

U DP165

Papers of Andrew Motion

1976

Biographical Background:

Andrew Motion was born in 1952, the son of Andrew Richard Motion and Catherine Gillian Motion. He graduated from University College, Oxford in 1974. Between 1977 and 1981 he worked as a lecturer in English at Hull University. His first collection of poems *The Pleasure Steamers* was published by Carcanet in 1978. He returned to Oxford as editor of *Poetry Review* 1981 to 1983, and worked as editorial director at Chatto & Windus from 1983 to 1989. He has also published *Independence* (1981); *Secret Narratives* (1983); *Dangerous Plays: Poems 1974 - 1984* (1984); *Natural Causes* (1987) and *Love in a Life* (1991). He is the author of two critical books *The Poetry of Edward Thomas* (1980) and *Philip Larkin* (1982); novels, including the *Pale Companion* (1989) and biographies of *The Lamberts: George Constant and Kit* (1986) and *Philip Larkin: a writer's life* (1993).

Motion was appointed Poet Laureate on 1 May 1999 a post he held for 10 years and is currently Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia.

Custodial history: Purchased from Andrew Motion, 1979

Extent: 2 items

Related material:

Papers of Philip Larkin [U DPL]

Correspondence with Philip Larkin [U DP207]

Other repositories:

Papers 1969-1998 are held at the British Library (Ref Add.87373-87451)

Access conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader

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Notebook of Andrew Motion

5 May 1976

Contains ms. drafts of poems: 'The Golden Age' 'The Habits' 'The Steamers' 'A Dying Race' 'Call It a Day' 'Home' 'The Retreat' 'The Legacy' 'Duke's Cut'. At the rear of the notebook are various maps and notes, records of Motion's research into the part of the Oxford canal known as Duke's Cut.

With a ts. note by him on the contents of the notebook
2 items