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Guide to the

**The life of William Russell Birch, enamel painter, written by himself : with a list of his copys [sic] on enamel (by desire) from the pencil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the master he studied under, with a short detail upon enamel painting [typescript]**

MssCol 307

## Summary

**Creator:** Birch, William Russell, 1755-1834

**Title:** The life of William Russell Birch, enamel painter, written by himself : with a list of his copys [sic] on enamel (by desire) from the pencil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the master he studied under, with a short detail upon enamel painting [typescript]

**Abstract:** William Russell Birch was a miniaturist, enamel painter, engraver, and etcher. Born in Warwickshire, England, in 1755, he emigrated to Philadelphia in 1794, and there he died in 1834. His sons Thomas and George were also artists. William and Thomas worked together for a short while and printed a series of engravings entitled Views of Philadelphia. William later published another series entitled Country Seats of America. A typescript of an autobiography of William Russell Birch, along with information about enamel painting and a list of enamel paintings which he had executed.

**Physical Location:** MssCol 307

**Location of Originals:** Originals belong to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

**Preferred citation:** The life of William Russell Birch, enamel painter, written by himself : with a list of his copys [sic] on enamel (by desire) from the pencil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the master he studied under, with a short detail upon enamel painting [typescript], Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Creator History

William Russell Birch was a miniaturist, enamel painter, engraver, and etcher. Born in Warwickshire, England, in 1755, he emigrated to Philadelphia in 1794, and there he died in 1834. His sons Thomas and George were also artists. William and Thomas worked together for a short while and printed a series of engravings entitled Views of Philadelphia. William later published another series entitled Country Seats of America.

## Scope and Content Note

A typescript of an autobiography of William Russell Birch, along with information about enamel painting

and a list of enamel paintings which he had executed.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Artists

Autobiographies (literary works)

### **Subjects**

Enamel and enameling -- England

### **Names**

Birch, William Russell, 1755-1834

Birch family