Descriptive Summary

Creator: Foster, R.F. (Robert Fitzroy), 1949-
Title: R.F. Foster papers, 1966-2014
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1434
Extent: 45.25 linear feet (46 boxes) and 1 oversized papers box (OP)
Abstract: Papers of Irish historian and biographer, Robert F. Foster, including correspondence, writings by Foster and others, and printed material
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Personal correspondence with Tom Paulin is restricted until October 16, 2032.

Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source
Purchased from rare book dealer, R.A. Gekoski, 2017
Custodial History
The Rose Library purchased the material from rare book dealer, R.A. Gekoski, who acted as a broker for the creator of the material, R.F. Foster. R.A. Gekoski's team packed the materials and prepared them for shipment to the Rose Library.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], R.F. Foster papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note
Curator of Literary Collections, Rosemary Magee, acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library's holdings in Irish literature and poetry.

Processing
Arranged and described at the box level by Leigh Schlecht, April 2018. Schlecht left materials in the original order and retained the titles provided by the creator.

This finding aid may include language that is offensive or harmful. Please refer to the Rose Library's harmful language statement for more information about why such language may appear and ongoing efforts to remediate racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, euphemistic and other oppressive language. If you are concerned about language used in this finding aid, please contact us at rose.library@emory.edu.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
Robert Fitzroy Foster (1949-) is an Irish academic and historian. Born on January 16, 1949 in Waterford, Ireland. Foster is the son of two teachers, Betty and Ernest “Fef” Foster. Foster attended Newtown School in Waterford. He received a scholarship to study at St. Andrew's College (Dublin) for a year before reading history at Trinity College, Dublin, where he earned his master's of arts and doctorate of philosophy. He was elected a scholar in History and Political Science in 1969. Foster married novelist and critic, Aisling Foster, in 1972. They have two children.


Foster was a professor of Modern British History at Birkbeck, University of London (1974-1991), and was a visiting scholar at St. Antony's College, Oxford, and the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University (New Jersey) from 1988-1989. Foster is currently the Carroll Professor of Irish History at Hertford College, Oxford (1991-).
Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of Irish scholar, Robert F. Foster, from 1966-2014, including correspondence, writings by both Foster and others, and printed material, including documents relating to the Irish Troubles. There is a significant amount of material relating to Foster’s biography of William Butler Yeats, including correspondence with publishers and annotated drafts of manuscripts, particularly *The Apprentice Mage* and *The Arch Poet*. Printed material includes newspaper, magazine clippings, and articles.

Arrangement Note
Arranged first by Yeats writings and research material; Other writings; and Research materials and personal and professional papers then by titles provided by the creator.
## Container List

### Yeats writings and research material

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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, material and correspondence, 1987-1995</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, file cards, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, file cards, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, drafts, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, chapters and notes, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, manuscript, chapters 1-12, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, front matter through chapter 13, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em> and <em>The Arch Poet</em>, bound proofs 2002-2005</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em> and <em>The Arch Poet</em> permissions, 1996-2003</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, addenda materials, 1996</td>
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<td><em>The Apprentice Mage</em>, typescript, 1997</td>
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<td><em>The Arch Poet</em> draft with annotations, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Arch Poet</em>, chapter drafts with annotations, undated</td>
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<td><em>The Arch Poet</em>, front matter through chapter 9, 2002</td>
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### Other writings

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11 - The Clark Lecture Series, undated
25 - Conquering England, draft, 2001-2004
1 - Conquering England, draft, 2004
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