Visual Communication T & E

Sign, Instructional
Large, wooden sign giving directions to the route to Arnolds Landing at Carratunk Falls, Maine. Sign is painted white with black lettering and black trim. There is a hand painted in the upper left corner pointing the way.
L. 62 ½”  W. 13”  D. 1 ½”  L. 158.7 cm.  W. 33 cm.  D. 4 cm.
Fair (worn)
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
Arnolds Landing, Carratunk Falls
90.22.5.10 (KRCC) Furniture
Furnishings

Hassock
Maker: Kenneth Roberts (probably)
Kennebunkport, Maine c. 1950
Square hassock with needlepoint cover probably worked by Kenneth Roberts. Background is tan wool and the sampler letters are in rose, brown and blue. (See worksheet for text of sampler). Hassock is bound in blue braid.
L. 21 ½” W. 21 ½” H. 13” L. 54.6 cm. W. 54.6 cm. H. 31.8 cm.
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990

90.22.5.11 (KRCC) Communication Artifacts
Art

Sampler (Needlepoint Pillow)
Maker: Kenneth Roberts (probably)
Kennebunkport, Maine mid-20th century
Needlepoint throw pillow, probably done by Kenneth Roberts. Pillow has maroon wool background with the image of Hadrian Augustus worked in shades of gold and surrounded by a laurel wreath done in shades of green, gold, and a touch of orange. Back of pillow is covered in olive green velvet.
L. 16 ½” W. 15 ½” L. 42 cm. W. 39.4 cm.
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990

90.22.5.12 (KRCC) Communication Artifacts
Sampler (Needlepoint Pillow)
Maker: Kenneth Roberts (probably)
Kennebunkport, Maine – Bermuda c. 1950
Needlepoint throw pillow probably done by Kenneth Roberts during a stay on the island of Bermuda in 1950. Pillow has a dark brown wool background with a floral design in shades of gold, green, yellow, tan, and rose. At the bottom of the pillow are worked the names - ANNA, KEN, MARJORIE, CLARA BERMUDA 1950 - in different shades of wool.
L. 17” W. 19” L. 43.2 cm. W. 48.2 cm.
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine
6/19/1990
See object file for more detailed information
90.22.5.13 (KRCC)  Tools & Equipment for Science & Technology  Armament, Edged

Bayonet
Maker:  Unknown
American  Revolutionary War  c. 1775 – 1780
Revolutionary era iron bayonet – one of a few made in the colonies. Bayonet has 14” triangular shaped blade and notched holder to attach to musket.
L. 19”  L. 48.2 cm.
Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine  6/19/1990
Found on the Merrill property on Old River Road, Arundel 1969.
See object file for acre information.

90.22.5.14 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts  Ceremonial Artifacts

Flag
United States of America  mid-20th century
Forty-eight star American flag. Flag is of wool with the 48 stars made of white cotton and stitched onto the blue field. Heavy white cotton head with two metal grommets.
L. 100”  W. 60”  L. 254 cm.  W. 152.5 cm
Poor (Tattered)
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk Maine  6/19/1990

90.22.5.15  Furnishings  Household Accessory

Box, Cigarette
China  mid-20th century
Oblong brass cigarette box lined with painted black wood and having a copper latch on the front. Three copper straps are welded on the hinged top (lid) as decoration. Used by Kenneth Roberts.
L. 10”  W. 3 ¼”  H. 2 ½”  L. 25.4 cm.  W. 9.5 cm.  H. 6.5 cm.
Good
Donor:  Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine  6/19/1990
Donated to KRCC by Majorie Mosser Ellis, Roberts’s niece and secretary.
90.22.5.16 (KRCC)  Personal Artifacts  Personal Gear
Box
Maker: Cross  England  early 20th century
Oval silver box (use unknown) with hinged lid which has the initials “KLR” engraved. Bottom of box is rounded. Maker’s marks inside.
L. 4” W. 3” H. 1”  L. 10.2 cm.  W. 7.6 cm.  H. 2.5 cm
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990

90.22.5.17 (KRCC)  Communication Artifacts  Advertising Medium
Novelty (Souvenir China)
Maker: Fenton China  Staffordshire, England  late 20th century
White souvenir china mug with a handle and the image of the gates to Dartmoor prison on one side in gray, brown, blue and white. The word “Dartmoor” is at the top of the image and the word “Prison” is underneath. Marks of maker on the bottom.
H. 3 ¾” D. 3” H. 9.5 cm. D. 7.7 cm.
Very Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990
See object file for more information.

90.22.5.18  Communication Artifacts  Advertising Medium
Novelty (Souvenir China)
Plate: Maker: Three Crown China  Germany  early 20th century
White souvenir china plate with the image of the Storer mansion, Kennebunk, Maine, in shades of yellow and green and banded in gold. Title under image: “Old Storer Mansion 1756 Kennebunk, ME.” Rim of plate has a design of roses and green leaves with a gold band. Makers mark on bottom: “Three Crown China Germany.”
D. 6” D. 115.2 cm
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990
See object file for more information.
90.22.5.19  Communication Artifacts
Advertising Medium

Novelty (Souvenir China Plate)
Maker: Altenburg China, Germany  early 20th century 1910 – 1920
White souvenir china plate with the image of the Atlantis Hotel, Kennebunk Beach, Maine in shades of white, green, brown and blue. Title under image, “The Atlantis Hotel, Kennebunk Beach, ME.” Edge of plate has a design of red roses and green leaves with a deep gold bank.
D. 7 ¼”  D. 18.5 cm.
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990
Maker’s mark: Altenburg China made in Germany for Geo. Bowser & Son, Kennebunkport, ME.

90.22.5.20  Tools & Equipment for Communication
Written Communication T & E

Stamp, Marking
Maker: Ideal American 1985
L. 5”  W. 2”  H. 2 ¾”  L. 12.8 cm.  W. 5 cm.  H. 7 cm.
Excellent
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990

90.2.5.21  Tools & Equipment for Communication
Written Communication T & E

Typewriter
Maker: Yu Ess American late 19th century
Black steel manual typewriter with a very early mechanism. Typewriter does not have keys, rather a system where a metal pointer indicates the letter etc. to be typed on a printed grid and then a lever is pushed to imprint the letter.
L. 11”  W. 11 ½”  H. 7 ¾”  L. 28 cm.  W. 29.2 cm.  H. 19.7 cm
Good
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine 6/19/1990
Given to KRCC by Ron Bourgeault who was the auctioneer at the sale of the Tarkington estate, “Seawood,” South Maine Street, Kennebunkport, Maine. See: 90.22.5.22 Typing Table

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Inventory of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Collection - Collection #67
Brick Store Museum  117 Main Street  Kennebunk, ME  04043  207-985-4802  www.bricksstoremuseum.org
Table, Typing
Maker: Karl Manufacturing Co.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
early 20th century
Woods and black steel adjustable pedestal based typing table with a leaf on one side attached with a cast iron bracket. Other side has a leaf that slides in and out under top of table. Base is painted black with manufacturer’s label. 
H. 32”  W. 16”  L. 21 ¼”  
H. 821.2 cm  W. 40.6 cm  L. 54 cm.  

Fair
Donor: Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Kennebunk, Maine  
6/19/1990
Given to KRCC by Ron Bourgeault, auctioneer at the sale of “Seawood,” South Maine Street, Kennebunkport, Maine- estate of Booth Tarkington. See: 90.22.5.21 Typewriter

Other Kenneth Roberts materials which relate to this collection but are not a part of it and have been catalogued separately from this collection.

See the following descriptions of Kenneth Roberts objects.

2127.79  
Personal Artifacts  
Personal Gear  
Wallet  
c. 1882
Man’s reddish-brown leather wallet; envelope-style with flap secured by leather strap. Middle section has two lengthwise compartments. Bottom section has two compartments – one shorter than the other. Lined with reddish-brown and tan leather.  
Good
Written inside flap: “D. W. Dudley/Barque ‘Hannah W. Dudley’ and ‘From Mr. Lamper/Dec. 25th, 1882’”
Belonged to D. W. Dudley. See Library of Dudley papers.
Donor: Kenneth Roberts, Kennebunkport

87.68  
Building Furnishings  
Floor, Coverings  
Rug, Throw  
Middle East  
Early 20th Century  
Small woven oriental scatter rug. Rug has geometric design in center section of predominately blue with tan and rust. Five-inch band around edge of rug of tan with rust and blue. Rug has white fringe.  
L. 57 ¼”  W. 31”  L. 146 cm.  W. 79 cm.  
Good (some fraying along edges)
Purchased by donor at auction at Rocky Pastures, Kenneth Roberts home
Donor: Mrs. James W. Brooks  
119 Hickory Lane  
Closter, New Jersey  9/10/87
75.45.4.1-5  Personal Artifacts
             Personal Symbol

Hood, Academic
Albany, New York  Mid 20th century
Five black silk hoods with white velvet bands and 1) line with dark red silk with black silk band; 2) white silk lining; 3) dark green silk lining; 4) blue and gray silk lining; 5) blue and white silk lining.
Good
        3-5  “Cotrell & Leonard-Albany, NY”
Worn by Kenneth Roberts – Honorary doctors degrees from Dartmouth, Bowdoin and others.
Donor:  Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport, ME

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17.82  Furnishings
             Household Accessory

Bell pull
Kennebunkport, Maine  c. 1950 – 1960
Bell pull done in the form of a sampler with thirteen different squares of various designs, colors, and types of needlework. Saying stitched at bottom: “Theres Bohrn”?
L. 77” W. 7 ½”  L. 195.6 cm. W. 19 cm.
Very Good
Donor:  Rose F. Voignier, Beachmere Place, Box 857, Ogunquit, Maine, 12/1/1987
Purchased at Kenneth Roberts Auction 1967
See object file for more information

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75.45.2  Personal Artifacts
             Personal Symbol

Mortarboard
U.S.A.  Mid 20th century
Soft black velvet mortarboard with two gold buttons and tassel.
28 cm. square; Size 7 ¼”
Very good
Worn by Kenneth Roberts – Honorary degrees from Dartmouth, Bowdoin and others.
Donor:  Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport, ME

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75.45.3  Personal Artifacts
             Personal Symbol

Mortarboard
U.S.A.  Mid-20th century
Black velvet mortarboard with two buttons and gold tassel.
25 cm. square; Size 7 ¼”
Very good
Label:  “Collegiate Cap & Gown Company Manufacturers Academic Apparel”
Worn by Kenneth Roberts – Honorary degrees from Dartmouth, Bowdoin and others.
Donor:  Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport, ME

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75.44.4 a-b  Personal Artifacts  Clothing Accessory
Belt, Army Officer’s  World War I
Brown leather belt with brass buckle and five brass loops. Shoulder attachment of same brown leather with brass buckle.
Good
Worn by Capt. Kenneth L. Roberts who served in U.S. Army Intelligence – Siberian Expeditionary Forces – World War I
Donor: Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport/1975

75.45.1  Personal Artifacts  Personal Symbol
Gown, Academic  Personal Artifacts  Personal Symbol
U.S.A.  U.S.A.  Mid 20th century
Black silk gown – Doctor’s degree. Sleeves have three black velvet bars; trimmed with white silk.
Very good
Label: “Collegiate Cap & Gown Company Champaign – Atlanta – Columbus – Chicago – New York City – Richmond – Detroit”
Initials: “K.R.”
Worn by Kenneth Roberts – Honorary degrees from Bowdoin, Dartmouth and others.
Donor: Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport, ME

75.44.1-2  Personal Artifacts  Clothing, Outerwear
Jacket and Cap Set, Army Officer’s  World War I
Man’s olive drab jacket, high collar, four pockets front, leather buttons, one bar of ribbons, Olive drab field cap and band of gold and band of black, Captain’s insignia.
1) Good  2) Good – moth holes
“Capt. K. L. Roberts” inside right of jacket and on cap lining
See K. Roberts Scrapbook for Kenneth Roberts’s photo 1918 – 1919 (#75.50). Worn by Capt. Kenneth L. Roberts who served in U.S. Army Intelligence Section of Siberian Expeditionary Forces in W. W. I.
Donor: Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport/1975

75.44.3  Transportation Artifacts  L. T. Accessory
Spur, Army Officer’s  World War I
Pair of man’s spurs, leather and brass-colored metal.
Good
Worn by Capt. Kenneth L. Roberts who served in U.S. Army Intelligence Section of Siberian Expeditionary Forces – World War I
Donor: Mrs. Frank B. Ellis, Kennebunkport/1975
Other Kenneth Roberts materials which relate to this collection but are not a part of it and have been catalogued and stored separately from this collection.

Check the regular card catalogue under ROBERTS, KENNETH.

The following items came in as part of this collection. Most, as indicated are to be sold to raise money for the acquisition of more Kenneth Roberts material or to pay for the expense of cataloging the collection.

_Arundel_, facsimile edition published by the KRCC. Six slip cased, three not. NOTE FOR SALE

_Don’t Say That About Maine_, Anthoenson Press, 1986. Paper. 53 copies. FOR SALE

_Kennebunkport Town Report_, 1984. With dedication to Kenneth Roberts. 36 copies. FOR SALE

Prints “The Lively Lady” painting by Ron Goyette. Numbered and signed. Eight copies. FOR SALE

Duplicate copies of editions of Kenneth Roberts books. FOR SALE

Reference Materials:
They keep a flickering flame alive

By CHRISTINE KUKKA
York County Bureau
KENNEBUNK — If the name Kenneth L. Roberts doesn’t ring any literary bells, talk to Edmund R. Thompson, Milton C. Paige and Harlan D. Taylor.
The three Kennebunk Beach neighbors, who are respectively president, secretary and treasurer of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission Inc., are experts on the life of this forgotten historical novelist and former neighbor.
The three retirees are using elbow grease, research and fund raising to revive interest in the Kennebunkport native who wrote “Arundel,” “Northwest Passage” and “The Lively Lady.”
But it is no easy task.
Taylor, former executive with Pratt-Whitney, is accustomed to research. Recently, he visited the Dartmouth College library to read letters and manuscripts by Roberts left to the college.
Dartmouth officials told Taylor he was the first person in 35 years to ask for a peek at the papers. That situation symbolizes the men’s dilemma. Although Roberts is called one of America’s foremost historical novelists, his fans have fallen asleep on the 100th anniversary of the novelist’s birth.
Roberts was born in the Storer Mansion in Kennebunk in 1886. He grew up in Kennebunkport, Massachusetts, raised by his mother’s family. He graduated from Cornell University in New York and briefly attempted to be a merchant in the leather business. He married a competitor’s daughter and left the business to work for the Boston Post.
He also wrote articles for the Saturday evening Post. He served as a captain in the military intelligence division of the Army during World War I, leading an expedition to Siberia.
He was a political conservative, writing several articles that helped bring stability to the country. He also initially heralded Mussolini and fascism in the book “Black Magic” for replacing chaos with order. He later reversed his opinions.
Harlan Taylor stands in front of a painting that captures Kenneth Roberts’s life and literary characters.

During his journalism career he spent summers in Kennebunk Beach. With the encouragement of Kennebunkport neighbor and writer Booth Tarkington, Roberts began writing historical fiction, tracing his own ancestors who had fought and participated in Benedict Arnold’s march to Quebec. He also includes several events stemming from the American Revolution and French and Indian wars.
“Arundel” — named for what is now Kennebunkport, is narrated by a young man who is swept into the doomed attack on Quebec. The book was published in 1930 and was the first of four chronicles.
Roberts was an impeccable researcher, Taylor said. The three men have found that Roberts was able to stop publication of the first edition of “Arundel” because the illustration on the cover of the book showed a brightly-clothed army.
The army in “Arundel” is rag tag. Bowing to Roberts’ wishes, the Doubleday publishing firm redesigned the cover with the help of N.C. Wyeth.
In addition to his historical fiction, Roberts was a frustrated inventor and entrepreneur who started a charcoal company called Rocky Pasture Charcoal. He was a firm believer in dousing, which uses a forked stick to find water.
Taylor remembers Roberts from his own childhood summers in Kennebunk. Taylor describes him as a tall, impressive-looking man. “He struck me as professional,” Taylor said, “with little time for polite conservation.”
“He would talk to my grandmother about recipes,” he recalled, “and he was interested in copper bracelets and anklets. He was always researching and would never give up until he found the answer.”
Roberts’ terrific drive intrigues the men, as does the mysterious absence of his father from his childhood and from his writing. Roberts and his wife had no children. He died in 1957 at his Rocky Pastures estate in Kennebunkport.
Revising interest in Roberts is keeping his three researchers busy. The author donated his manuscripts to several colleges and none of them are planning any centennial festivities in honor of Roberts.
Historic novelists present such an unusual blend of history and fiction that literary officials have difficulty categorizing them. Although Roberts won a Pulitzer and was featured on the cover of Time magazine, colleges are avoiding him now.
So the three men have chartered the centennial committee and are doing what they can to purchase letters, papers and books to aid their research. They would also like to purchase the Storer Mansion, Roberts’ birthplace, but they admit they are still “babies in the woods” when it comes to the high finances of research.
To date, the three business and military retirees have spent about $25,000 to purchase Roberts research material. They have commissioned the painting of the “Lively Lady” ship with artist Ron Goyette and are selling prints as a fund raising endeavor.
They have also convinced Doubleday to publish a special collector’s edition of “Arundel” with its original cover and first edition misspellings. The men plan to sell 200 books, with an attached analysis of Roberts, for $25 each. The remaining 400 copies will sell for $25.
On Thursday, Aug. 15, the centennial committee is sponsoring an exhibit of Roberts memorabilia at the Community House in Kennebunkport from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A donation will be requested.
Terms of Agreement

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

This agreement is signed with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Inc. and the Board of Trustees of the Brick Store Museum.

Both organizations share the following common goals:

- To maintain the best collection of Kenneth Roberts’ works. The collection assembled by the Commission is the finest collection in existence; and many of its volumes, by virtue of their inscriptions, cannot be duplicated. The unique Marjorie Mosser collection, already owned by the Museum, significantly further enhances the combined collection.
- To expand the collection to include the writings of Booth Tarkington and other authors and poets of regional or national reputation, who had homes in the Kennebunks.

The Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission, Inc. hereby:

- Donates its collection of books, magazines, documents, and other Roberts and Tarkington memorabilia to the Brick Store Museum, as of this date.
- Agrees to assist the Museum in the appraisal, inventory, and cataloging of the collection
- Upon final termination of the corporation, donate its records and any remaining assets to the Brick Store Museum.

The Brick Store Museum will:

- Inventory, catalog, and store the donated collection, maintaining the capability to identify each item that was a part of the Centennial Commission’s collection.
- Make the collection available for research and available to the public through education programs and exhibits.
- Continue its plans, as funds become available, for incorporating the paneling its own from Tarkington’s library into future exhibit space for materials by Roberts, Tarkington, and other local authors.
- Before deaccessioning any items donated in accordance with this agreement, to consult with Edmund R. Thompson or Harlan D. Taylor. If after their lifetimes, to offer the right of first refusal to the Kennebunkport Historical Society, the libraries of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport, and any other then-existing appropriate local institutions in the sequence deemed appropriate by the Museum’s Trustees.

For the Brick Store Museum

Susan C. S. Edwards
Director

For the KRCC, Inc:

Harlan D. Taylor
Treasurer

Date: Dec. 7, 1989

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