

BOTTOMS, DAVID.

David Bottoms papers, circa 1970-1992

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bottoms, David.
Title: David Bottoms papers, circa 1970-1992
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 715
Extent: 8 linear ft. (17 boxes)
Abstract: Papers of Georgia author David Bottoms including personal, literary, and business correspondence and manuscript and typescript drafts of his works.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Purchase, 1991, with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], David Bottoms papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Simon Kress, July 2005

Collection Description

Biographical Note

David Bottoms was born in Canton, Georgia in 1949. He was educated at Mercer University, West Georgia College, and Florida State University, where he received his PhD. His first book, *Shooting Rats at the Bibb County Dump*, was chosen by Robert Penn Warren for the 1979 Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets. He has followed this early success with numerous poetry collections as well as two novels. In 2000, Governor Roy Barnes appointed

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.

him Georgia Poet Laureate. He currently lives in Atlanta, Georgia where he continues to teach in the English department at Georgia State University and act as founding co-editor of the literary journal *Five Points*.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of papers of David Bottoms from ca. 1970-1992. The papers include personal, literary, and business correspondence; manuscript drafts and notes in holograph, typescript, corrected typescript; galley proofs; and a transcript of an interview with Adrienne Bond on May 12 and June 2, 1987. Personal and literary correspondents include Jon Coppelman, Rosemary Daniell, James Dickey, Charles Levendosky, Laurence Lieberman, James Seay, and Robert Penn Warren, among others. The business correspondence includes letters from his literary agent, senior editor, Peachtree Publishers, the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, Academy of American Poets, and various literary publications.

Arrangement Note

Organized into three series: (1) Correspondence, (2) Writings by David Bottoms, and (3) Other papers.

Description of Series

Series 1: Correspondence, 1970-1992

Subseries 1.1: Personal correspondence, 1972-1987

Subseries 1.2: Literary correspondence, 1970-1990

Subseries 1.3: Business correspondence, 1975-1989

Subseries 1.4: Submissions, 1971-1992 1971-1992

Series 2: Writings by David Bottoms

Subseries 2.1: Poetry

Subseries 2.2: Prose

Series 3: Other papers

Series 1
Correspondence, 1970-1992
Boxes 1-5 and 17

Scope and Content Note

The correspondence series of the David Bottoms papers is composed primarily of incoming letters from 1970-1992. Correspondents include Coleman Barks, Jonathan Coppelman, Rosemary Daniell, James Dickey, Charles Levendosky, and Robert Penn Warren. The series also includes correspondence from Bottoms's agent and publishers. The series arrangement attempts to reflect Bottoms's own categorical distinctions.

Arrangement Note

Organized into four subseries: (1.1) Personal correspondence, (1.2) Literary correspondence, (1.3) Business correspondence, and (1.4) Submissions.

Subseries 1.1
Personal correspondence, 1972-1987
Box 1 - Box 2: folder 3

Arrangement Note

Arranged in chronological order.

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	1972-1975
1	2	1976
1	3	1977
1	4	1978
1	5	1978
1	6	1980
1	7	1981
2	1	1982
2	2	1983-1987
2	3	Undated

Subseries 1.2
Literary correspondence, 1970-1990
Box 2: folder 4 - Box 3

Arrangement Note

Arranged in alphabetical order.

Box	Folder	Content
2	4	Ackerman, Diane, 1980-1984
2	5	Baker, David, 1982-1987
2	6	Barks, Coleman, 1976-1982
2	7	Bensko, John, 1982-1984
2	8	Berry, David C., 1976
2	9	Bly, Robert, undated
2	10	Booth, Philip, 1987
2	11	Boyd, William, 1983
2	12	Brock, Van K., 1977-1982
2	13	Bugeja, Michael J., 1982
2	14	Burris, Sidney, 1982
2	15	Carter, Jared, 1981
2	16	Cassity, Turner, 1982
2	17	Chappel, Fred, 1982-1987
2	18	Cicotello, David, 1982-1983
2	19	Davison, Peter, 1986-1987
2	20	Delbanco, Nicholas, 1984
2	21	Dickey, James, 1981-1990
2	22	Dillard, R.H.W., 1979
2	23	Dubie, Norman, 1980
2	24	Duff, Gerald, 1977-1979
2	25	Elledge, Jim, 1987
2	26	Emmanuel, Lynn, 1984
2	27	Glass, Malcolm, 1982
2	28	Grey, Robert, 1982
2	29	Gwynn, R.S., 1987
2	30	Hannah, Barry, 1984-1986
-	-	Heaney, Seamus
2	31	Hecht, Anthony, 1984
2	32	Heyen, William, 1987
2	33	Hirsch, Edward, 1983-1987
2	34	Jauss, David, 1982

2	35	Jerome, Judson, 1987
2	36	Jones, Rodney, 1984-1986
2	37	Kennedy, X.J., 1982-1983
2	38	Kirby, David, 1987
3	1	Levendosky, Charles, 1975-1978
3	2	Levendosky, Charles, 1979-1981
3	3	Lieberman, Laurence, 1981-1983
3	4	Ludvigson, Susan, 1981-1983
3	5	McDonald, Walter, 1982
3	6	McFee, Michael, 1984
3	7	Nye, Naomi Shihab, 1982-1984
3	8	Ochester, Ed, 1982
3	9	Owen, Guy, 1980
3	10	Pollitt, Katha, 1984
3	11	Price, Reynolds, 1982
3	12	Ranke, Bin, 1979-1982
3	13	Ramsey, Paul, 1982
3	14	Rubin, Larry, 1976-1978
3	15	St. John, David, 1981-1982
3	16	Schultz, Philip, 1987
3	17	Seay, James, 1970-1987
3	18	Serchuk, Peter, 1980-1982
3	19	Sessions, William, 1981
3	20	Simpson, Louis, 1982-1988
3	21	Smith, Dave, 1982-1987
3	22	Smith, Lee, 1983
3	23	Stafford, William E., 1982
3	24	Stephenson, Shelby, 1982
3	25	Stokesbury, Leon, 1981
3	26	Stone, John, 1980
3	27	Taylor, Joe, 1982-1987
3	28	Tillinghast, Richard, 1982-1990
3	29	Warren, Robert Penn, 1979-1987
3	30	Weigl, Bruce, 1983
3	31	Whitehead, James, 1981
3	32	Wier, Allen, 1985-1987
3	33	Williams, Phil, 1987
3	34	Wojahn, David, undated
3	35	Wright, Charles, 1984-1987

3 36 Zarzyski, Paul, 1986-1987

Restricted Correspondence

17 1 Heaney, Seamus, 1988 [RESTRICTED]

3 37 Zimmer, Paul, 1979-1987 [RESTRICTED]

Subseries 1.3
Business correspondence, 1975-1989
Box 4

Box	Folder	Content
4	1	1975-1978
4	2	1979-1980
4	3	1981
4	4	1982
4	5	1983
4	6	1984-1986
4	7	1987-1989

Subseries 1.4
Submissions, 1971-1992 1971-1992
Box 5

Box	Folder	Content
5	1	1971-1974
5	2	1975-1976
5	3	1977-1978
5	4	1979-1981
5	5	1982-1985
5	6	1986-1992
5	7	Undated, A-N [by journal title]
5	8	Undated, O-Z [by journal title]

Series 2
Writings by David Bottoms
Boxes 6 - 15

Scope and Content Note

The series consists of manuscripts and typescripts of David Bottoms's poetry and prose writings. Poetry manuscripts in the David Bottoms papers are primarily grouped according to collection. Drafts and notes relating to a given collection are organized alphabetically. To preserve integrity, unpublished collections remain in their original collected form, although many poems persist through multiple collections. Uncollected poems are grouped and organized alphabetically. Prose manuscripts are grouped according to genre: novels, reviews, essays and short stories.

Arrangement Note

Organized into two subseries: (2.1) Poetry, and (2.2) Prose.

Subseries 2.1**Poetry****Box 6 - Box 10: folder 5****Collected Poems**

Box	Folder	Content
6	1	<i>Poems (Mercer and Before)</i> ; collection of early works
6	2	<i>The Sun</i> , TS
6	3	<i>Twenty Experiments in the Sonnet Form</i> , TS
6	4	"9 Poems" TS

All Systems Breakdown

6	5	Drafts and notes
6	6	TS [1]
6	7	TS [2]
6	8	TS [3]
6	9	TS [4]
6	10	TS w/ corrections [5]
6	11	TS [6]

Shooting Rats at the Bibb County Dump (1980)

6	12	Drafts and notes
6	13	TS [1]
7	1	TS [2]
7	2	TS [3]
7	3	TS [4]
7	4	TS [5]
7	5	TS [6]
7	6	Author's galleys
7	7	Marked galleys
7	8	Galley proofs [1]
7	9	Galley proofs [2]
7	10	Galley proofs [3]

In a U-Haul North of Damascus (1983)

8	1	Drafts and notes
8	2	TS
8	3	TS w/ editions by Van Brock
8	4	Proofs

Under The Vulture Tree (1987)

8	5	Drafts and notes, A-G
8	6	Drafts and notes, H-O
8	7	Drafts and notes, P-Z
9	1	TS; original title <i>Soul Harbor</i>
9	2	TS
9	3	TS, Printer's copy
9	4	Proofs [1]
9	5	Proofs [2]
9	6	Proofs [3]

Vagrant Grace (1999)

9	7	Drafts
---	---	--------

Uncollected Poems

9	8	A-C
9	9	D-F
9	10	G-I
9	11	J-L
10	1	M-O
10	2	P-R
10	3	S-U
10	4	V-Z
10	5	Fragments and untitled poems

Subseries 2.2**Prose****Box 10: folder 6 - Box 15****Book-length**

Box	Folder	Content
10	6	Unidentified TS w/ corrections ("I slept without dreams . . .")
10	7	Unidentified TS ("When Willis turned the pickup . . .")
10	8	Unidentified TS w/ notes ("I am not the sort of person . . .")
10	9	Unidentified TS ("There were six bottles of Carta Blanca . . .")

***Holiday Religion* (unpublished)**

10	10	Notes
10	11	TS

***The Land of Beautiful Flowers* (unpublished)**

11	1	TS w/ corrections, pp. 1-119
11	2	TS w/ corrections, pp. 120-215
11	3	TS w/ corrections, chaps. 1-5
11	4	TS w/ corrections, chaps. 6-9
11	5	TS, pp. 1-94 [1]
11	6	TS, pp. 95-215 [1]
11	7	TS, pp. 1-94 [2]
11	8	TS, pp. 95-215 [2]

***Shattered Angels* (unpublished)**

12	1	TS, chaps. 1-9
12	2	TS, chaps. 10-14

***Standing By The Water* (unpublished)**

12	3	TS, pp. 1-159
12	4	TS, pp. 160-280

***Any Cold Jordan* (1987)**

12	5	Notes and fragments
12	6	TS w/ corrections, chaps. 1-8
12	7	TS w/ corrections, chaps. 9-21
13	1	TS w/ corrections, pp. 1-146
13	2	TS w/ corrections, pp. 147-292
13	3	TS w/ corrections, pp. 1-147
13	4	TS w/ corrections, pp. 148-285

- 13 5 TS, pp. 1-94
 13 6 TS, pp. 95-187
 13 7 TS, pp. 188-289

Easter Weekend (1990)

- 14 1 Notebook
 14 2 TS, pp. 1-117
 14 3 TS, pp. 118-216
 14 4 Editor's copy
 14 5 Proofs [1]
 14 6 Proofs [2]
 15 1 Master proofs
 15 2 TS, Advanced reading copy

Reviews

- 15 3 *Alnilam*, James Dickey, TS
 15 4 "Approach and Execution," TS [two drafts]
 15 5 *By the Wreckmaster's Cottage*, Paula Rankin, TS
 15 6 *The Drifting Away of All We Once Held Essential*, Leon Stokesbury, TS
 15 7 *God's Measurements*, Laurence Lieberman, TS
 15 8 *The Hard Essential Landscape*, Van K. Brock, TS
 15 9 "James Dickey: The Deepening of Being," TS [two drafts]
 15 10 "Kathy Shaw: Looking On Two Levels," TS
 15 11 *Night Hurdling*, James Dickey, TS [note for review]
 15 12 *Selected Poems*, Donald Justice, TS

Essays

- 15 13 "The Clear Mystery," TS
 15 14 [Essay on country music and southern poetry], TS [two drafts]
 15 15 "James Dickey: Fire-God," TS [four drafts]; graduate essay
 15 16 "The Messy Humanity of Randall Jarrell: His Poetry in the Eighties," TS and notes
 15 17 "Norman Blake Article," TS [two drafts]
 15 18 "On Narrative in Poetry: A Short Sermon," TS
 15 19 "Stonehenge, Mayan Pyramids, Golden Arches," TS and notes [two drafts]

Short stories

- 15 20 "Gospel Ship," TS [four drafts]
 15 21 "Little Samuel, Little Marconi," TS [three drafts]
 15 22 "Little Tom," TS [three drafts]
 15 23 "Match at Miss Elizabeth's," TS

- | | | |
|----|----|--|
| 15 | 24 | "Matter of Blood," TS [two drafts and poem] |
| 15 | 25 | "The Praying Mantis," TS |
| 15 | 26 | "Resurrectus Rex," TS |
| 15 | 27 | "3 Nights in Our Lives," TS |
| 15 | 28 | "Touched by the Power in the Blood," TS [three drafts] |

Series 3
Other papers
Box 16

Scope and Content Note

This series contains items beyond the scope of the first two series: printed material, photographs, interviews, etc.

Box	Folder	Content
16	1	Biographical sketches and curriculum vitae
16	2	Correspondence, outgoing
16	3	Interview w/ Adrienne Bond, May 12, 1987
16	4	Interview w/ Adrienne Bond, June 2, 1987
16	5	Miscellaneous
16	6	Photographs
16	7	Printed material [Writings by Bottoms]
16	8	Printed material [Writings by others]
16	9	Writings by others
