

# John Gordon Spaulding fonds

Compiled by Erwin Wodarczak (2018)



University of British Columbia Archives



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# Fonds Description

**John Gordon Spaulding fonds.** – 1931-1993.

1.55 m of textual records.

## Biographical Sketch

John Gordon Spaulding (1907-1996) earned a B.A. at Pomona College, California, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. After teaching at Stockton Junior College in California, he joined the UBC Department of English in 1946, where he remained on faculty until his retirement in 1972. His areas of scholarly interest included the history of literary criticism, Romantic poetry and prose, semantics, and the relationships between literary criticism and philosophy, science, and psychology.

While conducting research at the British Museum in 1961 Spaulding was using *The Preacher's Assistant*, a catalogue of sermons presented and published in Great Britain, Ireland, and the American colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, compiled by the Rev. John Cooke and published in 1783. Spaulding saw the possibility of gaining new insights into the political, social, and literary history of the period covered by the catalogue by correlating the entries in the first volume (the sermons) with the entries in the second volume (the authors), using then-new computer technology. By 1966 he had both volumes encoded on punch cards, and then spent the next 25 years correlating the two sets of records. An early print-out version was deposited at the Huntington Library in California in 1988. The final version was published in 1996, shortly after Spaulding's death, as *Pulpit Publications 1660-1782*, in six volumes. As he wrote in the preface:

By translating the data from Cooke's two volumes into six volumes it lays out the data in ways that make them accessible for purposes that Cooke did not have in mind. His catalogue of sermons is herein transformed from an Assistant to Preachers into an Assistant for Historians who wish to search out the vital relations between religion and literature, philosophy, science and politics in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries or, more generally, are making bibliographical, philological and economic studies concerning the period. The usefulness of the sermon catalogue in historical studies is enhanced by the fact that the data within the catalogue come close to being exhaustive in regard to certain aspects of the period and, in the form presented within the present edition, make some novel statistical studies quite possible.

## **Custodial History**

After Spaulding's death his papers were stored in filing cabinets and transferred to a Vancouver storage locker. They were acquired by the University Archives in June 1997. The data files for *Pulpit Publications* were transferred to the UBC Data Library by Spaulding himself in 1992.

## **Scope and Content**

Fonds consists of materials documenting John Gordon Spaulding's academic scholarship and career, in particular his *Pulpit Publications* project, and includes notes, correspondence, published articles, drafts (both handwritten and typescript), computer codes, computer printouts (bound and unbound), and related records. The fonds is organized in three series: College And University Papers (including the sub-series Pomona/Stockton Numbered Files, Other College Files, Toward Dissertation & Dissertation I, and Lectures and Other Professional Papers), Personal Papers, and Cooke / Pulpit Publications (including the sub-series Correspondence, Provenance Studies, General Notes, Drafts, and Printouts, and Bound Computer Printouts). Where Spaulding's original arrangements were still apparent and considered practical, they have been retained – otherwise the files are arranged in chronological order.

## **Notes**

Researchers are strongly advised to check with the University Archives regarding permission to publish or otherwise use materials from this fonds.

File list available.

Acquired by the University Archives in June 1997. Kept in remote storage until substantially re-appraised and re-organized in May-June 2018.

The original data files for *Pulpit Publications* were transferred by John Spaulding to the UBC Data Library in 1992. Originally stored on magnetic tape, the files were transferred to disk at a later date. They are still held at [Data Services, Koerner Library](#).

Biographical and other information largely derived from Ross Publishing LLC's *Pulpit Publications* website: <http://rosspub.com/pulpit.htm>.

## Series Descriptions

**College And University Papers series.** – 1931-1976.

59 cm.

Series consists of materials documenting Spaulding's academic scholarship and career, and includes course and lecture notes, published articles, correspondence, CVs, and drafts (both handwritten and typescript). It is arranged in the sub-series Pomona/Stockton Numbered Files, Other College Files, Toward Dissertation & Dissertation I, and Lectures and Other Professional Papers.

The physical arrangement is largely based on Spaulding's original file organization. Many of the original folders have significant supporting information on them, presumably written by Spaulding.

Boxes 1-5(14)

**Personal Papers series.** – 1931-1993.

5 cm.

Series consists mostly of materials documenting Spaulding's personal life, and includes correspondence, essays, academic transcripts, and financial records.

Files are arranged in chronological order.

Boxes 5 (15, 16), 6 (1-6)

**Cooke / Pulpit Publications series.** – 1965-1992.

91 cm.

Series consists of materials documenting Spaulding's long-term project to correlate the entries in the two volumes of *The Preacher's Assistant* (1783) by the Rev. John Cooke using computer technology, , and includes notes, correspondence, published articles, drafts (both handwritten and typescript), computer codes, and computer printouts (bound and unbound). It is arranged in the sub-series Correspondence, Provenance Studies, General Notes, Drafts, and Printouts, and Bound Computer Printouts.

The physical arrangement is partially based on Spaulding's original file organization, and otherwise in chronological order. Many of the original folders have significant supporting information on them, presumably written by Spaulding.

Boxes 6(7)-11

# File List

## BOX 1

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PAPERS SERIES

#### Pomona/Stockton Numbered Files

- 1-1 JC [Junior College] Course, Proposed – 23 / An Introduction to Literature by J.G. Spaulding – U.C., Berkeley April 1934
- 1-2 Philosophy – 25 1937-38
- 1-3 Bibliography – 26 [1938]
- 1-4 Philosophy – 27 [1933]
- 1-5 Cambridge Hist. Lit., Berdan, Versification – 28 [27?] / Notes on Cambridge History of English Literature... 1939-40
- 1-6 Chaucer 28 / Chaucer predestinal & free-will Dec. 1931
- 1-7 Chaucer 29 / Chaucer's attitude toward illicit love [...] by Gordon Spaulding April 1932
- 1-8 Drama – Moral Drama – 30 / A Study of the Nature of the English Moral Drama by Gordon Spaulding December 1931
- 1-9 Shakespeare – 31 / Shakespeare's Uses of the Characters Which He Introduces into the Story of Othello by J.G. Spaulding – U.C., Berkeley December 1934
- 1-10 Lyly – 32 / John Lyly's Comic World by J.G. Spaulding – U.C., Berkeley December 1934
- 1-11 Late Eliz. Drama – The Problem Play – 33 / The Problem Play in Elizabethan Drama by J.G. Spaulding – U.C. April 1935
- 1-12 Donne, Metaphysicality – 35 / Metaphysical Donne by Gordon Spaulding April 1932

## BOX 2

- 2-1 L.T. & Science, Wordsworth – 36 / Notes on Lit. & Science – Potter's Course April 1935
- 2-2 Arthurian Romance – 37 [n.d.]
- 2-3 Philology – 38 [n.d.]
- 2-4 Assorted Notes from Courses Audited & Not Finished – 41 [1935]
- 2-5 French Lit. – 42 [n.d.]
- 2-6 History of Philosophy – Pre-Socratic 1939  
[not numbered but found in same sequence]

- 2-7 Socrates & Sophists [n.d.]  
[not numbered but found in same sequence]

#### Other College Files

- 2-8 Introduction to Philosophy – 1939 – Bacon 1939  
2-9 Introduction to Philosophy – Jainey 1939  
2-10 Introduction to Philosophy – Plato [ca. 1939]

#### BOX 3

- 3-1 Introduction to Philosophy – Berkeley 1939-40  
3-2 [Introduction to Philosophy] Hume 1939-40  
3-3 Phil.: German Idealism & Recent Phil. & Course Reports in Hist. Phil. 1939-40  
3-4 History of Philosophy – Philosophy 1a – Renaissance [1939-40]  
3-5 History of Philosophy: Plato - Middle Ages 1939-43  
3-6 Philosophy – Current / Bacon 1940 1940  
3-7 Philosophy, Hall, 1941 – Bacon 1941-42  
3-8 Introduction to Philosophy – Dewey 1942  
3-9 Introduction to Philosophy – Bacon [n.d.]

#### BOX 4

- 4-1 History of Philosophy – The Enlightenment [n.d.]

#### Toward Dissertation & Dissertation I

- 4-2 "The Speaking Picture" – 9 – English 260, Professor Kurtz – U. of C. Berkeley  
April 1933  
4-3 "A Critique of Imagery" – 10 – English 260, Professor Whipple – U.C.,  
Berkeley April 1934  
4-4 Dissertation presented – Prospectuses, outlines – 15 1935-41  
4-5 Correspondence re. thesis with Kurtz, Pepper, & Bronson 1940-41  
4-6 Thesis – First draft of a dissertation – Materials submitted to, and rejected by  
Kurtz, Pepper, Bronson 1941  
4-7 "Phanton Aesthetic State" with proposed outlines and all other papers on the  
matter – 11 [n.d.]  
4-8 Notes on Aristotle, from his works & from writings about him – 1980: Toward  
revision of dissertation [1980?]

## Lectures and Other Professional Papers

- 4-9 "A Theory of Meaning Analyzed" – Two papers from the Second American Congress on General Semantics by Thomas Clark Pollock and John Gordon Spaulding 1942  
- includes offprint of "Elementalism: The effect of an implicit postulate of identity on I.A. Richards' theory of poetic value"
- 4-10 Directed Reading Course in the Romantic period: written summer 1947-1948
- 4-11 Re: Educational Policy or Allocation of Time 1948-68  
- includes an informal CV and cover letter addressed to Roy Daniells (1948), and assorted correspondence on academic and administrative matters

## BOX 5

- 5-1 Dylan Thomas – Death No Dominion 1957
- 5-2 Correspondence related to: Slide Collection 1964-65
- 5-3 [Correspondence re. slides] 1964-66
- 5-4 Slide Catalogue per se [1964?]
- 5-5 Re. Slide catalogue [UBC] [1964-75?]
- 5-6 Some brief formal statements to groups 1968
- 5-7 Dwayne Ortun: My introduction to, to Vancouver Board of Trade 1969
- 5-8 Typescript for Laval – Originals May 1976
- 5-9 My Laval Univ. paper 1976
- 5-10 Blake's Paradise Lost [n.d.]
- 5-11 Lecture on Blake's "Job" [n.d.]
- 5-12 [Blake: Book of Urizen] [n.d.]
- 5-13 Lecture on Shelley [n.d.]
- 5-14 Lecture on Romanticism [n.d.]

## PERSONAL PAPERS

- 5-15 Photostats of transcripts 1931-41
- 5-16 1<sup>st</sup> Sabbatical Leave 1961-62



## BOX 6

- 6-1 Letters & other materials to & from... [unintelligible] 1973-85
- 6-2 Some letters to family: Amy, Stephen, Marshall 1977-83
- 6-3 [Your grandfather's view of mathematics] May 1992
- 6-4 Mathematics: A grandfather's view of May 1992
  - "A Grandfather's view of Mathematics" – extended essay addressed to Spaulding's granddaughters (different version from previous file), with related correspondence
- 6-5 Re: Oxford English Dictionary June 1992
  - "To Deborah from her Grandfather Spaulding – Regarding the introductory pages in the Oxford English Dictionary" – extended essay addressed to Spaulding's granddaughters about the OED and the evolution of the English language
- 6-6 Finance 1991-93

## COOKE / PULPIT PUBLICATIONS

### Correspondence

- 6-7 Correspondence with Biblio[graphical] Society 1965
- 6-8 Cooke: Some early correspondence about 1965-66
- 6-9 Correspondence w. Bibliographical Society 1965-76
- 6-10 Correspondence with Crowell, Collier, Macmillan 1967-71
- 6-11 [Correspondence with] Jeff Norton 1969-84

## BOX 7

- 7-1 Some correspondence w. Robin Alston 1970-71
- 7-2 Re. Contract 1970-73
- 7-3 Correspondence w. David Hays 1970-75
- 7-4 Letter to Joliffe 1971
- 7-5 Xerox copies & 1980 letter to Tennant 1971-80
- 7-6 Cooke [publication information] 1971-95
- 7-7 Correspondence with Jeff Norton re Contract and Format of Publication 1973
- 7-8 [Legal matters] re. legal & Cooke 1973-88
- 7-9 Correspondence w. Jeff Norton re Tables, Graphs: "50 most popular texts" 1974

- 7-10 Correspondence re Cooke to or from others than Jeff Norton 1971-84
- 7-11 Correspondence with Jeff Norton re Union Theological Seminary Microfilm of Cooke II 1976
- 7-12 Hubert Alexander 1977-87
- 7-13 Correspondence w. Robert Tennant – Originals 1980-83

BOX 8

- 8-1 Correspondence 1983
- 8-2 Complete sets of copies re Klitos Andrea 1983
- 8-3 Spare oddments re. Klitos Andrea 1983
- 8-4 New correspondence with Clark at Huntington Libraries 1984
- 8-5 Correspondence w. Norman Ross 1984
- 8-6 Re. JN [Jeffrey Norton] Publications 1986
- 8-7 Letter to Deconinck in Picardy Dec. 1987
- 8-8 [Norman Ross Publishing] 1987-88
- 8-9 Huntington Lib. Correspondence 1987-88
- 8-10 Re. For deposit at Huntington Library 1987-88
- 8-11 Correspondence with Professor Deconinck-Brossard 1987-92
- 8-12 Regarding my archived files in UBC Data Library 1988
- 8-13 Peterson at Yale 1988-89
- 8-14 Re. Tapes & Files – Correspondence with Hilde Colenbrander July 1992

Provenance Studies

- 8-15 TABC-No.1 – Folder 1 – Flynn's printouts and studies of them [ca. 1977]

BOX 9

- 9-1 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 2 – Text of [???] 1977
- 9-2 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 3 – Analyses of all decades year by year [ca. 1977]
- 9-3 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 4 – Decades studies of top libraries [ca. 1977]
- 9-4 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 5 – Annual tables – publications vs. pubs w. prun.[?] April 1977
- 9-5 Year-by-year charts of numbers of publications... [etc.] 1977
- 9-6 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 6 – Scattergrams [ca. 1977]
- 9-7 TABC-No.1 – Folder 7 – Current study June 1977
- 9-8 TABC-No. 1 – Folder 8 – Studies of Cooke's provenances [ca. 1977]
- 9-9 Folder 1 – Library Statistics – Summary tables: Libraries everywhere [ca. 1977]

- 9-10 Folder 2 – Tables: Oxford libraries [ca. 1977]
- 9-11 Folder 3 – Cambridge libraries [ca. 1977]
- 9-12 Folder 4 – London & Eton [ca. 1977]
- 9-13 Folder 5 – Some notes on books about libraries [ca. 1977]
- 9-16 Folder 6 – Re Libraries: Discussions begun & planned, etc. January 1977
- 9-17 Folder 7 – Some stuff about [...] [ca. 1977]

#### General Notes, Drafts, and Printouts

- 9-18 [Written notes on coding – from a course?] 1966-67 [removed from binder]
- 9-19 Instructions to keypunch operators... 1966-69
- 9-20 Key-punching instructions to create original database (edited 1969) 1966
- 9-21 Cooke I as transcribed in 1966 [specimen pages] 1966
- 9-22 History of Cooke I & II databases before conversion... 1967-68
- 9-23 Note on UBC character-handling subroutines... 1967
- 9-24 Planning documents – a few early ones 1965-69
- 9-25 Madderom's programs 1968
- 9-26 BM & BME block moving [program] 1968
- 9-27 TCT 1968
- 9-28 Re: Bishops' first names: PUT, TNFB, LBAF, SMGN 1968
- 9-29 REF, SELREC, SEQER, SDNX, TDR, Correct 1968-69
- 9-30 Index programs 1968-69
- 9-31 1966 programs as described by Buckland in 1967 1967
- 9-32 Index programs per se 1968-69
- 9-33 JGS: Plans for summer's work for indexes & stats 1969
- 9-34 Edit-Merge 1968
- 9-35 Edit-Merge diagrams [ca. 1968]
- 9-36 Edit-Merge – for SBIII 1969
- 9-37 Originals of documentation 1969
- 9-38 1969 – History of tapes and files & other essential documents 1969-84  
[removed from binder]
- 9-39 Folder 6 – Re Computer programming – Documents taken to England with  
me in 1971 1970-71
- 9-40 Folder 4 – On the Letsome collection 1971
- 9-41 Folder 3 – Identification & materials thereto... 1971-72
- 9-42 Folder 5 – Report on Cooke to Joliff... 1971-76
- 9-43 Re. wedding sermons 1973-79

## BOX 10

- 10-1 Trip to Yale & bibliographic inspection of Cooke 1976
- 10-2 Trip to Yale & Union Theo. College [1976?]
- 10-3 Trip to Yale & Union Theo: offprints 1976
- 10-4 Trip to Yale: weddings, Boyle letters, etc. 1976
- 10-5 53 popular texts 1978
- 10-6 1982 notes re Cooke II catchwords 1982  
["belongs with trip to Yale matter of 1976"]
- 10-7 Other matter especially sources compared V3 & V5 1984-86
- 10-8 [UBC Computing Services] – Tape Lists / Disk Files / Print Jobs 1984-93  
[removed from binder]
- 10-9 Popularity rankings of Biblical texts 1986
- 10-10 Supplementary, prefatory & appended matter for Volumes III & V 1987-88
- 10-11 Re. creation of Vol. V 1988
- 10-12 [UBC Data Library documentation] 1992

## Bound Computer Printouts

- 11-1 Listings of Peter Madderon's Programs – mostly 1967  
[notes on cover: "Any programs that have been changed have the new listings attached. These list Madderon's source programs as of: 08/28/68"  
"As I (JGS) recall on May 31, 1993 – These programs analysed the data that had been key-punched by the girls reading enlarged xeroxed copies of Cooke's Volume I and II. Their output formed the first versions of the logical database"]
- 11-2 Merge of Cooke I and Cooke II solely by Soundex code – first step toward editing toward creation of SPD[?] – Sept. 1, 1968
- 11-3 Trule & Verification of Alpha V – Aug. 28, 1973 – Store