

Acc.12817  
May 2008



## **Inventory**

**Acc.12817**

**Tom Gourdie**

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Further papers, c 1936-2004, of Tom Gourdie, artist, teacher and calligrapher.

Tom Gourdie (1913-2005) was born and raised in Cowdenbeath, and won a scholarship to study at Edinburgh College of Art in the early 1930s. His interest in handwriting was present from an early age, and it was at Art College that he discovered calligraphy under the tuition of Irene Wellington, a renowned calligrapher of the period. After war service with the RAF, he taught art at Banff Academy and then returned to Fife to teach at Kirkcaldy High School. Alongside his teaching career he was developing his ideas on the importance of teaching handwriting to primary school children and evolving various systems and scripts for doing so. He took early retirement in 1973 in order to devote his considerable energies to bringing this about, particularly through the promulgation of his 'Simple Modern Hand'. He had some success in Scotland, where a few Education Boards adopted the system, but perhaps found greater favour abroad. Tom Gourdie was also an accomplished and prolific artist, particularly in watercolour. His subjects were frequently architectural, including many (now vanished) industrial and street scenes of urban Fife. His painting largely fell away after 1973, when he set about his evangelical handwriting mission.

This collection of papers were given to the Library after Tom Gourdie's death, and in accordance with his wishes. The arrangement largely follows that in which the material arrived and a volunteer worked on the listing of the collection in 2007, hence the high level of detail in some of the descriptions. With the papers came Tom Gourdie's extensive and international collection of books and pamphlets on the subject of handwriting. These have been transferred to Printed Book Collections to form a Special Collection (shelfmark Gourd.).

*Presented, 2006.*

For other papers of Tom Gourdie, see Acc.9136.

### **The collection is arranged as follows**

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## **1-28      Correspondence**

As far as possible, the correspondence remains in the groupings in which it arrived, but has been arranged chronologically within each file. Tom Gourdie kept correspondence as much for appearance as for content, and many of the handwritten letters have been mounted for display and teaching purposes, which can mean that the verso of a letter is inaccessible. Other material occasionally accompanies the correspondence, and further correspondence is scattered throughout the rest of the collection, either because it is mounted on large boards for display purposes, or because it remains with the material to which it relates.

### **1-14      Geographical correspondence files**

#### **1-3      United Kingdom**

- 1      Letters, and photocopies of letters, 1936-1965, to Tom Gourdie from various correspondents in the United Kingdom; some are mounted on card for display.
- 2      Letters, and photocopies of letters, 1966-2002 and undated, to Tom Gourdie from various correspondents in the United Kingdom; some are mounted on card for display. With calligraphic 'Player of the Year' certificate (?draft) awarded by Ferrari's United Dundee United Supporters' Club to Alan Combe in 2000 and leaflet advertising CLAS (Calligraphy and Lettering Arts Society).
- 3      Letters, 1953-1995 and undated, from correspondents in the United Kingdom.

#### **4      Europe**

Letters and related papers, 1952-1996. Includes:

Scandinavia, 1952-1970  
Germany, 1952-1986  
Czechoslovakia, 1954-1962  
France, Spain, Italy, 1954-1988

#### **5-9      Australia and New Zealand**

##### **5      New Zealand**

Letters from New Zealand, 1956-2000 and undated. Some of the letters are mounted on card for display purposes. Correspondents include:

Tiny Eggers  
W. P. Lawson, Hicks, Smith & Sons, Wellington, 1956

R. Stafford, 1975  
Dave Wood, Auckland, 1982  
Ron Stenberg, Auckland, 1995

6 Australia and New Zealand

Correspondence and other papers, 1959-1995 and undated, relating to Australia and New Zealand. Arranged chronologically; correspondents include:  
New South Wales Government Department of Education, undated  
Tiny Eggers, New Zealand, 1960  
R. W. Rawlinson, Alexander Mackie College, 1974  
J. Goodacre, Principal of Boy's Junior School, South Africa, 1977  
Joselyn Darling, 1993  
J. Gourdie, 1995

7 Australia

Letters from Australia, 1957-2001 and undated. Some of the letters are mounted on card for display purposes. Correspondents include:  
A. J. Thompson, Official Secretary for New South Wales Government Offices, 1960  
Andrew Baird, 1972  
Bernard Hardman, Queensland, 1976  
Kaye Skinner, 1977  
Ruth Hutchison, Toowong, 1992  
Stewart Marie, Tasmania, 1993  
Jenny and Paul Lindsay, Seville, Australia, 1994  
Doris Cranswick, 2001

8 Australia and New Zealand

Correspondence and related papers, 1980-1987, from publishers in Australia and New Zealand, including the Domini Group.

9 Australia and New Zealand

Undated correspondence and other papers, including  
Forty two letters to Tom Gourdie  
*Changes to the Teaching of Handwriting* (Queensland)  
Press cutting, 'Simply Learning to Write' concerning Walliston Primary School  
Curriculum for 'Teaching handwriting in schools', with four worksheets  
'Project Report' with related items  
Eleven examples of Tom Gourdie's handwriting  
Diary entry, undated  
Maps, leaflets, and other ephemera relating to Australia and New Zealand.

10-12 U.S.A. and Canada

10 U.S.A.

Correspondence and other papers, 1947-1993 and undated, relating to the USA. Arranged chronologically; correspondents include:

University of Texas, undated

Dawn Hopkins, Colorado Springs, undated

Ronald. L. Ambrogi, New York, undated

James Wells, The Newberry Library, Chicago, 1953

Oscar Ogg, Connecticut, 1955, 1965, 1971

Patrick Horsburgh, University of Texas, 1956, 1965-1967

Mrs G. Carey, Newport, 1957

P.W. Filby, Librarian at the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, 1959, 1960

John H. Benson, undated but mounted on verso of letter from Agnes Bell, 1959

Philip Hofer, Houghton Library, Harvard, 1960, 1966, 1967

Jim Wells, Newberry Library, Chicago, 1962, 1963

Higgins Ink Co, New York, 1962

Bill --, Peabody Institute, Baltimore, 1963, 1965

J. F. McGarry, The Educational Supply Co, 1963.

S. Phelps Platt Jr, Dodd, Mead & Company Publishers, New York, 1964

Sam Wallace, 1965

Fr. G. S. Burchill, Headmaster of St. John's Parish Day School, Florida, 1965, 1966, 1970, 1978, 1979

Louis Strick, Antone Color, 1965

Racelle --, New York, 1965

Dick and Carole Munson, Chicago, 1965

Jim Curran, Michigan, 1966

Graham Carey, editor of GoodWork, 1966, 1967

Eleanor M. Garvey, Houghton Library, Harvard, 1966

Francis Manola, Peabody Institute Library, Baltimore, 1966, 1967

Mrs S. Painter, Peabody Institute Library, Baltimore, 1966

E. F. Benson, Newport, 1966

James Breasted, Connecticut, 1966

Mrs Alba Lorman, Reinhold Book Division, 1966

-- Fisher, The John Stevens Shop, 1967

Margaret Skutch, Montessori School of Stamford, 1968

Dr. Robert L. Leslie, Director of 303 Gallery, New York, 1969

James E. Allen, Jr, Assistant Secretary for Education and United States Commissioner for Education, Washington D C, 1970

Joseph H. Major, Pentalic Corporation, 1970

Three copies of a letter from Carl Tisch, 1971

Graham Carey, Vermont, 1971

Ian Herbert, Pitman Publishing, 1971

Barry Jacobs, 1972

Bill --, Maryland Historical Society, 1976

Luke Rigby, 1976

Chuck --, Tigard Public Schools, Oregon, 1977, 1978

Janet Bell, relating to New York Society of Scribes, 1977  
Mona Strassmann, 1977  
Joe Dispigno, ?1977  
Guillermo Rodriguez-Benitez, International Charter Mortgage Corporation, 1977  
Society of Calligraphy, California, 1978  
Maryhurst Education Center, Oregon, 1978  
University of California Extension, 1978  
Saint Leo Shop, Rhode Island, 1978  
Southeastern Massachusetts University, 1978  
LeRoy Troyer and Associates, Indiana, 1978  
Teachers College Press, Columbia, 1978  
Colorado Council on the Arts and Humanities, 1978  
Mattituck – Cutchogue School District, New York, 1979  
Southeastern Massachusetts University, 1979  
Pentalic Corporation. New York, 1979, 1980, 1983 and undated  
Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina, 1979  
Taplinger Publishing, New York, 1979, 1982, 1983  
Winston Churchill Memorial and Library, Missouri, 1979  
Society of Scribes, New York, 1980  
Mary Cobb Bugg, Emory University, Georgia, 1980  
Yankton School District, 1980  
Michael Padgett, Director of the Gallery at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, 1980  
John. P. Cotton, Saint Andrew's School, Florida, 1980  
Helen Bryau, New York, 1980  
Williamsport Area School District, Pennsylvania, 1980  
Joe. F. Head, Georgia, 1980  
Helen Bryau-Kews, New York, 1980  
Jim Rolinson, 1980  
Book of the Month, Pennsylvania, 1981  
Gordon. W. Gilkey, Curator of Prints and Drawings at Portland Art Museum, Oregon, 1981  
Dr June E. Baskin, Williamsport Area School District, Pennsylvania, 1981  
Rowena Gass, Oregon, 1982  
William R. Beck, 1982  
Pamela Shilling, Colleagues of Calligraphy society, Minnesota, 1982  
Charles W. Naylor, Hunt Manufacturing Co, 1982  
Sister Leonard, 1982, with Order of Service for the funeral of Lawrence C. Rossiter  
Lawrence Hines, 1982  
Colleagues of Calligraphy, Minnesota, 1982  
Patricia H. Smith, 1982  
Nan --, 1984  
Sister Jane Klimisch, Sacred Heart Convent, South Dakota, 1984  
Sister Leonarda, ?1984  
Irene A, 1988  
Carl B. Tisch M.D, 1993  
Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers, 1993

11 America/Canada

Letters from North America, 1952-2001 and undated. Some of the letters are mounted on card for display purposes. Correspondents include:

Barbara Weston, University of British Columbia, 1966  
Joseph Firden, Michigan, 1972  
F J Lapalme, 1973  
Steve Johnson, California, 1982  
Patsy and Martin Jackson, 2001

12 Canada

Correspondence and other papers, 1955-1986 and undated, relating to Canada. Arranged chronologically; correspondents include:

Laurie Broadhurst, undated  
Natalie Axelrod, Montreal, undated  
R. A. Simpson, Journal of Education, Nova Scotia, 1955  
John. I. Scott, 1956  
Keith Knowlton, 1957  
Education Committee of Banff County Council, 1964  
Mr Koester, Regina, 1965  
Geoff Spencer, The Alcuin Society, 1965  
Arthur Davies, 1971  
A. Cummins, Director of Education, Ottawa Board of Education, 1976  
Beryl --, Vancouver, 1977  
J. E. Sutherland, Superintendent of Programmes at The Ottawa Board of Education, 1978, 1979  
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 1978  
Dirk Smit, Dean of Community Education in Capilano College, North Vancouver, 1978  
Elizabeth L. Johnson, Public Programmes coordinator, Vancouver Centennial Museum, 1978  
Wanda Tilley, Career/Vocational Community Education Liaison for Capilano College, North Vancouver, 1979  
Lynette Harper, Public Programmes coordinator, Vancouver Centennial Museum, 1979  
Paul Gallagher, Capilano College, 1979  
J. H. Burwell, Ottawa Board of Education, 1979  
Irene Alexander, Member of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators, U K, 1979  
Gage Educational Publishing Limited, 1980  
Victor Froese, University of Manitoba, 1980-1982  
Ethne Erskine, Ministry of Education, British Columbia, 1981  
Betty --, 1981  
Margaret Crawford, 1982  
Barbara. J. Bowen, 1982  
L. C. Semrau, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, 1982

Maureen and Harold Thomson, 1984  
Lynn Roadhouse, 1986

13 Asia and Africa

Letters from correspondents in Asia and Africa, 1966-1999 and undated.

14 Other countries

Germany and Scandinavia, 1960-1981 and undated  
Japan/China, 1976-1985 and undated  
Ireland, 1982 and undated  
France, Letters and other papers from Le Centre National de Calligraphie  
South Africa:  
Review of Past Chairmen from the Journal of the South Africa Calligraphy and Italic Handwriting Society (tenth anniversary number)

**15-28 General Correspondence**

15 Correspondence and papers relating to various handwriting groups and societies, including  
The Handwriting Interest Group, undated  
The Society for Italic Handwriting, 1997–2000.

16 Correspondence and other papers, 1939-2004. Includes a letter of reference from Moray House College (1939), a letter from Buckingham Palace (1960) and personal letters mainly c.2001-2004; the papers were evidently gathered together and to some extent arranged by Tom Gourdie towards the end of his life.

17 Correspondence, 1952-1998 and undated, some photocopies; the bulk of the letters are from Gourdie's students. Correspondents include:  
William MacLaren, 1952  
Peter Mercer, 1952  
Fred Fletcher, 1953  
John Le F. Dumpleton, 1954  
Ena Don Cormack, 1960, 1961  
Chris Brand, 1974  
Jeffery Carter, 1974  
T. Thoman  
Dorothy Cloutier  
Debra Schulman, 1976  
Jean Harding, 1976. With examples of calligraphy.  
Joyce Goldberg, 1976. With examples of calligraphy.  
Laura Lesser, 1976  
Laurence B. Kobak, 1976  
Eunice M. Ganteaume, 1976



- Pamela Rankin-Smith, 1976  
 Genevieve Izinicki, 1976  
 Lissa Feinstein, 1976  
 Maria Theresa Correia, 1976  
 Barbara S. Halliwell, 1976. With examples of calligraphy.  
 Patricia Wyatt, 1976  
 Miriam Schlossmann, 1977  
 Helen Sallum, 1977. With examples of calligraphy.  
 Victoria Dhezstry, 1977  
 Irene A. Eldrige, 1977  
 Kathy Gleason, 1977  
 Dina Hahn, 1977  
 Rita Rubin, 1977  
 Caryl Shapiro, 1977  
 Naomi R. Meyer, 1977  
 Janet Bell, 1977  
 Christine Schreyack, 1977  
 Caldwell Smith, 1978  
 Leslie Christopher Geer, 1978  
 Nancy Guisti, 1978  
 Teresa A. Foley, 1978  
 Sheila Samalin, 1978  
 Andrew Y. Henry, 1985  
 Chris Fealon, 1993  
 John O'Neil, 1997  
 Heather Woodford, 1997  
 Mohamed Aly, 1998
- 18 Greeting cards and some letters, 1960-1987, mainly from fellow calligraphers.
- 19 Incomplete letters, 1953, 1990 and undated; some are photocopies and some are mounted for display.
- 20 Letters and copy letters, 1963-2001 and undated, from Tom Gourdie to various correspondents; includes some letters to Liliias Gourdie.
- 21 Correspondence and other papers, 1966–1979, relating to courses run at Stranmillis College, Belfast.
- 22 Letters, 1979-1984, of Barbara Nichol, an Australian calligrapher, with 2 letters, 2000, of Julie Galbraith, one of her students and some related publicity.
- 23 Correspondence arising from an article by Tom Gourdie in *The Sunday Post*, 1984-1985.
- 24 Letters, 1939-2001, and related papers from staff of various, mainly Scottish, education boards and institutions. Some photocopies and some mounted for display.

- 25 Correspondence and related papers, 1955-1998 and undated, from various public bodies, including:
- British Broadcasting Corporation, 1967-1978  
 Fife County Council, undated  
 Arts Council of Northern Ireland, 1968-1969  
 Strathclyde Council of Education, 1973-1978  
 Corporation of Glasgow Education Department, 1973-1975  
 Strathclyde Regional Council, 1978
- 26 Correspondence and other papers, 1967-1983, relating to Tom Gourdie's collaboration with Sheaffer Eaton Textron (formerly Sheaffer Pen Co).
- 27 Letters from publishers and other commercial enterprises, 1957-2002, including:
- The Parker Pen Company, 1966-1985  
 Canongate. 1976, 1980  
 Penguin Books Ltd, 1960-1989  
 Ladybird, 1966-1989  
 W M Collins and Sons, 1963-1980  
 Studio & Vista Books, 1963-1980  
 Ginn & Company Ltd. 1976-1979  
 Macmillan Education Publishers, 1971-1983  
 Adam & Charles Black Publishers, 1983  
 The Studio Ltd, 1957-1959  
 Pitman Publishing, London, 1968  
 Manuscript Pen Company Limited, 1990-1991
- 28 Contracts, correspondence, royalty statements and other papers, 1995-1999, relating to the publishing of *Learning to write: the simple modern hand – a Fife scheme*.
- 29-70 Teaching materials and related papers**
- 29 Papers relating to the teaching of handwriting in Edinburgh and East Lothian, 1952-1961
- 30 Correspondence and papers relating to the teaching of handwriting in Glasgow, 1973-2001
- 31 Correspondence and papers relating to the teaching of handwriting in Fife, 1978-2001
- 32 *Learning to write: a simple modern cursive for the Primary School* (?Blackie, 1981). Template and original manuscript.
- 33 *Learning to write: the simple modern hand – a Fife scheme* Tom Gourdie and Kay Dick (Fife Council, c.1999)

- Miscellaneous original manuscript pages.
- 34 'The Simple modern handwriting for schools', book 3  
Copies bound into a booklet. Undated.
- 35-38 *Learning to write: the simple modern hand – a Fife scheme* Tom Gourdie  
and Kay Dick (Fife Council, c.1999)
- 35 Level 3: original manuscript pages.  
36 Level 6: original manuscript pages.  
37 Level 7: original manuscript pages.  
38 A Practice book for teachers: paste-up
- 39 'Calligraphy'. An introduction to calligraphy and lettering with various  
sample alphabets. 30 pages mounted on card.
- 40 'Calligraphy' by Tom Gourdie. Manuscript draft of ?unpublished book, with  
bound photocopy, 1978, which includes a foreword by J. T. Bain, Director  
of Education [Glasgow], June 1974
- 41 'A Guide to Better Handwriting & Italic Handwriting'. Carbon typescript with  
manuscript writing examples, manuscript pages, galleys of *Italic  
Handwriting* (1955).
- 42 'Handwriting. An experimental hand' by Tom Gourdie, undated. Paste-up,  
photocopies and papers relating to 'The Edinburgh Report' 9on the  
teaching of handwriting), 1961.
- 43 *Handwriting for today* (London: Pitman, 1971). Original manuscript pages.
- 44 'Handwriting is simply movement'  
Original manuscript, undated.
- 45 'Handwriting – its decay and restoration in the twentieth century'. Copies of  
various versions of Tom Gourdie's review of handwriting, c.1987-1998, with  
related papers.
- 46 'Italic handwriting' by Tom Gourdie. Typescript and carbon typescript,  
?1959, with some manuscript corrections.
- 47 Carbon typescript, with manuscript illustrations, 'The Logic of Handwriting'.  
Undated.
- 48 Manuscript originals of the Osmiroid Simple Guides to Handwriting with a  
printed copy of one of the leaflets.
- 49 'Stages in handwriting', book 1, stage 1  
Possibly part of an undated published work; no publication details in  
volume.

- 50 'The Teaching of Handwriting'  
Manuscript draft (?of an unpublished work). Undated.
- 51 'Young soldier & other projects'  
Manuscript drafts (?for an unpublished) handwriting book. Undated.
- 52 Original manuscript pages possibly for books or teaching aids. Undated.
- 53 Original manuscript pages for an untitled work. Contains letters and copies of letters, 1952-1986, to illustrate a variety of writing styles.
- 54 Manuscript examples of various calligraphic alphabets, with related copies and some printed pages.
- 55 Notebook, 1962, containing the (?unpublished) corrected manuscript of an illustrated history of calligraphy by Tom Gourdie; 2 extra sheets loosely inserted.
- 56 Six notebooks, undated, containing draft and fair copy of some of Tom Gourdie's writings on handwriting. Subjects include the development of the Fife Scheme, handwriting in the twentieth century and notes on teaching.
- 57 Manuscript originals, undated, of writing exercise cards.
- 58 'Direction guide to small letters'  
Manuscript originals of various practice sheets.
- 59 Display cards, undated, showing various examples of mainly cursive script.
- 60 Original manuscripts, probably for some of the Handwriting Cards published at various periods throughout Tom Gourdie's life.
- 61 Manuscripts, copies and paste-ups of various calligraphic alphabets for students' practice sheets.
- 62 Various papers, mostly undated, by Tom Gourdie and others on the subject of handwriting.
- 63 Reviews, prospectuses and promotional material for Tom Gourdie's books and writing schemes, with related papers. Mainly undated.
- 64 'Australian Originals'  
Copy of letter (1979) from Peter Gray, Head Master at Hampstead Primary School, South Australia, with teaching and related materials.

- 65 Teaching Guides/Booklets/Reports, mainly photocopies. Includes:
- Left Handed writing techniques
  - Three copies of the report *Is Bad Handwriting Holding Your Child Back* produced by the Parker Pen Company to promote the use of Gourdie's Simple Modern Hand
  - Booklet - Recommendations of the Advisory Panels – Handwriting – Draft Report
  - Handwriting styles – Analysis by Tom Gourdie 1993
  - Handwriting
  - Teaching of The Simple Modern Hand
  - Helping Children to Write Better
  - The Teaching of Handwriting : The Simple Modern Hand S.M.H by Kay Dick
  - 'Handwriting Legibility: A Method of Objective Evaluation', article from *Visible Language VII* (Autumn 1973), 325 – 344
  - Infant Introduction to Handwriting
  - Handwriting – Creating a Style
  - Learning to Write – The Simple Modern Hand minutes from a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1996
  - The GOURDIE Italic Handwriting Cards (Edinburgh: McDougall)
  - Handwriting in Scottish Schools
  - Guidelines for Pupil's Material
- 66 Two slightly variant photocopies probably of 'The Sheaffer Book', one is pasted up. With copy of covering letter from Tom Gourdie, 2002.
- 67 Copies of pp.39-64 from one of Tom Gourdie's books
- Sheet on italic handwriting
  - Simple Modern Hand style sheets, nos. 1, 2, 3 and 6
  - Pattern Book 1, with print-out of a foreword probably intended for the book.
- 68 'Calligraphic styles'
- Photocopies bound into a booklet. Undated.
- 69 'My first calligraphy book', copied from the *Puffin book of lettering* by Tom Gourdie. Undated.
- 70 Photocopied typescript of paper on the handwriting system adopted by Goollelal (Australia) in 1983 (i.e. Gourdie's Simple Modern Hand).
- 71-74 Handwriting**
- 71 Various examples, c.1930-1999, of calligraphy and of students' work probably used for display and teaching. Some photocopies and some mounted.
- 72 'The Pioneers, Kirkcaldy, March '54'
- 14 examples of handwriting from Gourdie's 'pioneers' (early students), 1953 – 1961. Mounted for display.

73 Students' work, c.1977-1978, some arising from workshops run by Tom Gourdie in the USA, with one copy letter, undated, of Tom Gourdie to a former student.

74 Miscellaneous examples of (mainly) Tom Gourdie's penmanship. Includes a teaching alphabet, two book cover designs, copy of 'Sing a song of Robert Burns'

### **75-78 Calligraphy**

75 *Twenty favourite songs and poems* by Robert Burns; selected by J F T Thomson, calligraphy by Tom Gourdie, with a foreword by A C W Train. (London: Shepheard-Walwyn, 1978)  
Original manuscript, pasted up

76 *The Sonnets of Shakespeare transcribed in the sweet Roman hand* by Tom Gourdie (London: Cassell, 1988).  
Original manuscript.

77 Manuscript of a calligraphic version by Tom Gourdie of 'Tam o'Shanter'. Undated. The work is unfinished, decorative initials sketched in pencil, with a copy of an article on the poem.

78 Pencil sketches of large decorated letters for a lettering book.

### **79-80 Personal papers**

79 Personal and miscellaneous papers, 1945-1969, undated. Includes:  
Autobiographical notes.  
Small note pad containing lists of UK place names and Gourdie's observations on the need for a change in the way handwriting is taught in schools.  
Large 'Essay Book' containing what are possibly teaching notes on the Renaissance and the development of handwriting/calligraphy, probably from Gourdie's time at Kirkcaldy High School.  
National Registration Identity Card from 1945 – 1947  
Edinburgh University Graduation Ceremony programme, 1965  
Teaching Registration certificate, 1968-1969.

80 Six notebooks. One contains a fair copy manuscript of an account by Tom Gourdie of a visit to Orkney, undated; three examples childrens' handwriting jotters, 1950s; one used as a income and expenditure ledger by Tom Gourdie, 1983; one with brief notes relating to a trip to Australia, undertaken in 1985.

### **81 Contemporary artists**

81 Ian Hamilton Finlay/*Poor.Old.Tired.Horse*

In 1966 Ian Hamilton Finlay contacted Tom Gourdie with a view to collaborating on an issue of *Poor Old Tired Horse*, the concrete poetry magazine which Finlay edited and published under his Wild Hawthorn Press imprint. This file contains Finlay's letters, a selection of work from 8 concrete poets with Finlay's brief notes on the contributors and three issues of *Poor Old Tired Horse*. It seems that the collaborative issue discussed was never realised.

Two letters, 1966, from Ian Hamilton Finlay discussing the possibility of a calligraphic issue of Poor.Old.Tired.Horse.

*Poor. Old. Tired. Horse – Boats Shores* Wild Hawthorn Press N°15 Ink freehand drawings and poems

*Poor. Old. Tired. Horse – Sticks Stones/ Names Bones* Wild Hawthorn Press N°16 Woodcut Block print

*Poor. Old. Tired. Horse - OOO* Wild Hawthorn Press N°18 Italic writing print

'MINIPOEMS – For the pupils of Tom Gourdie' by Pierre Garnier. Typescript.

'Cat and Milk Poem' by Robert Jax. Typescript.

Instructions by John Furnival on how to arrange words to create word images. Typescript.

Six printed sheets of poems and a letter from Mary Ellen Solt; 'Wild Crab', 'Forsythia', 'Marigolds', and 'Dogwood': 'Three Movements'

Four poems by Edwin Morgan: 'Madagascar', 'The Chaffinch Map of Scotland', 'Unscrambling the Waves at Goonhilly', 'Construction for I. K. Brunel'.

Poem and letter of Robert Jax

Four small typescript collections of poems by Ian Hamilton Finlay: '3 Happenings', 'Line Boats', 'The Tea Poems' and 'XM Poem'.

Calligraphy poems by Kenelm Cox

Four typescript poems by Emmett Williams, with the author's notes: 'Cellar Song for Five Voices'; 'She Loves Me', 1965; 'Numbers Game'; 'Riddle', 1956.

Four typescript poems by Ernst Jandl with notes.

Three typescript poems and notes by Edward Lucie-Smith: 'Bright', 'My Life towards' and 'Calligraphy'. Published copy of *Fir- Tree Song* (London: Goliard Press, 1965).

**82-83 Photographs/artwork**

82 Miscellaneous photographs, mainly of Gourdie's calligraphic work, with some examples of Christmas cards.

83 Photographs of Gourdie at exhibitions and events, and one photograph of him as a young man and some in later life.  
Five original sketches of townscapes and two mounted photographs of other artwork.

**84 Press cuttings**

84 Press cuttings, 1943-2001, undated.

**85 Audio-visual material**

85 Seven video-cassettes, various formats, some untitled:

Video cassette (Sony KCS 20 'U-matic' format)  
'Handwriting method' by Tom Gourdie. Recorded/processed 16/04/1981; length 21 minutes.

Video cassette (VHS E-180)  
The Simple Modern Hand, part one.

Video cassette (VHS E-180)  
The Simple Modern Hand, part two.

Video cassette (VHS E-180)  
Untitled; labelled 'No.1' in Tom Gourdie's hand.

Video cassette (VHS E-180)  
Untitled.

Video cassette (Philips LVC 150)  
Untitled

Video cassette (Sony KCA 30 'U-matic' format)  
Untitled

**86-88 Miscellaneous**

86 'Prints of some blocks and woodcuts of O Menhart'  
Loose prints of work by Oldrich Menhard (1897-1962)

87 Legal document on vellum, 1783. Probably collected by Tom Gourdie as an example of the formal script of the period.



88 Miscellaneous papers. Includes prospectuses and miscellaneous printed items, mainly relating to Tom Gourdie's handwriting courses; GCE Advanced level 'Craft' examination papers, 1961; some itineraries and papers, undated, possibly relating to a teaching tour of the USA; miscellaneous papers relating to handwriting; a few envelopes kept for the handwriting; a pad of Tom Gourdie's address labels.

**89-94 Outsize items**

89 Contents include:  
'The Art of Handwriting'. Poster for an exhibition on the life and work of Tom Gourdie at Scotland St School Museum, Glasgow, 5 November – 11 December 1994.  
Enlargements of various newspaper articles, c.1954-2000, on Tom Gourdie and his work, with large copies of a selection of his calligraphy and various handwriting style sheets.  
Copies, c.1990, some mounted on card, of the letter drawings of animals used in various teaching books.  
Laminated style sheets for various scripts.  
Original manuscript and corrected copies of various style sheets.  
Large photograph of Tom Gourdie playing trombone.  
Two large board-mounted display sheets on Contemporary Handwriting practitioners.

90 Contents include:  
A range a large-format style sheets, work sheets and display cards mainly relating to 'Approaches to Handwriting', 'Italic Handwriting', 'Handwriting for Schools' and 'The Simple Modern Hand'.  
Some original draft sheets for 'The Simple Modern Hand'.  
Copies and examples of Tom Gourdie's calligraphy  
Copy of The Friends of Calligraphy poster to advertise Gourdie's lectures and workshops in America. January 1977  
A range of large display copies of letters received by Tom Gourdie, 1948-1993.  
Copy of a portrait of Liliias by Tom Gourdie, 1944.  
Copy of a sketch by Tom Gourdie.

91 Contents include:  
Commercial posters on various writing techniques.  
Italic Handwriting Chart 1a Second Edition, 1954.  
Simple Rules of italic pen, 1963.  
Italic Handwriting alphabet.  
The Co Londonderry Writing Chart N°1 January 1966  
The Co Londonderry Writing Chart N°2 January 1966

92 Contents include:  
Tom Gourdie's list of contemporary handwriters  
Calligraphic poster on the history of the modern hand from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. 1961

- 93 Posters, some original, including:  
The Lords Prayer 1980  
St. Mary's Church poster regarding heating restoration  
'Welcome Back' poster signed by Gourdie's pupils  
An Extract from Joys of Life by Robert Bridges 1950  
Thirty six pages of examples of calligraphy through poetry and limericks  
Lines from the Book of Ecclesiastes  
Being Lines from 'Loves Consolation' by R. W. Dixon  
The Ballard of Kind Kyttock May 1970  
Surely There is a Mine for Silver March 1955  
Exhibition poster for Reynolds Stone April 1985  
Orde Der Gulden California Zon – 19<sup>th</sup> September 1963. Large  
Example of Eugen Kahn's work in 1954  
Example of Leo Boekraad's work  
Examples of calligraphy, including two by Stuart Barrie  
Large block print of male profile
- 94 Vellum wall-hanging on wooden runners, probably Tom Gourdie's diploma piece for Edinburgh College of Art, 1936. Gourdie combines calligraphic work with line drawings in a description of his daily commute between Cowdenbeath and Edinburgh when studying at the College.