

# Sybille Bedford:

## A Preliminary Inventory of the Addition to Her Papers in the Manuscript Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Bedford, Sybille, 1911-2006
<b>Title:</b>	Sybille Bedford, Addition to Her Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1911-2006 (bulk 1970s-2006)
<b>Extent:</b>	4 boxes (1.68 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	This addition to the papers of author Sybille Bedford contains materials that were in Bedford's possession at the time of her death in 2006. The papers are arranged in three series: I. Works, 1978-2005; II. Correspondence, 1979-2006; III. Personal and Career-Related, 1940s-2006.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-00299
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition:</b>	Purchase, 2007 (Reg. no. 16496)
<b>Processed by:</b>	Liz Murray and Hope Donovan Rider, 2007
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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## Scope and Contents

This addition to the papers of author Sybille Bedford contains materials that were in Bedford's possession at the time of her death in 2006. The papers are arranged in three series: I. Works, 1978-2005; II. Correspondence, 1979-2006; III. Personal and Career-Related, 1940s-2006.

Series I. contains several drafts of articles, a small amount of material relating to the publication of Bedford's final book, *Quicksands: A Memoir*, and a eulogy for Amalia Elguera.

The correspondence in Series II. includes letters from Bedford's publishers and agents, as well as friends and acquaintances such as Bill and Chloe Blackburn, John Byrne, Elizabeth Jane Howard, Francis Henry King, Richard and Mary Ollard, and Ann Patchett. There are also two postcards from Bedford's close friend Allanah Harper.

The bulk of Series III. is comprised of the extensive wine books kept by Bedford and containing notes regarding wine tastings and purchases. Career-related materials consist of royalty statements, contracts, and reviews for various Bedford works. One file includes Bedford's birth certificate, marriage certificate providing Bedford with English citizenship in 1935, and correspondence from Prime Minister Thatcher's office regarding the OBE awarded in 1981.

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**Series I. Works, 1978-2005**

<i>Aldous Huxley: A Biography</i> , photocopy of partial text, French translation by Aliette Martin	<b>Box 1 Folder 1</b>
Eulogy for Amalia Elguera, 1996	<b>Folder 2</b>
<i>Good Food Guide</i> , SB's reviews of three London restaurants, carbon typescripts, 1984	<b>Folder 3</b>
<i>Quicksands: A Memoir</i> , production materials and publisher correspondence; <i>A Legacy</i> reissue, book jacket proofs, 2004-2005	<b>Folder 4</b>
"La vie de Chateaux," for <i>Harper's</i> , ca. 1978	<b>Folder 5</b>

**Series II. Correspondence, 1979-2006**

A-B	<b>Box 1 Folder 6</b>
C-G	<b>Folder 7</b>
Day, Audri	<b>Folder 8</b>
Desert Island Discs, 1998	<b>Folder 9</b>
H-I	<b>Folder 10</b>
J-M	<b>Folder 11</b>
N-Ra	<b>Folder 12</b>
Publishers, agents, other projects	<b>Box 2 Folder 1-3</b>
Re-Ru	<b>Folder 4</b>
S-Y	<b>Folder 5</b>
Social Democratic Party and Committee for the Free World	<b>Folder 6</b>
Unidentified	<b>Folder 7</b>

**Series III. Personal and Career-Related, 1911-2006**

Birth and marriage certificates; Prime Minister's correspondence re OBE and monetary grant; Royal Society of Literature re Companion of Literature award	<b>Box 2 Folder 8</b>
Contracts, various works	<b>Folder 9</b>
Cookbook, compiled by SB, typescript	<b>Folder 10</b>
Lists: travel and domestic	<b>Folder 11</b>
Menus and wine lists, record of entertaining, 1977-1987, 1999	<b>Box 3 Folder 1</b>
Olney, Richard, celebration menu, photographs by Susan Raven	<b>Folder 2</b>
Reviews	
<i>Quicksands: A Memoir</i>	<b>Folder 3</b>
Various works	<b>Folder 4</b>
Royalty statements and Public Lending Rights, 1994- 2000	<b>Folder 5</b>
Wine books, 1960s-1980s	<b>Folder 6-7</b>
"Wine book, January 1983-," includes wine labels, tasting notes, and articles	<b>Box 4 Folder 1</b>
Wine tasting lists, notes	<b>Folder 2</b>
Wine tasting souvenirs	<b>Folder 3</b>