

Robert Burns:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Burns, Robert, 1759-1796
Title:	Robert Burns Collection
Dates:	1786-1851, undated
Extent:	1 box (.21 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes five manuscripts and three letters written by the Scottish poet Robert Burns. Correspondents include Thomas Boyd, Allan Cunningham, and Robert Muir. Also present are an autograph of Burns' brother Gerald Burns and a manuscript containing an additional verse for "Green grow the rashes" by Robert Burns, Jr.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-0619
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Richard Mikel, 2013; revised 2018 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:

A bard's epitaph / titled Epitaph on a rustic bard, by himself, handwritten manuscript, 1 page bound, circa 1786. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.2

The fornicator -- A new song -- Tune, Clout the cauldron, handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. **Container** 1.1

The lament of Mary Queen of Scots, handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. From the Stark Collection.

My nannie's awa, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 1795. From Hanley II.

Lord Gregory (with alternate first line: O bitter drives the northern shower...), handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Includes typed transcript. From the Hanley Collection.

Letters:

ALS to Boyd, Thomas, 1 March 1789. From Hanley II.

Container 1.3

ALS / copy to Cunningham, Allan, 24 January 1789. Not in Burns' hand.
Removed from: Letters addressed to Clarinda Glasgow, 1802. From the Stark
Collection.

ALS to Muir, Robert, 20 December 1786. From the Hanley Collection.

Miscellaneous:

Burns, Robert, Jr., 1787-1857. Additional verse to Green grow the rashies, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 7 October 1851. Addressed to Miss Joanna Smith, Dumfries. Hanley II.

Container
1.4

Burns, Gilbert, 1760?-1827. Autograph of Robert Burns' brother, undated. Hanley II.

Walker, John. Handwritten and printed receipt to Burns, Robert, 5 February 1789. Received for William Stewart.

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