

William Burford:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Burford, William, 1927-2004
Title:	William Burford Collection
Dates:	1946-1980, undated
Extent:	2 boxes (.84 linear feet), 1 galley folder (gf)
Abstract:	Includes manuscripts and letters written by the American poet and educator William Burford. The majority of the collection however is made up of letters received from various contemporaries, among them John Ashbery, Elizabeth Bishop, Denise Levertov, James Merrill, Anaïs Nin, Karl Shapiro, Gary Snyder, and Richard Wilbur.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-0600
Language:	English, French, and Italian
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 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

Works:

- Unidentified play, handwritten manuscript / fragment with revisions, 4 pages, undated. **Container**
1.1
- About Nijinsky's diary, printed essay with handwritten revisions and deletions, with typed insert taped in and handwritten note initialed by Burford on cover, 7 pages, 29 September 1973. In *The widening circle*, spring 1973.
- A beginning; poems, galley proof with typescript taped on and with handwritten revisions and typesetter's notations, 19 galley sheets, 13 June 1966. **Container**
gf 1
- Proteus, a novel, typescript, 83 pages, undated. **Container** 1.2
- Review of *The letters of Hart Crane*, typescript / incomplete with handwritten revisions, 1 page, undated. Review for *Poetry*. **Container**
1.1
- White nights; an allegorical play in one act, initialed typescript with handwritten revisions and note, 14 pages, 1957.

Letters:

TLI / draft to Johnson, Lyndon Baines, 13 September 1965. Included with this: TLS **Container**
from J. B. Clinton (staff assistant to the President) to Burford, 23 September 1965. 1.3

TLS / draft to Ohio. State University, Columbus. Libraries. Special Collections,
directed to Robert A. Tibbetts, 3 March 1973. Concerns his relationship with
Anaïs Nin. Included with this: 2 TLS Tibbetts to Burford, 9 February and 12 April
1973.

Recipient:

Unidentified author Georges. ALS to Burford, 25 December 1968.

Container
1.4

Unidentified author Jim. TLS to Burford, 6 March 1972.

Unidentified author Paul. 2 ALS to Burford, 20 September and 26 October 1970.

Aldridge, Richard, 1930- . 3 TLS to Burford, 1971-1972.

Amherst College. 4 TLS to Burford, 1972. Included with these: TeeL Amherst to Library of Congress Consultant in Poetry, 6 June 1972; TLS Library of Congress to William Burford, 25 July 1972.

Anderson, Lee. ALS to Burford, 2 March 1972. Included with this: obituary, cut from newspaper, and envelope addressed to Burford by Anderson's widow.

Arrowsmith, William, 1924- . TL to Burford, 1959. Concerns FLS from Radiotelevisione Italiana to Burford, 14 March 1959 (in Italian), which is included.

Artium Orbis Corp., Santa Fe. TLS to Burford, 6 November 1971.

Arvin, Newton, 1900- . ALS, TLS to Burford, 3 September 1954, 13 January 1963.

Ashbery, John. 2 TLS to Burford, 4 November 1965, 15 December 1977.

Auchincloss, Eve. TLS to Burford, 27 March 1972. Letterhead: Book World.

Autret, Jean, 1901- . 3 ALS to Burford, 1971.

Basler, Roy Prentice, 1906- . TLS to Burford, 11 July 1972.

Bell, Charles Greenley, 1916- . TLS to Burford, 18 July 1971. Written on a carbon typescript of his poem *Sursum corde*, 1 page, undated. Enclosed with this: Bell, Prodigal's return, carbon typescript, 1 page, undated.

Berg, Stephen. 2 ALS, 19 TLS, 1 TLI to Burford, 1973-1977, undated. Included with these: 2 duplicated typescripts of poems by Berg, with handwritten markings and notes, 1 page each, undated.

Container
1.5

Bertin, Célia, 1921- . 3 TLS to Burford, 1971-1972. In French.

Container
1.4

Bishop, Elizabeth, 1911- . TLS to Burford, 9 July 1974.

- Blake Studies. ALS to Burford, 11 March 1969.
- Bly, Robert, 1926- . 8 ALS to Burford, 1961-1972. **Container 1.6**
- Bly, Robert, 1926- . ALS to Burford, 7 July 1968. Not described in card catalog. **Container 1.4**
- Boas, George, 1891- . 2 TLS to Burford, 5 May and 25 May 1972.
- Botsford, Keith, 3 TLS to Burford, 1970-1971. Not described in card catalog.
- Brée, Germaine. 15 ALS, 4 APCS, APCI to Burford, 1962-1973, undated. Included with these: TLI from Burford to unidentified recipient Terry, 16 June 1980. **Container 1.7**
- Brustein, Robert. TLS to Burford, 17 October 1969. **Container 1.4**
- Burnshaw, Stanley, 1906- . TLS to Burford, 18 July 1974.
- Carruth, Hayden, 1921- . ALS to Burford, 9 June 1974. **Container 1.8**
- Centing, Richard R. 3 ALS, 3 TLS, APCS to Burford, 1971-1973. **Container 1.9**
- Ciardi, John. ALS to Burford, 11 June 1965. **Container 1.8**
- Cleveland Museum of Art. TLS to Burford, 23 November 1971.
- Clurman, Harold, 1901- . 3 TLS to Burford, 1970.
- Coleman, Elliott. ALS, 5 TLS to Burford, 1964-1972. One letter includes note to Lolah Burford.
- Coles, Robert. TLS to Burford, 3 April 1978.
- Collins, Carvel Emerson, 1912- . TLS to Burford, 28 April 1969.
- Cooney, James. 8 ALS, 4 TLS to Burford, 1970-1979. **Container 1.10**
- Corman, Cid. ALS to Burford, 15 May 1961. **Container 1.8**
- Eberhart, Richard, 1904- . APCS to Burford, 20 October 1973.
- Ellis, Virginia R. TLS to Burford, 20 March 1973.
- Eshleman, Clayton. TLS to Burford, 2 September 1978.
- Eyges, Doris Holmes. ALS to Burford, 17 October 1974.
- Fiedler, Leslie A., 1917- . 3 TLS to Burford, 1969-1970.

Gallagher, Tess. ALS, TLS to Burford, 1 October and 21 October 1974.

Gotham Book Mart, New York. 2 TLS to Burford, 10 March 1972, 13 July 1973.

Harcourt Brace & World, Inc. TLS to Burford, 23 August 1968. Not described in card catalog.

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc. 2 TLS to Burford, 2 August and 27 September 1972. Enclosed with earlier letter: 3 TLS / photocopies Burford to Anaïs Nin, undated.

Hartley, Margaret L., 1909- . 2 TLS to Burford, 20 September 1972, 3 January 1978. One also addressed to Lolah Burford.

Hinz, Evelyn J. TLS, TL to Burford, 3 September and 10 November 1977.
Letterhead on one: Mosaic.

Hoffman, Daniel, 1923- . 2 TLS to Burford, 3 September 1963, 30 January 1974.

Hollander, John, 1929- . ALS to Burford, 15 October 1969.

Hopkins, Kenneth, 1914- . TLS to Burford, 17 January 1972.

Hugo, Ian, 1905- . ALS to Burford, 26 August 1977.

Ignatow, David, 1914- . TLS to to Burford, 10 June 1974.

Jacobsen, Josephine. 2 ALS, 11 TLS to Burford, 1961-1977.

Container
1.11

Keeley, Edmund. 2 TLS to Burford, 25 April and 18 June 1973.

Container
1.8

Keene, Donald. TLS, APCS to to Burford, 18 May 1963, 17 May 1974.

Keene, Donald. TLS to Burford, 14 August 1968. Not described in card catalog.

Kilpatrick, James Jackson. 3 TLS to Burford, 1971-1974.

Kinnell, Galway, 1927- . TLS to Burford, undated.

Kray, Elizabeth. 3 TLS to Burford, 1969-1972.

Lambert, Jean, 1914- . 5 TLS to Burford, 1971-1972.

Container 2.1

Laughlin, James, 1914- . APCS to Burford, 19 January 1963.

Lawson, Paul. 3 ALS to Burford, 1971-1974.

- Levertov, Denise, 1923- . 6 ALS, 3 TLS, TLI, 4 APCS to Burford, 1964-1980, undated. **Container**
2.2
- Lewin, Hugh. ALS to Burford, undated. **Container** 2.1
- Linthicum, John. APCS to Burford, 26 September 1978.
- Logue, Christopher, 1926- . TLS to Burford, 14 November 1962.
- Merrill, James Ingram, 1926- . 8 ALS, 4 TLS, 2 APCS, 5 APCI to Burford, 1946-1980, undated. **Container**
2.3
- Mills, Ralph. 8 ALS, TLS to Burford, 1968-1969. **Container** 2.4
- Mills, Ralph. ALS to Burford, 14 November 1967. Not described in card catalog. **Container**
2.1
- Moss, Howard, 1922- . 5 TLS to Burford, 1971-1974.
- The Nation. ALS, 9 TLS to Burford, 1971-1974. **Container** 2.5
- New York State University, Buffalo. Lockwood Memorial Library. TLS to Burford, 3 September 1954. From the curator of the poetry collection. **Container**
2.1
- Nin, Anaïs. 3 ALS, TLS, 3 APCS, APCI to Burford, 1948-1974, undated. Included with these: photocopy of clipping from the Los Angeles Times with handwritten note from Nin to Burford, undated. **Container**
2.6
- Norton (W. W.) & Company, Inc. 4 TLS to Burford, 1965-1972. **Container**
2.1
- Nye, Lee. TLS to Burford, 16 June 1974.
- O'Connell, Richard. TLS to Burford, 29 June 1972. **Container** 2.7
- Ong, Walter Jackson, 1912- . TLS to Burford, 31 December 1968.
- Parker, Richard. TLS, TPCS to Burford, 5 July and 15 October 1977.
- Perrine, Laurence, 1915- . TLS to Burford, 12 January 1963.
- Plimpton, Calvin Hastings, 1918- . TLS to Burford, 26 September 1969.
- Poets & Writers, Inc. TLS to Burford, 7 July 1978.
- Poulet, Georges, TLS to Burford, 13 November 1967. In French. Not described in card catalog.

Prince, Frank Templeton, 1912- . ALS, TLS to Burford, 5 May and 14 June 1979.

Rizzardi, Alfredo, 1927- . TLS to Burford, 20 September no year.

Rosten, Norman, 1914- . ALS to Burford, undated.

Rubin, Louis Decimus, 1923- . 2 TLS to Burford, 26 July and 24 August 1971.

St. James Press. TLS to Burford, 25 September 1974.

Sarton, May, 1912- . TLS to Burford, 11 March 1955.

Schapiro, Meyer, 1904- . 3 ALS, TLS, ANS, APCS to Burford, 1958-1977.

Shapiro, Karl Jay, 1913- . 2 TLS to Burford, 23 November 1958, 3 January 1959.

Shattuck, Robert. ALS to Burford, 18 July 1971.

Siegal, Marcia. ALS to Burford, 13 November 1972.

Snyder, Gary, 1930- . 2 ALS, ALI, 2 APCS, APCI to Burford, 1969-1974, undated.

Stafford, William Edgar, 1914- . 5 TLS to Burford, 1968-1977.

Starobinski, Jean. ALS to Burford, 11 April 1967. Not described in card catalog.

Sward, Robert, 1933- . TPCS to Burford, 11 November 1974.

Texas. University at Austin. Humanities Research Center. TLS to Burford, 17 April 1972.

Tinkle, Lon, 1906-1980. TLS to Burford, 13 August 1959.

U.S. Volunteers in Service to America. TLS to Burford, 6 November 1969.

Valenti, Jack. 2 TLS to Burford, 30 September 1964, 30 September 1965.

Weber, Brom, 1917- . TLS to Burford, 2 July 1968. Not described in card catalog.

Weber, Brom, 1917- . TLS to Burford, 13 December 1968.

Whitebird, Joanie. TLS to Burford, 9 January 1978. Letterhead: Wings Press.

Wilbur, Richard, 1921- . ALS, TLS to Burford, 19 January 1964 and 2 August 1965.

Wright, Clifford. TLS to Burford, 4 September 1954.

Young, Arthur. ALS to Burford, 26 April 1977.

Various authors. Additional letters to Burford. Gift, 1986 (G2864); also one letter from Denise Levertov, Gift, 2009 (09-04-12-G). Not described in card catalog. Includes:

Unidentified author Betty. TPCS, 4 February 1975.

Container 2.9

Unidentified author Gary. ANS, 24 June 1975 (postmark).

Unidentified author Steve. ALS to Burford, 13 April 1975.

Amherst College. TLS John William Ward to Burford, 4 February 1975.

Berg, Stephen. TLS to Burford, 21 February 1975.

Bishop, Elizabeth, 1911- . APCS to Burford, 4 November, 1978.

Brée, Germaine. 3 ALS, APCS to Burford, 1975.

Burford, William, 1927-. A little paragraph about poetry..., typescript with few handwritten revisions, 1 page, 8 February 1980.

Burford, William, 1927-. TLS to unidentified recipient Terry, 3 August 1980.

Burford, William, 1927-. TLS to Berg, Stephen, 3 April 1975.

Burford, William, 1927-. TLS to Coles, Robert, 5 March 1978.

Carruth, Hayden, 1921- . TLS, 2 ALS to Burford, 1975.

Centing, Richard R. ALS to Burford, 28 January 1977.

Coles, Robert. 3 TLS, 1975.

Cooney, James. 4 ALS to Burford, 1975-1977. Included with this: pamphlet entitled Reviews of Past & Present Issues of The Phoenix.

Hinz, Evelyn J. TLS to Burford, 29 July 1977.

Howard, Richard. ALS to Burford, undated.

Iowa Theater Lab. TLS Ric Zank to Burford, 10 July 1975; ALS unidentified author Gillian to Burford, 4 August 1976.

Levertov, Denise, ALS to Burford, 17 August 1964 (09-04-12-G); ALS, TLS to Burford, 18 and 28 August 1975.

Mason, Herbert. ALS to Burford, 7 February 1975.

Merrill, David. TLS, 15 August 1975.

Mount Holyoke College. TLS Anne C. Edmonds to Burford, 13 March 1975;
TLS Sharon Libera to Burford, 16 March 1975.

The Nation. 2 TLS Grace Schulman to Burford, 10 July and 19 September
1975; TLS James J. Storrow, Jr. to Burford, 17 March 1975.

Nin, Anaïs. TLS "to whom it may concern," undated.

Ossabaw Island Project. 4 TLS Eleanor West to Burford, 1975-1976.

Poetry. 2 TLS Joseph Parisi to Burford, 8 September and 20 October 1977.

Rexroth, Kenneth. APCS, 1977.

Rosenthal, M. L. ALS to Burford, 2 April 1975.

Rutgers University. TLS Frank McQuilkin to Burford, 28 August 1975.

Schapiro, Meyer, 1904- . 2 APCS, 1 June 1974 and 10 April 1975.

Southwest Review. TLS unidentified author Margaret to Burford, 13 April
1975.

Stafford, William Edgar, 1914- . TLS to Burford, 11 February 1975.

State University of New York at Buffalo. TLS Albert Cook to Burford, 12
March 1975.

The University of Texas. Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio. TLS Jack
R. Maguire to Burford, 18 March 1976.

Miscellaneous:

Burford, Lola. Some biographical facts, typescript / photocopy, 5 pages, 1975.

Container
2.8

Hornbein, Thomas. ALS to Burford, Lola, 20 January 1969.

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