

Autographs of the Presidents of the United States from the Stark 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 Stark Collection
Dates:	1783-1913
Extent:	1 oversize box (osb) (1.54 linear feet)
Abstract:	A collection of twenty-seven letters and legal documents signed by each president from George Washington through Woodrow Wilson, accompanied by printed portraits of each president except Wilson. Not all items were signed during their term of office.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-54149
Language:	Dutch, English, French, 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 Autographs of the Presidents of the United States from the Stark Collection (Manuscript Collection MS-54149). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Acquisition: Gift, Stark Collection, 1926

Processed by: Joan Sibley and Richard Workman, 2019 **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, 1783-1913. From the Stark Collection. Formerly cataloged as MS X-3:

Adams, John, 1735-1826. Printed document with handwritten insertions, signed by John Adams and Timothy Pickering, 5 May 1798.

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848. Signed handwritten note to unidentified recipient, 31 July 1818.

Arthur, Chester Alan, 1830-1886. Printed document with handwritten insertions, signed by C. A. Arthur, George H. Sharpe, A. H. Laflin, Chas. F. Kane, Wm. Hussey, Saml. Barclay, May 1875.

Buchanan, James, 1791-1868. Signed handwritten letter to Thomas Elder, 30 August 1844.

Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908. Signed typed letter to Mrs. J. E. Sturdevant, 13 October 1904.

Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874. Signed handwritten letter to J. H. Hedges, Jr., 26 August 1843.

Garfield, James Abram, 1831-1881. Signed handwritten telegram to A. M. Clapp, 9 April 1879.

Grant, Ulysses Simpson, 1822-1885. Signed printed document with handwritten insertions to William H. DeCosta, 2 July 1869.

Harrison, Benjamin, 1833-1901. Signed handwritten letter to M. D. Phillips, 20 January 1894.

Harrison, William Henry, 1773-1841. Signed printed bank draft with handwritten insertions to Mr. Stewart, 11 June 1815.

Hayes, Rutherford Birchard, 1822-1893. Signed handwritten letter to William Hunter, Acting Secretary of State, 18 September 1879.

Jackson, Andrew, 1767-1845. Printed document with handwritten insertions, signed by Andrew Jackson, John Forsyth, and one illegible signature, 23 June 1835.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826. Signed handwritten note to John Barnes, with signature of Jos. Dougherty at bottom of note, 4 June 1802.

Johnson, Andrew, 1808-1875. Signed printed document with handwritten insertions, 24 January 1868.

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865. Signed handwritten note to H. W. B. Howard, 20 December 1860.

McKinley, William, 1843-1901. Signed handwritten telegram to A. T. Childs, Government Printing Office, 187-.

Madison, James, 1751-1836. Signed handwritten bank draft, 12 March 1814.

Monroe, James, 1758-1831. Signed handwritten letter to Nathaniel Silsbee, 25 May 1816.

Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869. Printed document with handwritten insertions, signed by Franklin Pierce and W. L. Marcy, 1 October 1855.

Polk, James Knox, 1795-1849. Signed printed document with handwritten insertions / fragment, 6 March 1847.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919. Signed handwritten letter to Lewis Mather, 2 April 190-.

Taft, William Howard, 1857-1930. Signed handwritten letter to Charles H. Gray, 11 May 1904.

Taylor, Zachary, 1784-1850. Printed document with handwritten insertions, signed by Zachary Taylor, J. M. Clayton, Wm. T. Russell, and Borden Wood, 3 August 1850.

Tyler, John, 1790-1862. Printed document with handwritten insertions signed by John Tyler and two illegible signatures, 20 April 1843.

Van Buren, Martin, 1782-1862. Signed handwritten letter to unidentified recipient, 6 December 1837.

Washington, George, 1732-1799. Signed printed document with handwritten insertions / discharge of Thomas Cockran, 9 June 1783. Included with this: Printed facsimile of signed handwritten letter to Doctor Rodgers, 11 June 1783.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924. Signed typed letter to Nellie Powers, 20 February 1913.

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