

# John Dos Passos:

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

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Dos Passos, John, 1896-1970
<b>Title:</b>	John Dos Passos Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1930-1966, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	1 box (.21 linear feet), 1 galley folder (gf)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Includes manuscripts and letters by the American novelist John Dos Passos. Letters to Josephine Herbst, Ruth Herrmann, Willard Maas, the editors at New Directions, and others are present.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-1197
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley and Dylan Davidson, 2014 <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>

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**Works:**

- Autobiographical sketch, signed typescript with handwritten emendations, 1 page, April 1936 (Provincetown). For Georges Schreiber's Portraits and self-portraits, 1936. Included with this: ALS cover letter, undated. **Container**  
1.1
- The best times, uncorrected proofs with handwritten notes by reviewer, 154 pages, undated. **Container**  
1.2
- The changing shape of institutions, signed typescript, 11 pages, undated. **Container**  
1.1

**Letters:**

FL to unidentified, January 1932. Written as chairman of National Committee to Aid Striking Miners Fighting Starvation. **Container**  
1.3

TLS to Abramson, Ben, 24 June 1951. Included with this: memo death announcement for Abramson. Removed from TEMP D74Dm 1929.

ALS to Basso, Joseph Hamilton, undated.

ALS to Battan, David, 14 December 1962.

APCS to Herbst, Josephine, 13 August 1930.

TLS to Herrmann, Ruth, 22 April 1966.

ALS to Maas, Willard, undated.

ALS to Marshall, 5 July 1962.

ALS to Meech, Sylvia Spencer, 3 May 1932.

ALS to Merrild, Knud, undated.

TLS to New Directions, 22 April 1966.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Potter, Jack. A bibliography of John Dos Passos, galley proofs / incomplete, 19 pages, 1950. **Container**  
gf 1
- Van Gelder, Robert, 1904- . An interview with John Dos Passos, page proof, 1 page, **Container**  
1946. Removed from AC-L 928 V293w copy 1. 1.4

## 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