Summary

Creator: Lowell, Robert, 1917-1977

Title: Robert Lowell collection of papers

Date: 1943-1977

Size: 88 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, a notebook for 1970, as well as correspondence.

Access: Restricted access.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.


Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Related Materials: Consult the Berg Collection staff for additional unprocessed materials including manuscripts, correspondence, and printed materials with the author's manuscript emendations.

Creator History
Robert Lowell was an American poet, playwright, and translator.

Custodial History
One of the translations was contained among Randall Jarrell's papers.
Scope and Content Note
This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, a notebook for 1970, as well as correspondence by and about the author. The manuscripts and typescripts include poems and translations. The correspondence, dating from 1943 through 1976, is from the author to Babette Deutsch, Anne Fremantle, Randall Jarrell, Alfred Kazin, Marianne Moore, Ruth Witt-Diamant, and others. Also present are letters relating to the author, dating from 1950 to 1977, between various correspondents, including Elizabeth Bishop, Philip Booth, Richard Eberhart, Randall Jarrell, and others. There are letters to Lowell from William Meredith, Peter Salus, and Louis Untermeyer, dating from 1960 to 1971.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Correspondence
Notebooks

Names
Lowell, Robert, 1917-1977
Bishop, Elizabeth, 1911-1979
Booth, Philip, 1925-2007
Deutsch, Babette, 1895-1982
Eberhart, Richard, 1904-2005
Fremantle, Anne, 1909-2002
Jarrell, Randall, 1914-1965
Kazin, Alfred, 1915-1998
Meredith, William, 1919-2007
Moore, Marianne, 1887-1972
Salus, Peter H.
Untermeyer, Louis, 1885-1977
Witt-Diamant, Ruth
Container List

Manuscripts and Typescripts

Manuscripts & Typescripts written by Lowell

Beyond the Alps. Typescript (carbon) of poem with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

With another, uncorrected (carbon) draft. 2 p.; with fragment of draft, on verso of which his: The drive from West Street to Danbury

In his: A declaration of personal responsibility. A. Typescript (carbon) of statement n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
Signed. Accompanied by his: TL (carbon) to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Sept. 8, 1943. 1 p.

With another version of the last 17 lines, on verso of which his Sailing home from Rapalle. [Part] III


Meditation. Typescript of poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
On verso his: [To the reader. After Baudelaire] Typewritten draft of first four lines with the author's ms. corrections

Memories of West street and Lepke. Typescript of poem with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
With another, uncorrected (carbon) draft. 1 p.

[My last afternoon with uncle Devereux Wilson] Aunt Laura. Typescripts (3) of three drafts for the poem with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (1 p. each) (1 p. each)

Cased Notebook. Typescript of collection of poems with the author's ms. corrections. Many pages are carbons and photocopies of typescript; many are photocopies of proof sheets sent to the printer for expanded 1970 edition of the poems 1970 Jan. (221 p) (221 p)

Poems (7). Typescript and typescript (photocopy) some with the author's ms. corrections: Ants; For Theodore Roethke 1908-1963; Return in March; Baudelaire I. The abyss; Recollections; Alcohol 2; Marriage n.d. (7 items) (7 items)
Some signed

Skunk hour. Typescript of poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)
Manuscripts & Typescripts written by Lowell (cont.)

Manuscript box
[To the reader. After Baudelaire] Typewritten draft of first four lines with the
author’s ms. corrections n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
On verso of his: Meditation. Typescript of poem

Manuscript box
To the reader. (After Baudelaire). Typescripts (3) of three drafts for the
poem with the author’s ms. corrections n.d. (1 p. each) (1 p. each)
Published in his Imitations, N.Y., 1961

Manuscript box
Words for Hart Crane. Typescript of poem with the author’s ms. corrections
n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscripts & Typescripts relating to Lowell

Manuscript box
Connolly, Cyril. Poets in neurosis. Holograph draft of review of three
collections of verse: For the Union dead by Robert Lowell, Notes from
Sicily by Alan Ross, and Ariel by Sylvia Plath n.d. (7 p) (7 p)
Signed

Manuscript box
Hugo, Victor. Russia 1812. Typescript (carbon) of poem translated by
Robert Lowell, with ms. transcription of translator’s revisions by William
Meredith. Dated by Wm. Meredith 1961 Mar. (2 p) (2 p)

In Jarrell’s: Auden.
Holograph notebook, p. [133]

In volume with
Jarrell’s: The
stranger [by Albert
Camus]
Holograph notes,
p. [16-21]

Manuscript box
Jarrell, Randall. [From the kingdom of necessity] Holograph fragment of
review of Lord Weary’s castle by Robert Lowell n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Jarrell, Randall. [Poetry and the age. From the kingdom of necessity]
Holograph notes for review. Review of Robert Lowell's Lord Weary's castle
n.d. (6 p) (6 p)

In Jarrell’s: The
stranger [by Albert
Camus]
Holograph notes,
p. [16-21]

Manuscript box
Pasternak, Boris. Hamlet in Russia. Typescript (carbon) of poem translated
by Robert Lowell with ms. transcription of translator’s revisions by William
Meredith. Dated by Wm. Meredith 1961 Mar. (1 p) (1 p)
With typescript (carbon) reminiscence of Olga Ivinskaya by [Nicolas Nabokov]. Feb. 1961 by
William Meredith. 9 p.

Manuscript box
Pasternak, Boris. The landlord. Holograph draft and typescript (3 versions,
with carbons) of poem translated by Robert Lowell with the translator’s ms.
revisions. Dated by William Meredith 1961 Mar. (9 p) (9 p)
Holograph draft also includes Lowell’s translation of Pasternak’s poem, Wild vines, translated
here as Wild wine

(Lowell, R.)
Racine, Jean. Racine’s Phaedra, translated by Robert Lowell. Duplicated
typescript with ms. revisions in an unidentified hand. Cover title; title-page
Came with Randall Jarrell’s papers

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence
Correspondence (cont.)
Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript box</th>
<th>Correspondence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In: Burke, Kenneth. 40 ALS, 9 ANS, 740 TLS, etc. ... to Hildegarde and James Sibley Watson, Jr. Folder 46</td>
<td>Burke, Kenneth. TNS (carbon transcript) to n.d. (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremantle, Anne. TL to 1968 Aug. 9 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)</td>
<td>Fremantle, Anne. TL to 1968 Aug. 9 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moore, Marianne. Transcript of postcard to 1961 Mar. 26 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Moore, Marianne. Transcript of postcard to 1961 Mar. 26 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt, Franklin Delano. TL (carbon) to 1943 Sept. 8 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Roosevelt, Franklin Delano. TL (carbon) to 1943 Sept. 8 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witt-Diamant, Ruth. Postcard to 1966 May 20 (1 item) (1 item)</td>
<td>Witt-Diamant, Ruth. Postcard to 1966 May 20 (1 item) (1 item)</td>
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</table>

Incoming Correspondence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript box</th>
<th>Correspondence</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Meredith, William]. TL (carbon) to Lowell 1960 Mar. 9 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>[Meredith, William]. TL (carbon) to Lowell 1960 Mar. 9 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untermeyer, Louis. TL (carbon) to Lowell 1962 Sept. 5 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Untermeyer, Louis. TL (carbon) to Lowell 1962 Sept. 5 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Correspondence

Booth, Philip E. 2 TLS, 1 postcard to Mary von Schrader Jarrell. Letter of Nov. 3, 1965 mentions Robert Lowell 1965 Nov. 3 - 1967 Sept. 6 (2 p.; 1 card; 1 p)

