The Selma Lagerlöf collection, L 1,
In the National Library of Sweden,
KB

Shelf Mark: L 1

Please note that the collection is in progress. The list below is provisional.

Information about the letters in the collection is available through the Letter data base of SVAR: http://www.svar.ra.se/?uidRedirectGUID={43C3C28E-EA99-4E41-923E-DCED12F9C6B0

Contents

This collection consists of letters, biographica, manuscripts, proofs, prints, press cuttings, photographs, pictures, postcards, etc.

Biographical notes

For information about Selma Lagerlöf and her works, see e.g. the site of Litteraturbanken, Swedish Literature Bank: http://litteraturbanken.se/#!om/inenglish.

The web site of SLA, Selma Lagerlöf-arkivet (The Selma Lagerlöf Archive) is currently under construction. Hopefully it will be accessible by the end of 2012 or in the beginning of 2013: http://www.ordfabriken.org/sla2011/english/index.htm

Provenance
The Lagerlöf collection is one of the most important manuscript collections at KB, the National Library of Sweden. It covers about 70 shelf metres, and primarily consists of letters and manuscripts. The main part of the collection is a bequest from the Mårbacka Foundation.

In her will drawn up in 1933, Selma Lagerlöf stipulated that her manuscripts and letters should be deposited at KB. In April 1940, shortly after Lagerlöf’s death, the librarian (and distant relative) Nils Afzelius was asked to arrange her literary legacy. To the sound of gunfire from across the Norwegian border, he put the bundles of papers at Mårbacka in order. Later on that same year the papers were transferred to the library.

The collection includes about 40,000 letters to Lagerlöf from all sorts of people: friends, relatives and colleagues as well as people in need. The letters reflect social and economic conditions in the first few decades of the 20th century. The Lagerlöf manuscripts at KB illustrate the author’s production of literature. They mainly consist of preliminary work, which enables us to follow her thoughts and intentions. One of the most precious items is the manuscript of The Story of Gösta Berling, which the library acquired in 1935.

(Translation: Wendy Davies)

Acquisition information

In addition to the deposition, the collection consists of a number of accessions.

Growth

The collection is growing with a number of accessions each year.

Restrictions

Parts of the material may be subject to copyright law.

Types of material

- Notes
- Biographica
- Letter (drafts included)
- Financial documents
- Photographs
- Genealogical materials
- Legal documents
- Manuscripts

**Persons**

*Elkan, Sophie (1853-1921), writer*

*Olander, Valborg (1861-1943), tutor, Councillor in Falun*

*Wägner, Elin (1882-1949), writer and journalist*

**Place Names**

*Värmland*

**Professional Terms**

*Women writers*

**Subject Headings**

- Peace
- The women's movement-history-Sweden
- The Nobel Prize in literature
- Women and peace
- Women writers
- Women--Suffrage
- Swedish author
Other search aids

Additional Lagerlöf material (mostly letters) can be found in several institutions in Sweden and in Scandinavia. In addition to the material held at Mårbacka Minnesgård, there is some Lagerlöf material at Riksarkivet, the National Archives of Sweden.

Mårbacka: http://www.marbacka.com/engelska/e_index.htm

National Archives of Sweden: http://www.riksarkivet.se/default.aspx?id=2138

Literature

For further information about the Lagerlöf collection at the National Library of Sweden, see article about the collection included in KB's catalogue "Selma Lagerlöf, 1858-2008 ..."

http://www.kb.se/dokument/Aktuellt/audiovisuellt/Selma/Selma_inлага-web.pdf

Related archival material

For other Lagerlöf-related-materials in KB's manuscript collection, see:

- Ep., L 8a: 1-4, letter from Selma Lagerlöf, etc.
- Ep. L 45, letter from Selma Lagerlöf (as well as letters between other persons)
- R 33a-e, documents related to the creation of “The wonderful adventures of Nils”
- Vf 132a, Gösta Berling’s Saga (original manuscript)
- Vs 149, Song book
- Vs 150, miscellaneous manuscripts in Georg Nordensvan’s collection of Swedish authors autographs
- Dep. 160, "The Landscroma manuscripts"

In addition, Selma Lagerlöf is represented in a number of personal archives in KB’s manuscript collection, e.g. in L 3, Ida Bäckmann’s papers, as well as in L 141, Alberta Rönne’s collection. There are also a number of accessions containing material related to the Lagerlöf family.
List

Overview

- LETTERS etc.: L1:1, L1:1a -- L11q
- MANUSCRIPTS etc.: L1:2 -- L1:332 et. al.
- PRINTS: L1:333:1-3
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LETTERS etc.: Shelf mark: L1:1, L1:1a -- L11q

L1: 1, Letters to Selma Lagerlöf
(The suite contains approx. 42 000 letters from about 17,000 correspondents)

L1: 1a: 1-10, letter to Selma Lagerlöf, etc.
- L1: 1a: 1, Letter to Selma Lagerlöf
- L1: 1a: 2, Letter from Selma Lagerlöf
- L1: 1a: 3, Letters to Selma Lagerlöf’s mother, Louise Lagerlöf, b. Wallroth
- L1: 1a: 4, Letters between other persons
- L1: 1a: 5, Letters received after Selma Lagerlöf’s death, etc.
- L1: 1a: 6, Economic documents
- L1: 1a: 7, Publishing contracts
- L1: 1a: 8, Print
- L1: 1a: 9, Press cuttings
- L1: 1a: 10, Miscellaneous

L1: 1b, Vacant
L1: 1 c, Miscellaneous

L1: 1 d, letters to Selma Lagerlöf (New suite)

L1: 1 e, Letters from Selma Lagerlöf
   - L1: 1 e: 1, letter concepts (A-K, L-Z)
   - L1: 1 e: 2 Letter concepts (Abraham, H -- Årads, E + anonymous recipients). Also one card index.

L1: 1 f: 1-2, Telegrams. 1890-1940
   - L1: 1 f: 1 Telegram to Selma Lagerlöf, Swedish senders
   - L1: 1 f: 2 Telegram to Selma Lagerlöf, Foreign senders

L1: 1 g, Christmas- and New Year cards
Swedish senders, before 1933, 1934-1939 & undated, Foreign senders

L1: 1 h: 1-6, Children’s letters to Selma Lagerlöf
   - L1: 1 h: 1 Children’s letters, Sweden, 1901-1939, undated
   - L1: 1 h: 2, Children’s letters, Denmark. 1907-1939 and undated
   - L1: 1 h: 3, Children’s letters, Switzerland
   - L1: 1 h: 4, Children’s letters, Germany. 1908-1940 and undated
   - L1: 1 h: 5, Children’s letters, other countries, alphabetical suite (America-France and Holland-Austria)
   - L1: 1 h: 6, Children’s letters, a sample of letters translated to Swedish

L1: 1 j: 1-3, Children's drawings, etc.
   - L1: 1 j: 1, various children's drawings, etc., Swedish
   - L1: 1 j: 2, Children's drawings, Foreign
   - L1: 1 j: 3, Album of drawings and essays by children

L1: 1 k: 1-7, Letters and legal documents
   - L1: 1 k: 1, Letters to Selma Lagerlöf
   - L1: 1 k: 2, Letters from Selma Lagerlöf
   - L1: 1 k: 3, Letters to Ulf von Konow (solicitor)
• L1: 1 k: 4, Letters from Ulf von Konow
• L1: 1 k: 5, Letters between other persons
• L1: 1 k: 6: 1-2, legal documents, etc.
  ▪ L1: 1 k: 6: 1, contracts
  ▪ L1: 1 k: 6: 2, Gösta Berling´s saga
• L1: 1 k: 7, Miscellaneous

L1: 1 l, Invitations, wedding- and funeral cards, etc.

L1: 1 m, Business cards

L1: 1n, Condolences

L1: 1o 1-3 Selma Lagerlöf´s letter- and address books
  • L1: 1o: 1, Letter books, 1921-1940
  • L1: 1o: 2, Letter book 1-3
  • L1: 1o: 3, Address books

L1: 1 p, Attachments to letters

L1: 1q, Congratulations to Selma Lagerlöf on her 50th birthday 1908.
(The magazine Idun asked a number of well-known swedes to contribute to its celebration of Selma Lagerlöf).

MANUSCRIPTS etc.: L1:2 -- L1:332 et. al.

L1: 2-330, Manuscripts by Selma Lagerlöf

L1: 331: 1, Manuscripts by Selma Lagerlöf
(A newer and growing suite of manuscripts).

L1: 331: 2, Dramatizations and translations of Selma Lagerlöf works
L1: 331: 3, Manuscripts of Selma Lagerlöf
(The list is a work in progress)

L1: 331: 4: 1-4, Manuscripts of other persons
(The list is a work in progress)

L1: 332, Proofs of Lagerlöf’s works

OTHER LAGERLÖF MATERIAL IN THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION:

DEP. 160, The Landskrona Manuscripts
Early manuscripts from Selma Lagerlöf’s time in Landskrona, a town in southern Sweden. (A deposition from the Helsingborg museum).

R 33 a-e
Documents related to the work with “The wonderful Adventures of Nils”, etc.

Vs 149-150,
Miscellaneous, minor Lagerlöf manuscripts.
  ● Vs 149, Poetry album with a contribution Lagerlöf
  ● Vs 150, some Lagerlöf manuscripts in Georg Nordensvan´s collection of Swedish author’s original autographs

PRINT: L1:333:1-3
(Please note that the following subdivision is preliminary and not yet implemented)

L1: 333: 1, Print/books
  ● L1: 333: 1: 1A, Books by Selma Lagerlöf, Swedish
  ● L1: 333: 1: 1B, Books by Selma Lagerlöf, translations
  ● L1: 333: 1: 1C, Books on Selma Lagerlöf and her works
- L1: 333: 1: 1D, Publishing of the Selma Lagerlöf society
- L1: 333: 1: 1E, Other. By other authors -- not Selma Lagerlöf-related.

L1: 333: 2, Print/magazines
- L1: 333: 2: 1, older suite
- L1: 333: 2: 2, newer suite

L1: 333: 3, Print/miscellaneous

PRESS CUTTINGS: L1:334
Please note that the press cuttings are organized in a single serial number suite in accordance with how they are placed on the shelf.

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS: L1:335:1-4

L1: 335: 1 Family papers, documents, etc.
- L1 335: 1: 1, family papers, etc.
- L1 335: 1: 2, documents, financial documents, etc.

L1: 335: 2 Contracts, financial documents, etc.
Documents relating to the wonderful adventures of Nils, established between, on the one hand, Bonniers’ Publishing House and, on the other hand, Selma Lagerlöf and the illustrator Bertil Lübeck.

L1: 335: 3 Library lists

L1: 335: 4, Selma Lagerlöf exhibitions
PHOTOGRAPHS: L1:336

Please note that the following subdivision is preliminary and not yet implemented.

- Portraits of Selma Lagerlöf, Selma Lagerlöf alone
- Portraits of Selma Lagerlöf, Selma Lagerlöf together with other persons
- Portrait of Selma Lagerlöf (etc.). Trip to the Balkan countries, Egypt and Palestine in 1899 and 1900
- Photographs of other persons, relatives of Selma Lagerlöf
- Photographs of other persons, portraits. Swedish and foreign
- Photographs of other persons, group pictures. Swedish and foreign
- Photographs from theatrical performances. Swedish and foreign
- Towns: Sweden (except Mårbacka), Mårbacka and abroad
- Miscellaneous photographs, Swedish and foreign
- Albums, Swedish and foreign

IMAGES: L1:337:1-4

L1: 337: 1, pictures, postcards
- L1: 337: 1: 1, Sweden
- L1: 337: 1: 2, Abroad

L1: 337: 2, pictures, drawings
Drawings and sketches by some of Selma Lagerlöf female ancestors

L1: 337: 3, pictures, illustrations of Selma Lagerlöf’s works

L1: 337: 4, pictures, Miscellaneous

NILS AFZELIUS’ LAGERLÖF MATERIAL: L1 338

Correspondence regarding Selma Lagerlöf

Business cards, appreciation cards, miscellaneous

Postcards with motives derived from the works of Selma Lagerlöf

Letters, transcripts, manuscripts, etc.

“Notes I-III”. Afzelius compilation of Selma Lagerlöf’s own statements about her works, drawn from diaries, letters and similar sources

Miscellaneous prints

Working material on the languages to which Selma Lagerlöf’s books have been translated

Compilation of data concerning Selma Lagerlöf’s anniversaries

Miscellaneous, press cuttings, prints, letters, paper copies, notes on translations of the works of Selma Lagerlöf, etc.

Records of the manuscripts in the Lagerlöf collection, etc.
Working material concerning Afzelius’ Lagerlöf bibliography

L1: 338: 12.
Lagerlöf-related working material

VALBORG OLANDER’S LAGERLÖF MATERIAL: L1:339:1-3
Valborg Olander (1861 – 1943), Swedish teacher, suffragette. Friend of Selma Lagerlöf as well as literary adviser.

Valborg Olander’s notes on Selma Lagerlöf

L1: 339: 2.
Valborg Olander’s working material, manuscripts, press cuttings etc.

L1: 339: 3.
Extracts from letters from Selma Lagerlöf to Valborg Olander

THE SELMA LAGERLÖF SOCIETY: L1:340
The Selma Lagerlöf society, Selma Lagerlöf-sällskapet, was established in 1958 -- 100 years after the birth of Selma Lagerlöf. The aim of the society is to promote research about Selma Lagerlöf. Through the publications of the society information concerning Lagerlöf’s life and authorship is spread. (http://www.selmalagerlof.org/english.html)

L1: 340: 1, Society documents
- Committee reports. 1958-
- Audit Reports. 1958-1968
- Notices to attend annual meetings. 1958-1969
- Records. 1957-1969
- Regulations
- Member List. 1959
- Miscellaneous. 1957

L1: 340: 2, Print, press cuttings, etc.

L1: 340: 3, Print: Publications of the Selma Lagerlöf Society

**SOPHIE ELKAN’S NOTES TO SOME OF HER WORKS: L1:341:1-3**

Sophie Elkan (1853-1921), writer and Lagerlöf’s friend and companion. Elkan and Lagerlöf critiqued each other’s works over many years.