

Arthur Douglas Bruce Hamilton:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Hamilton, Arthur Douglas Bruce, 1900-1974
Title:	Arthur Douglas Bruce Hamilton Papers
Dates:	1929-1990
Extent:	16 boxes, 1 oversize box, 1 oversize file folder (7.72 linear feet)
Abstract:	The papers include materials for published works, drafts and notes of unpublished or minor works, correspondence, biographical works about his family, and personal papers including articles, biographical and genealogical information, financial papers, notebooks, and family photographs. There is also a great deal of material covering cricket and the history of British colonies in the Caribbean, in the form of newspaper articles and Hamilton's regular world events column in the <i>Barbados Advocate</i> .
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-05026
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift, 1999 (Gift no. 11415)
Processed by:	Alex Jasinski and Liz Murray, 2003
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Scope and Contents

The papers of British writer Bruce Hamilton span a fifty year writing and teaching career, including material for his published and unpublished works, as well as correspondence and material related to his family.

The collection is organized in four series: I. Works; II. Correspondence, 1929-1990; III. Personal; and IV. Family Papers.

The works in Series I are arranged alphabetically and primarily include drafts and notes of unpublished or minor works, and biographical works about family members and family history. Hamilton is known for his novels *To Be Hanged*; *Middle Class Murder*; *Pro*; and *So Sad, So Fresh*; the biography of his brother Patrick, *The Light Went Out*; and the play "The Home Front" which he wrote with his sister Helen. While the collection contains only associated material for some of these published works, it does include typescript drafts for the early years of his autobiography; an article on his father Bernard; a novel about his brother Patrick, "A Case for Cain"; a book on Shelley and Elizabeth Hitchener; as well as articles, plays, and poems. Hamilton's literary career was also devoted to cricket coverage and the history of British colonies in the Caribbean, especially during his thirty-five years in Barbados. Much of this material is present in the form of newspaper articles, as well as Hamilton's regular world events column in the *Barbados Advocate*.

The personal correspondence of Hamilton and his wife Aileen is found in Series II, especially letters exchanged throughout their marriage. Letters from other family members, friends, and publishers are also present.

Series III contains Hamilton's personal papers including articles about him, biographical and genealogical information, financial papers, notebooks, and family photographs. Material on Hamilton's 1964 appointment as a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George is found in this series.

The family papers in Series IV include considerable material on Aileen's artistic career as well as her daybooks from 1968-1984. Material on Hamilton's brother Patrick and sister Helen, a writer and an actress known by her stage name Diana, is also present.

Several of Aileen Hamilton's sketches were transferred to the HRC Art Collection.

I. Works

Autobiography, childhood years, typescripts and notes	Box 1 Folder 1
"Bernard--A Tragi-Comedy," article on Hamilton's father, typescript draft	Folder 2
"A Case for Cain," novel	
Handwritten draft	Box 1 Folder 3-5
Typescript	Folder 6-7
Typescript, carbon	Box 2 Folder 1-2
Typescript, photocopy, through p.218	Folder 3
"Destroying Angel and Brown Demon"	
Typescript copies with corrections	Box 2 Folder 4-6
Notes on P. B. Shelley and Elizabeth Hitchener	Folder 7
"Director of Education," handwritten draft	Box 3 Folder 1
"Gettysburg Night," play, printed and typescript versions	Folder 2
"The Hanging Judge," play based on novel, adapted by Raymond Massey	Folder 3
"Holland House," typescript, notes, and photograph of Holland House cadets	Folder 4
"The Home Front," programs for play written with Diana Hamilton	Folder 5
"The Home Magazine," juvenilia	Folder 6
"Keats," corrected typescripts and notes	Folder 7-8

"The Last Order," typescript	Folder 9
Lectures	Folder 10
<i>The Light Went Out: The Life of Patrick Hamilton</i>	
Handwritten and typescript draft fragments	Box 3 Folder 11
Fan letters	Folder 12
Publicity photos	Folder 13
"The Lost Tests," typescript	Box 4 Folder 1
<i>Middle Class Murder</i> , novel, Tauchnitz edition	Folder 2
"Nor This the Only Time," playscript with corrections	Folder 3
"A Plan for Smoking: How to Cut DOWN Cigarettes," typescript draft	Folder 4
Plays for radio, "A Lost Love" and "The Two Captains," with correspondence	Folder 5
Reviews of plays and the Bridgetown Players	Folder 6
<i>Russia To-Day</i> , April and May 1934 issues containing Hamilton's articles; handwritten diary of a trip to Russia and a notebook in Russian	Folder 7-8
"Sago Pudding," typescript	Folder 9
"700 Yaw," handwritten draft	Folder 10
"Short Dictionary of English History"	
Handwritten draft and notes	Box 4 Folder 11
Typescript	Folder 12
"Smarty Outsmarted," play	Folder 13
"Triptych," poem, printed copies	Folder 14

"Twelve Famous Tests," typescripts

Box 5 Folder 1

Newspaper articles, primarily for the *Barbados Advocate*

Folder 2-4

Handwritten and typescript fragments, unidentified works

Folder 5-9

II. Correspondence, 1929-1990

Condolences, on Bruce's death	Box 6 Folder 1
Emtage, Joyce	Folder 2
Hamilton, Aileen to Bruce Hamilton	
1929-40	Box 6 Folder 3
1941-47	Folder 4
1955-74	Folder 5
Hamilton, Bruce to Aileen Hamilton	
1933-47	Box 6 Folder 6
1952-56	Folder 7
1957-68 and n.d.	Folder 8
Hamilton, Ellen	Box 7 Folder 1
Hamilton, Helen	Folder 2-4
Hamilton, Patrick	Folder 5
Mackehenie, Charles	Folder 6
Martin, Lois M.	Folder 7
Publishers and agents	
1947-74	Box 7 Folder 8
1974-90	Folder 9
Queree, Enid	Box 8 Folder 1
Robinson, Kenneth	Folder 2
General Correspondence	
A-C	Box 8 Folder 3
D-E	Folder 4

F-G

Folder 5

H-K

Folder 6

L-P

Folder 7

R-Z

Box 9 Folder 1

Unidentified, by first name

A-G

Box 9 Folder 2

H-N

Folder 3

O-Z

Folder 4

Unidentified

Folder 5

Unidentified, cont'd

Box 10 Folder 1

III. Personal

Articles about Bruce Hamilton	Box 10 Folder 2
Articles about works of Bruce and Patrick Hamilton [scrapbook removed to oversize box 17]	Folder 3-4
Biographical material and obituaries	Folder 5
Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 1964, appointment papers and correspondence	Folder 6
Diary and notebook	Folder 7
Financial papers	Folder 8
Genealogy, including Aileen Hamilton's family	Folder 9
Notebooks	Box 11 Folder 1
Personal documents	Folder 2
Photographs, family	Folder 3-6
Stamp collection	Folder 7

IV. Family Papers

Aileen Hamilton

Articles about **Box 12 Folder 1**Artistic career **Folder 2**Chalky Mount, property in Barbados **Folder 3**

Daybooks

1968-69 **Box 12 Folder 4**1970-73 **Folder 5**1974-78 **Folder 6**1979-84 **Box 13 Folder 1**Diary, 1975-77 **Folder 2**Exhibitions **Folder 3**Financial papers **Folder 4-5**Notes and miscellaneous material **Folder 6**Notes and miscellaneous material, cont'd **Box 14
Folder 1-5**"Passover," poem **Folder 6**Sketches and photographs of paintings **Box 15 Folder 1**Will **Folder 2**Hamilton, Bernard **Folder 3**Hamilton, Ellen **Folder 4**

Hamilton, Helen

Articles about **Box 15 Folder 5**Correspondence **Folder 6**

Diaries	Folder 7
"Middle Class Murder," radio script adaptation	Folder 8-9
Hamilton, Patrick	
Articles by and about	Box 15 Folder 10
Obituaries	Folder 11
Will	Folder 12
Hamilton, Walter, Rev., commemorative retirement book, 1898 [removed to oversize box 17]	
Wildman, Edward, papers re: Bruce Hamilton's great grandfather	Folder 13
Print material [oversize material removed to oversize flat folder]	Box 16 Folder 1-6
Oversize	Box 17