



SENATE HOUSE LIBRARY

University of London

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference: MS1200
Title: John Masefield: Enid Knowles collection
Dates: c1957-c1988
Level: fonds
Extent and Medium: 3 files
Name of Creator: Masefield, John Edward (1878-1967)
poet and novelist

CONTEXT

Biographical/Administrative History: Masefield was born in Ledbury in 1878. Having entered the Merchant Navy Masefield deserted ship in America where he drifted for some time. Returning to England he became a journalist and his interest in writing was explored, publishing several volumes of poetry before the outbreak of World War One. During the war Masefield was a member of the Red Cross and witnessed the disaster at Gallipoli, which he later wrote about in his position as head of the War Propaganda Bureau. During the twenties and thirties Masefield wrote numerous volumes of poetry which were most successful, as well as two novels and an autobiography. Masefield continued to write until his death in 1967.

CONTENT

Scope and Content: Includes notes from John Masefield, manuscript copies of poems, reminiscences by Edith Knowles, Christmas cards from John Masefield

ACCESS AND USE

Language of Scripts: English

Conditions of Access: Open for research although at least 24 hours notice required

MS1200/1 Notes from John Masefield to Edith Knowles **c1957 June-
c1965
January**

Includes manuscript copies of verses. Masefield discusses his writing. Letters often brief thank-you notes to enclose poems and gifts of books. Verses include "Lines for the centenary of Robert Ross" and "East Coker". Also includes photograph of Masefield (February 1960). 74 items in file.

1 file

MS1200/2 Christmas cards from John Masefield **c1957-
c1964**

Christmas cards to Edith Knowles. Also includes profile of Masefield by W. J. Weatherby from the Guardian, August 1960.

1 file

MS1200/3 Edith Knowles' recollections of John Masefield **c1982-
c1988**

Typescript draft reminiscences with manuscript additions (6 pages). Also includes exchange of letters with Alan Bell, October-November 1982 about Masefield's alleged habit of including a stamped addressed envelope with his poems.

1 file