

Autographs of the Presidents of the United States from the Hanley Collection:

An Inventory of the Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	United States. President
Title:	Autographs of the Presidents of the United States from the Hanley Collection
Dates:	1796-1936
Extent:	1 oversize box (osb) (2.00 linear feet)
Abstract:	A collection of thirty-one letters and legal documents signed by each president from George Washington through Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The items are arranged chronologically in order of presidential term on pages in an oversize bound volume.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-54159
Language:	English with small amounts of Dutch, French, and Spanish
Access:	Open for research. Researchers must create an online Research Account and agree to the Materials Use Policy before using archival materials.
Use Policies:	Ransom Center collections may contain material with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations. Researchers are advised that the disclosure of certain information pertaining to identifiable living individuals represented in the collections without the consent of those individuals may have legal ramifications (e.g., a cause of action under common law for invasion of privacy may arise if facts concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the Ransom Center and The University of Texas at Austin assume no responsibility.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation Collection of Autographs of the Presidents of the United States from the Hanley Collection (Manuscript Collection MS-54159). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Acquisition: Purchase, Hanley I Collection, 1958

Processed by: Joan Sibley and Richard Workman, 2020 **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](#)

Autographs of the Presidents of the United States. A Collection of Letters and Official Documents including every President, each signed during his Presidency, 1789-1938 (sic, 1796-1936). From the Hanley Collection. Formerly cataloged as MS X-12.

Adams, John, 1735-1826. Signed printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Joseph Brown to the rank of Midshipman, signed by Adams and Benjamin Stoddert, 25 September 1798. Located on page 2.

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848. Printed document with handwritten insertions / a patent granted to Warren Commins for a machine for cutting straw, signed by Adams and Henry Clay, 11 February 1828. Located on page 6.

Arthur, Chester Alan, 1830-1886. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Norman T. Andrews as Postmaster at Greenwich, New York, signed by Arthur, 15 March 1883. Located on page 21.

Buchanan, James, 1791-1868. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing John Harris to the rank of Colonel Commandant, signed by Buchanan and Isaac Toucey, 5 February 1859. Located on page 15.

Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing William Gaston Allen as Consul at Kingston, Jamaica, signed by Cleveland and Thomas F. Bayard, 4 September 1888. Located on page 22.

Coolidge, Calvin, 1872-1933. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing William D. Wilson as Temporary Ensign, signed by Coolidge and Henry Herrick Bond, 12 June 1928. Located on page 29.

Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874. Printed document with handwritten insertions recognizing Edward Zimmerman for distinguished service, signed by Fillmore and Charles Magill Conrad, 1 March 1851. Located on page 13.

Garfield, James Abram, 1831-1881. Printed document with handwritten insertions instructing the Secretary of State to affix the seal of the U.S. to an envelope containing a letter of credence for George Maney, Minister Resident at Bogotá, Colombia, signed by Garfield, 1 June 1881. Located on page 20

Grant, Ulysses Simpson, 1822-1885. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Webster Doty to the rank of Lieutenant, signed by Grant and George M. Robeson, 19 December 1873. Located on page 18.

Harding, Warren Gamaliel, 1865-1923. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Maud Fellheimer as Notary Public for the District of Columbia, signed by Harding and H. M. Daugherty, 31 October 1921. Located on page 28.

Harrison, Benjamin, 1833-1901. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing J. Rufus Tryon as Medical Inspector, signed by Harrison and Benjamin F. Tracy, 7 October 1891. Located on page 23.

Harrison, William Henry, 1773-1841. Printed document / incomplete ship's passport, signed by Harrison and Daniel Webster, undated. Located on page 9.

Hayes, Rutherford Birchard, 1822-1893. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing George F. Lincoln as Consul at Stettin, Germany (now Szczecin, Poland), signed by Hayes and William M. Evarts, 21 December 1880. Located on page 19.

Hoover, Herbert Clark, 1874-1964. Printed document with handwritten insertions acknowledging John G. Vogeler as Honorary Consul from Peru, signed by Hoover, 4 April 1930. Located on page 30.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Thomas William Gilpin as Consul to the port of Belfast, Ireland, signed by Jackson and Martin Van Buren, 20 December 1830. Located on page 7.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826. Printed document with handwritten insertions granting land to Michael Smith for military service, signed by Jefferson and James Madison, 1 July 1801. Located on page 3.

Johnson, Andrew, 1808-1875. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Joseph H. Elmer as Collector of Customs for the District of Bridgeton in New Jersey, signed by Johnson and Hugh McCulloch, 13 July 1866. Located on page 17.

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865. Printed document with handwritten insertions acknowledging Friedrich Kuhne as Vice Consul of the Duchy of Saxe-Altenburg, signed by Lincoln and William H. Seward, 30 September 1864. Located on page 16.

McKinley, William, 1843-1901. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Earnest M. Reeve to the rank of First Lieutenant, signed by McKinley and Elihu Root, 27 May 1901. Located on page 24.

Madison, James, 1751-1836. Printed document with handwritten insertions / ship's passport for the brigantine The Peace, signed by Madison, David Gelder, and Robert Smith, 19 May 1809. Located on page 4.

Monroe, James, 1758-1831. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing William W. McKean to the rank of Lieutenant, signed by Monroe and Samuel Southard, 13 January 1825. Located on page 5.

Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing William R. Terrill to the rank of First Lieutenant, signed by Pierce and Jefferson Davis, 11 July 1856. Located on page 14.

Polk, James Knox, 1795-1849. Printed document with handwritten insertions pardoning Daniel Brusman, signed by Polk, 31 December 1846. Located on page 11.

Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, 1882-1945. TLS to Captain James W. Flanagan, signed by Roosevelt, 5 May 1936. Located on page 31.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Earnest M. Reeve to the rank of First Lieutenant, signed by Roosevelt and Elihu Root, 26 December 1901. Located on page 25.

Taft, William Howard, 1857-1930. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Roswell J. Edgcomb as Postmaster at Groton, Connecticut, signed by Taft and Frank H. Hitchcock, 15 February 1910. Located on page 26.

Taylor, Zachary, 1784-1850. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Gilbert Knapp as Captain in the Revenue Services, signed by Taylor and William M. Meredith, 9 May 1849. Located on page 12.

Tyler, John, 1790-1862. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing John Faron, Jr., as Chief Engineer, signed by Tyler and John Y. Mason, 6 December 1844. Located on page 10.

Van Buren, Martin, 1782-1862. Printed document with handwritten insertions / ship's passport for The Minerva, signed by Van Buren and Aaron Vail, 10 October 1839. Located on page 8.

Washington, George, 1732-1799. Printed document with handwritten insertions / ship's passport for the brigantine Dolphin, signed by Washington and Timothy Pickering, 23 September 1796. Located on page 1.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924. Printed document with handwritten insertions appointing Lula Ezell as Postmaster at Timpson, Texas, signed by Wilson and A. S. Burleson, 12 April 1920. Located on page 27.

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