

Washington Irving:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Irving, Washington, 1783-1859
Title:	Washington Irving Collection
Dates:	1811-1859, undated
Extent:	2 boxes (.84 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes manuscripts and letters by the American author Washington Irving, including materials for <i>A Tour on the Prairies</i> and a chapter of his <i>Life of George Washington</i> .
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-2132
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 Note: 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.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

- Life of George Washington, volume V, chapter IX, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 14 sheets numbered 88-100, undated (published 1858). Some pages cut up and pasted together to make larger sheets. Accompanied by original binding (now removed), printed version of the chapter, and engraved portraits of Washington Irving, George Washington, Martha Washington, Mount Vernon, Alexander Hamilton, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Jefferson. From the Wrenn Collection. **Container** 1.2
- Observation on the grave, handwritten manuscript / fair copy, 1 page, 20 January 1854. Not described in card catalog. **Container** 1.1
- The seven sons of Lara, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 18 pages, undated (circa 1827 or 1828?). From the Hanley Collection.
- A tour on the prairies, published as number 1 of Miscellanies (London, 1835); republished as number 1 of The Crayon Miscellany (Philadelphia, 1835). From the Hanley Collection.
- Handwritten manuscript with revisions and printer's markings, undated.
- Pages 1-80. **Container** 1.3
- Pages 81-176. **Container** 1.4
- Pages 177-255. **Container** 1.5
- Pages 256-329. **Container** 1.6
- Pages 330-421. **Container** 1.7
- Original binding, 2 volumes, London: Sangorski & Sutcliffe, undated. **Container** 2.1
- Bound printed copy lacking title page or imprint information, 124 pages, identified as London: Routledge, 1850. **Container** 2.2

Letters:

ALS to Granard, Lady, 7 May 1827. From the Hanley Collection.

Container
2.3

ALS to Harrison, Joseph, 17 January 1859.

ALS to Peabody, Andrew Preston, 3 November 1856. From the Stark Collection.

ALS to Van Ness, William Peter, 3 June 1811.

Miscellaneous:

Wyrley, William. Capitall de Buz..., handwritten manuscript / copy of ten stanzas from the poem in Washington Irving's hand, 4 pages on 1 folded leaf, undated (watermark 1817). Also written on this is short handwritten note in same hand "Europus King of Macedonia... ." Original located in CR 19 W85 1592 HRC.

Container
2.4

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