

# Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols:

## An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

---

### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Nichols, Robert Malise Bowyer, 1893-1944
<b>Title:</b>	Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1914-1944, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	1 box (.42 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Includes manuscripts for poems, articles, and stories as well as a few letters written by the English poet and playwright Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols. Many of the poems reference his experiences as a soldier during World War I.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-5011
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

---

### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley, 2011 <b>Note:</b> This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

---



**Works:**

Unidentified poetic fragment, handwritten manuscript / fragment, 1 page, undated.

**Container**  
1.1

Untitled poem, Alas, poor rhapsodist, how sad thou art..., handwritten manuscript / drafts with revisions, 5 pages, 30 October no year. Section 4 of Swansong.

Untitled poem, O Nightingale, my heart..., handwritten manuscript, 1 page, circa 1917. Section 2 of Swansong.

Untitled poem, Why dost thou grieve..., handwritten manuscript with emendations, 1 page, circa 1917. Written but not published as section of Swansong.

Untitled story, signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 9 pages, undated.

The Abiding (poem), signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

Aurelia (poem), handwritten manuscript / early draft with few emendations; 1 page, handwritten manuscript / final draft, 1 page; both undated.

The bell, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

Burial party at Paschaendael (poem), signed handwritten manuscript, 3 pages, 1918. Section 3 of Yesterday.

Casualty (poem), signed handwritten manuscript / early draft with emendations, 3 pages, 1916-1917; handwritten manuscript / late draft with emendation, 3 pages, undated. Part 1 of Yesterday.

Conflict and the voices (article), signed handwritten manuscript with emendations, 9 pages, undated.

The deliverer (poem), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 8 pages, Autumn 1919 (Black Mountains).

**Container**  
1.2

The drunkards' house (poem), signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 1928 (Los Angeles).

Encounter (poem), handwritten manuscript / draft with revisions, 2 pages, November 1919 (Black Mountains). Section 2 of Encounters.

English poetry of the Great War (lecture), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 27 pages, 24-27 March 1917. Delivered to the Exeter School Literary Society, 29 March 1917.

A faun's holiday, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 96 pages, undated.

**Container**  
1.3

The flower of flame:

As round the cliff I came alone..., handwritten manuscript / workings, 7 pages, undated.

**Container**  
1.2

Before I woke I knew her gone..., handwritten manuscript / workings, 3 pages, undated. Section 8 of published work.

Formless the gradual waters well from the sheer deep..., signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

The long, low wavelets of summer..., handwritten manuscript / draft with revisions, 1 page, undated. Title Lightness and brightness not used in published version. Section 2 of published work.

The moon behind high tranquil leaves..., handwritten manuscript / late draft with emendations and workings, 3 pages, undated. Section 11 of published work.

Noon; and now rocks the summer sea..., handwritten manuscript, 1 page, handwritten manuscript / workings with revisions, 4 pages, undated. Section 9 of published work.

Section 3, handwritten manuscript / draft and workings with revisions, 9 pages, 1 December 1919 (The Black Mountains).

Guilty souls: Invocation, signed handwritten manuscript / two stanzas, 1 page, undated. Typescript transcript included.

**Container**  
1.4

Harry (story), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 25 pages, undated.

If musick & sweet poetry (article), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 36 pages, undated.

Invitation to love: Shepherd's night song, signed handwritten manuscript 1 page, undated. From A faun's holiday.

The joyful rhythm (article), handwritten manuscript / drafts with revisions, 12 pages, undated. One version titled Joy.

Lamoma Beach (poem), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 1 page, undated.

Last words, signed handwritten manuscript, 3 pages, 1916. Inscribed to Bernard van Dieren.

Madrigal of the lovingkindness of love, handwritten manuscript / drafts, one signed and some incomplete with revisions, 5 pages. "Disembarking 1919" written on signed draft.

Makers of joy (article), handwritten manuscript with emendations, 16 pages, undated.

Midday on the edge of the Downs, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, summer 1914.

Nightmare (poem):

Signed handwritten manuscript, March 1918. Written but not published as Section 2 of Yesterday.

**Container**  
1.5

Titled Memory, signed handwritten manuscript / early draft with revisions and workings, 8 pages, November 1916 (Dartmoor Edge). Also has tentative titles: Elegy in November and On Dartmoor Edge: November.

Handwritten manuscript with few emendations, 5 pages, 1917, 1919.

Signed handwritten manuscript / draft with revisions, 9 pages, November 1917 (Dartmoor); handwritten manuscript / workings with revisions, 9 pages, undated; typescript with few emendations, 3 pages, autumn 1919 (The Black Mountains).

Handwritten manuscript / workings, 3 pages, circa 1917.

Queries and criticism, initialed handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated.

Of the devil who would learn Gregorian (story), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 31 pages, 29 July 1920.

On seeing a portrait of Blake (poem), galley proof with handwritten revisions, 1 page, undated.

Out of it (poem), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 3 pages, 1916 (Surrey).

A passing episode: Fantasia on an old & grim tune (story), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 10 pages, 1915-1916.

**Container**  
1.6

The pilgrim (poem), signed handwritten manuscript / early draft with emendation, 1 page, summer 1917; handwritten manuscript / final draft with title deleted, 1 page, undated. Published without title as Section 5 of Swansong.

The pilgrim (poem), signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Written on verso: handwritten note re The pilgrim. Mounted on paper with typescript of poem and two newspaper obituaries, December 1944.

Plaint of an humble servant, signed handwritten manuscript with emendations and note in an unidentified hand, 3 pages, April 1918.

The secret (poem), signed handwritten manuscript with emendation, 2 pages, March 1918. Section 2 of Yesterday.

Seventeen, handwritten manuscript with emendations, 3 pages, July 1919. Published in Aurelia and Other Poems, 1920.

Soul and song, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Published in Aurelia and Other Poems, 1920.

The sower (poem), signed handwritten manuscript with emendation, 1 page, undated. Published in Such was my singing.

The stranger (poem), handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, May 1918 (London). Section 1 of Encounters.

Strophic stanzas, signed handwritten manuscript with deletions, 2 pages, 10 and 12 June, 1933.

Such was my singing / Introduction, signed handwritten and typed manuscript with revisions, 75 pages; carbon typescript with emendations and notes, 22 pages, 1941-1942.

**Container**  
1.7

Sunrise poem, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

**Container**  
1.6

Sunrise poem, signed handwritten manuscript with few corrections, 2 pages, undated. Published in Such as my singing.

Sun-vassals' evensong, signed handwritten manuscript with rhymic notations, 1 page, undated.

Two friends, two nights (poem), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 3 pages, undated. Section 3 of Encounters.

Two friends, two nights (poem), signed handwritten manuscript with emendations, 2 pages, 1919 (The Black Mountains); handwritten manuscript with emendations, 2 pages, undated. Section 3 of Encounters.

**Letters:**

ALS / incomplete to unidentified recipient, undated.

**Container 1.8**

ALS to unidentified recipient Princess, 8 February 1921.

ALS to Bramley, Mr., 7 August 1929.

2 ALS to Davray, Gaby D., 25 June and 3 August 1919.

10 ALS to Dieren, Bernard van, 1930-1934, undated.

ALS to Foss, Mr., 20 February 1914.

ALS to Rickword, Edgell, 18 July 1938.

ALS from The Poet to Schuster, Miss re Arthur Symons, 20 April 1918. With this: Autobiographical sketch by R. M. B Nichols, handwritten note, 1 page, undated.

5 ALS to Wollman, Mr., 1936-1939. Typed transcript included.

**Miscellaneous:**

Nichols, Robert Malise Bowyer. Quotation from Walt Whitman, signed handwritten manuscript, 1916. **Container**  
1.9

## Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

### Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

### Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date