

1971.0001 PAPERS OF JOHN ALEXANDER GUNN 1921-1947

Creator	Gunn, John Alexander
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Academics - Philosophy University administrators
Biography: Born in Liverpool in 1896, Gunn was educated at the University of Liverpool 1913-1915 and served in France 1916-1919. On returning to his study of philosophy in 1919, was awarded the M.A. for a thesis on Bergson. In 1920 he received a Fellowship of the University of Liverpool and entered the University of Paris. In the following year he was awarded the Ph.D. degree at Liverpool where he became Tutor in Philosophy and did extension work in Psychology and Philosophy. In 1922 he was appointed Director of Tutorial Classes and Chairman of the Extension Board at the University of Melbourne with rank and title of Professor, posts he held from 1923 until 1938. His tenure was marred by conflict and personal difficulties, disharmony being fostered by the connection of the Workers' Educational Association with the University Extension Board. He left the University in 1938 and commenced what was to be, apart from a little lecturing, a very long retirement. He died on 29 May 1975.	

Reference Number	1971.0001
Collection/Series Title	PAPERS OF JOHN ALEXANDER GUNN
Also includes	1971.0001, 1978.0012, 1976.0073, 1978.0015
Date Range of Collection/Series	1921-1947
Size/Extent	1 box (0.17m)
Access Conditions	Access: Open

Scope and Content of Series

Report on Gunn's doctoral thesis, "French Philosophy in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century" by Henry Bergson; testimonials from Professors A. Mair (Liverpool), W.R. Boyce Gibson, R.S. Wallace, R.S. Conway (Manchester), Dr. B.T. Zwar and Dr. John K. Adey; comments and extracts from reviews of publications by Mair, Boyce Gibson and others; printed publication list; Notice of Extension Board Public Lectures held in connection with the Victorian Centenary, 1834-1934, by Professor Osborne, Wadham, Hartung, Copland, Wood Jones and Gunn. Letter from Sir John Monash acknowledging a book, 23 April 1928. Photographs of Professor and Mrs. Margaret Gunn. These items appear in a folder labelled: "Gunn's Self-Advertisement - Multiple copies of references etc."

Archival History

Listed by Cecily Close 26 June 1975, revised March 1998. Typescript list converted to item data by Christine Elias November 2019.

Sources: J.A. Gunn's papers; C.R. Badger, "An Adult Education Tragedy", Australian Journal of Adult Education, V. XV, No.3, Nov. 1975.

This list created 3 January 2020

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To request access to records on the list below via the University of Melbourne Archives Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.				
Unit/Box	Item number	Title	Date range	Description
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00001	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1921	Henri Bergson, College de France, Paris, extract from report on doctoral thesis, French Philosophy in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century by Gunn, 1921.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00002	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1922	Professor Alexander Mair, Chair of Philosophy, Liverpool, testimonial relating to Gunn's work in philosophy, 2 May 1922.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00003	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1922	Extract from article by Mair in Daily Post, reviewing Gunn's Modern French Philosophy, 16 December 1922. Concludes: his vigorous talent will be an enrichment of the intellectual life of Australia. One copy with pencil note 'Jewel' in left hand corner.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00004	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1927	W R Boyce Gibson, Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy in the University of Melbourne, testimonial touching on works as Director in Tutorial Classes, Independent Lecturer in Sociology and member of the Professorial Board and a philosopher, 27 February 1927.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00005	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1927	Professor R S Wallace, President of the Professorial Board, Melbourne, 1 October 1927.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00006	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1929	W R Boyce Gibson to Gunn, comments on Gunn's The Problem of Time, 5 December 1929.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00007	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1933	Curriculum vitae, from 1913 to 1933
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00008	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1931	R S Conway, Professor Emeritus of Latin, University of Manchester, testimonial relating to Gunn's organisation of extra-mural lecturer, teaching, personal relations and research, 23 May 1931.

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00009	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1932	Sir Richard Stawell, President, British Medical Association (Victorian Branch), extract from letter to Council in which Faculty of Medicine, British Medical Association Education Committee and the Mental Hygiene Council asks University invite Gunn to deliver a special new course in the Medical Faculty on Psychology for medical students at the beginning of fourth year, 2 May 1932.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00010	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1938	B T Zwar, Chairman, Royal Melbourne Hospital, testimonial relating to Gunn's lectures in Medical Faculty, 11 November 1938.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00011	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1944	Notes of subjects taken at Liverpool University, teachers names, prizes won by Gunn; notes headed Add, comprising extracts from testimonials; list of books including a few French titles and one German one, 20 February 1944.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00012	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	Gunn to Registrar, University College, Auckland, encloses copy of dossier and testimonials and describes work at University of Melbourne, applies for Chair of Modern Languages, refers to French collapse and has for the last year been giving a good deal of time to the Department of Defence.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00013	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1947	John K Adey, Department of Mental Hygiene, certifies that Gunn is an excellent lecturer in modern psychology, especially from philosophical point of view, has worked with Adey in the study of normal and abnormal psychology at the Mental Hospital, 8 March 1947.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00014	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	List of books by Gunn with extracts from a review under each (3 copies with different handwriting additions); set of testimonials from John K Adey, copy of book list with amendments with visiting card J A Gunn Esquire From Town Clerk Prahran as Requested 6/6/53.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00015	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	Additional Notes, being selection of extracts from review of The Problem of Time and the tercentenary play Spinoza, the maker of lenses.

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00016	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	Note on further work ready for publication, Renouvier (the French Kant), draft.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00017	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	List of articles contributed to Philosophy journals and other publications
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00018	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	Four pages of handwritten notes, sources of Greek, Byzantine, etc. history, on back of half sheet memo to heads of departments regarding Air Raid Precautions; list of texts regarding classical world (studied by Gunn in student days?).
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00019	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	Printed list of books on Psychology and Philosophy with prices and press opinions
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00020	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	Undated	University of Melbourne Extension Board notion of Centenary Fortnight 1830-1934; six public lectures by W A Osborne, S M Wadham, D Copland, E J Hartung, Wood Jones, Gunn.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00021	Gunn's Self Advertisement: Multiple copies of references etc.	1928	Letter from Sir John Monash, 23 April 1928
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00022	Certificates	1913	The Sunday School Chronicle New Testament Greek class, 1913.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00023	Certificates	1916	British Red Cross Society, Course in First Aid, 13 September 1916.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00024	Certificates	1914-1919	British Red Cross Society and Order of St John, in recognition of valuable services rendered during the War, 1914 - 1919.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00025	Certificates	1912	Matriculation Examination Certificate, 2nd Division, passes in English Language, Literature, History, Maths, Latin, French and Geography, July 1912.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00026	Certificates	1916-1919	Record of Service with the Friends Ambulance Unit of the British Red Cross Society Membership of J A Gunn, August 1916 - January 1919, duty in Dunkirk.

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00027	Certificates	1921	University of London, J A Gunn passed as an External Student the Intermediate Examination in the Faculty of Economics and Political Science. Circular regarding details of Intermediate Exam 1921; note from External Registrar regarding Certificates of Conduct, necessary for the exam; regarding concessions granted by the University of London to J A Gunn as a War Student; University of London General Regulations regarding examination of War Students; University of London Discontinuance of Concessions in Respect of the War, as from 31 January 1922 (- 1 March 1921?); University of London Information for External Students applying for concessions as War Student.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00028	Letters	1960	To Mrs Gunn, Farewell or ?, 2 March 1960
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00029	Letters	Undated	Margaret Giddings, World Record Club, to Mrs Gunn, social letter, asking for and giving personal news, undated.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00030	Letters	1964	Mrs Gunn to Members of Staff, Hartwell [W.R.C?], reply to staff for their retirement gift to her, 15 April 1964.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00031	Letters	Undated	Goodbye card to Mrs Gunn from staff, signatures and best wishes.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00032	Letters	1964	Ailsa Ross, staff, to Mrs Gunn, social letter, news from workplace, regards sent to your dear husband, 4 May 1964.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00033	Letters	Undated	Ailsa Ross to Mrs Gunn, brief note regarding mutual friend, 7 May 196?
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00034	Letters	1964	Graeme Allen to Mrs Gunn, personal note regarding her sudden enforced retirement, best wishes etc., 6 April 1964.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00035	Letters	1964	Glenys Waller, staff, to Mrs Gunn, personal note expressing regret at her retirement, 7 April 1964.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00036	Letters	Undated	Draft letter, Mrs Gunn to Mrs Ross, personal letter describing the sad way in which she lost her job, discovery of Gunn's illness and her help to him in reading his manuscripts [mostly partly tragic but with lost of fun], no date, probably early - mid 1964, not necessarily sent.

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00037	Letters	Undated	Draft letter, Mrs Gunn to Mrs Ross, same as previous letter but not finished, more details regarding Gunn's manuscript.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00038	Letters	1967	Webster's Guide to Wealth Words 10 August 1967, 17 August 1967.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00039	Letters	Undated	Statement of Mrs Gunn's work experience 1942 - 1955
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00040	Letters	1955	Reference from C W Strutt, Agricultural Adviser to the UK High Commissioner in Australia, regarding Mrs Gunn's employment, 27 August 1955.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00041	Letters	1959	Incomplete job application by Mrs Gunn, 8 June 1959.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00042	Letters	1960	Riddell Secretarial Agency to Mrs Gunn, notice regarding taxation, 15 July 1960.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00043	Loose papers	1928	Letter to Gunn from Sir John Monash, receipt for book, Lyng - Non-Britishers in Australia, 23 April 1931.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00044	Loose papers	1929	Letter to Gunn from W V Hoatson (?), Honorary Secretary, Methodist Church, Aberfeldie, Victoria, to thank Gunn for lecture given, 13 November 1929.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00045	Loose papers	1934	Notice of series of six public lectures, A Century of Progress, by Gunn as Director of University Extension, September - October 1934.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00046	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Three reviews of books by Gunn: The Problem of Time, Modern French Philosophy, Bergson and his Philosophy, Benedict Spinoza, Livelihood, Social Progress, Psyche and Minerva.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00047	Miscellaneous material	1933	Victorian Employers Federation Annual Meeting 28 November 1933, address by T R Ashworth, Over-production or ill-balanced Production.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00048	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Bank of New South Wales passbook of J A Gunn, last entry 7 July 1965, amount in bank one shilling.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00049	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Three blank Bank of New South Wales withdrawal slips
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00050	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Torn cover of cigarette packet Turf Virginia
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00051	Miscellaneous material	Undated	Pension due chit from Department of Social Services

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00052	Books	1917	Notebook, personal notes 1917, compiled in France by Gunn, collection of hand copied religious extracts and poems, from Swedenborg, Bergson, Whittier, notes on Luther, St Francis, Calvin, etc.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00053	Books	1915	Kant, notes and thoughts, J Alex Gunn, Honours School of Philosophy, University of Liverpool, 1915.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00054	Books	1907	F G Edwards, Musical Haunts in London, 1895 (?), presented to Gunn 1907 regarding music exam (preparatory).
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00055	Books	1918	Ramsay Muir, Nationalism and Internationalism, London, 1918; eight loose pages of notes possibly by Gunn.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00056	Books	1936	Alfred Hart, University Reform and Finance (What is and What Should Be), Melbourne University Press, 1936.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00057	Books	1932	Syllabus of Tutorial Classes for 1932, published by University of Melbourne Extension Board and Workers Educational Association of Victoria.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00058	Books	1916	John Fulley Love, Oxford Watercolours, London, 1916.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00059	Books	1916	Sam J N Brown, Liverpool (sketchbook), London, 1916.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00060	Books	1922	Some Account of the Oxford University Press 1468 - 1921, Oxford, 1922.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00061	Books	1924	Histoire du Costume en France Encyclopedie Parl Image 1924.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00062	Books	1902	Henry George, Progress and Poverty, London, 1902.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00063	Books	1923	The Yearbook of the Universities of the Empire 1923, editor W H Dawson, London, 1923.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00064	Books	1900	Georges Riat, Paris, 1900
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00065	Books	1935	R Munn & E R Pitt, Australian Libraries, Australian Council for Educational Research, Melbourne, 1935.
1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00066	Books	1934	Fritz Ecker et al., Konzentrations Lager (Probleme des Sozialismus No. 9), Graphia Publications, Karlsbad, 1934. Contains four reviews or critiques of Graphia publications, including Konzentrationslager, writer of reviews unnamed. Letter from Mr Arnold (in German) on behalf of Graphia, to Argus Editor, 15 September 1934 accompanying reviews.

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1971.0001 Unit 1	1971.0001.00067	Books	Undated	Albert Mainsbridge, The Older Universities of England, Oxford and Cambridge, London, Longmans, Green & Co.
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End of list