

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the William Dunlap Collection

YCAL MSS 498



by Molly Wheeler

September 2011

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
Existence and Location of Copies .....	4
Associated Materials .....	4
William Dunlap, 1766-1839 .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Series I: Diaries, 1786-1833, undated .....	5
Series II: Other Papers, 1813-1835, undated .....	6
Selected Search Terms .....	7

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 498

**CREATOR:** Dunlap, William, 1766-1839

**TITLE:** William Dunlap collection

**DATES:** 1786-1835

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists chiefly of bound manuscript diaries and corresponding typescript transcriptions. Also included in the collection is a bound manuscript recipe book, two letters, and a theater script translated into English from French by Dunlap entitled *Thirty Years or The Life of a Gamester or The Gambler's Fate*.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dunlap>

---

## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dunlap>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired from various sources. Provenance is listed at folder level when known.

---

### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The William Dunlap Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

---

## Preferred Citation

William Dunlap Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

---

## Processing Information

This collection includes materials previously identified by the following call numbers: Za Dunlap. Photocopies of catalog cards and provenance information are filed in Box 1.

---

## Existence and Location of Copies

Microfilm service copies are available for: Manuscript bound diary, 1820 August 9-1822 April 21 (film number 755).

---

## Associated Materials

Miniatures owned by Yale University Art Gallery. Some diaries are owned by the New York Historical Society.

---

## William Dunlap, 1766-1839

William Dunlap, American producer, playwright, actor, and historian.

---

## Scope and Contents

The collection consists chiefly of bound manuscript diaries and corresponding typescript transcriptions. Also included in the collection is a bound manuscript recipe book, two letters, and a theater script translated into English from French by Dunlap entitled "Thirty Years or The Life of a Gamester or The Gambler's Fate."

---

## Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Diaries, 1786-1833. II. Other Papers, 1813-1835.

---

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Diaries, 1786-1833, undated

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Gift of Theodore Salisbury Woolsey, December 1922.

#### Bound manuscript diaries

b.1	"Walking trip from London to Oxford"	1786
b.1	1798 June 1-1798 December 15	1798
b.1	1806 January 1-1808 September 21	1806-1808
b.1	1811 March 17-1813 May 7	1811-1813
b.1	1820 August 9-1822 April 21	1820-1822
b.1	1832 March 16-1833 June 25	1832-1833
b.1	Typescript transcriptions of diaries 6 Folders	undated

---

**Series II: Other Papers, 1813-1835, undated***0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

Removed from printed material cataloged separately. Further information on provenance is in each folder.

b. 2	Bound manuscript recipe book	undated
b. 2	Letters to Matthew Cary and unidentified "Gentlemen..." Removed from books in the library of Owen Aldis.	1813 June 1, 1832
b. 2	"The American Vasari," autograph manuscript of paper on Dunlap, miscellaneous notes on the same; a receipt, signed "William Dunlap, 1835 January 9;" and typed letter signed to Woolsey from E.W.H. Newport, no year January 25; two engraved cards Gift of Heathcote Woolsey, May 1957.	1835, undated
b. 2	"Thirty Years or The Life of a Gamester or The Gambler's Fate," theater script, handwritten bound. Translated from the French by Dunlap. Gift of Owen Aldis, 1911.	undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Dramatists  
Dramatists, American

### **Genres / Formats**

Diaries -- United States -- 18th century  
Diaries -- United States -- 19th century  
Theater scripts

### **Names**

Dunlap, William, 1766-1839