

THE RICHMOND CROOM BEATTY PAPERS

**MSS 038
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE
SERIES LIST**

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Richmond Croom Beatty was born January 6, 1905, a son of William Henry and Caroline Barbour Beatty. He received his early education in Barker Elementary School and Central High School in Birmingham. He received his A.B. degree from Birmingham Southern University in 1924, his M.A. degree from Vanderbilt in 1928, and his Ph.D. degree from Vanderbilt in 1930.

Behind the incisive, irascible wit of Richmond Croom Beatty, Professor of English and faculty member since 1937, seethes the man's scorn of sycophancy, sham and the second-rate. And lightly covered by the casual air lies an unrelenting demand for first-class work, on his students' part and his own. This even-voiced, sharp-shooting Alabamian – born in Shawnee, Okla. before his father, a cotton buyer, took his family back to Birmingham – is one of the men who kept Vanderbilt's English department high on the national list. His own reputation in letters is formidable; he is the author of four biographies – William Byrd, Bayard Taylor, Macaulay and Lowell - and the editor of seven significant literary volumes. Of equal weight in the academic scales is his work with graduate scholars; he directs a vast number of M.A. and Ph.D. theses, often as many as a dozen at a time. But his talents are not limited to the department. His articles in recent years added flavor and fire to the *Alumnus*; one of them, a reply to a *Collier's* attack on fraternities, was reprinted by the "Greeks" as their own *apologia*. He was a fraternity man himself - as well as hurdles runner, pole vaulter and track captain - at Birmingham Southern and at Vanderbilt. (He helped defray his tuition by doing chemical analysis for a cast iron pipe firm and, later, with a job "on the rim" for the *Birmingham Age-Herald*). He began teaching at Memphis State and, five years later, in 1935, became a faculty member at the University of Alabama. During his twenty-one years of study and teaching at Vanderbilt he has never been or tried to be "all things to all men"; rather he has made his name mean merely a pair of virtues not always, in other men, found together: talent and integrity.

"Vanderbilt Portraits No. 36: [Richmond Croom Beatty]. *Vanderbilt Alumnus Magazine*, May-June 1954 (vol. 39 no. 5): 5.

Richmond Croom Beatty Papers Scope and Content Note

The Richmond Croom Beatty Papers (1905 – 1961) include correspondence and writings by Beatty as well as reviews, newspaper clippings, photographs, journal and magazine articles, class notes, index cards and manuscripts of writings by others. The Papers consist of nine Hollinger boxes (3.55 linear feet).

The bulk of the materials cover the 1930s through 1950.

Beatty's writings are divided into several series: book manuscripts, poetry, book reviews, journal articles, general notes on literature and class notes. There is also a box of handwritten notes on index cards.

RICHMOND C. BEATTY PAPERS

CORRESPONDENCE-OUTGOING-INCOMING-POEMS

Box 1

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Correspondence (Outgoing)
2	Correspondence (Incoming, A – B)
3	Correspondence (Incoming, C)
4	Correspondence (Incoming, Donald Davidson)
5	Correspondence (Incoming, E – G)
6	Correspondence (Incoming, H – J)
7	Correspondence (Incoming, W.S. Knickerbocker)
8	Correspondence (Incoming, L)
9	Correspondence (Incoming, M – N)
10	Correspondence (Incoming, George Marion O'Donnell)
11	Correspondence (Incoming, O – Q)
12	Correspondence (Incoming, R)
13	Correspondence (Incoming, S)
14	Correspondence (Incoming, Allen Tate)
15	Correspondence (Incoming, W)
16	Correspondence (Incoming, incomplete signatures)
17	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1934 – 1935
18	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1935 – 1936 (1)
19	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1935 – 1936 (2)
20	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1935 – 1936 (3)
21	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1939 – 1940
22	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1941 – 1942; 1945; 1948
23	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1949
24	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, 1950
25	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, undated
26	Poems by Richmond C. Beatty, undated fragments

WRITINGS

Box 2

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Manuscript of <u>James Russell Lowell</u> (1) [Preface, Chapters I – VI]
2	Manuscript of <u>James Russell Lowell</u> (2) [Chapters VII – XIII]
3	Manuscript of <u>James Russell Lowell</u> (3) ‘Chapters XIV – XX]
4	Manuscript of <u>James Russell Lowell</u> (4) [Chapters XXI – XXIV]
5	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (1)
6	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (2)
7	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (3)
8	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (4)
9	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (5)
10	Manuscript of <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> (6)
11	Manuscript fragment, proposal and notes for <u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u>
12	<u>Lord Macaulay: Victorian Liberal</u> excerpts; Trevelyan’s notes

WRITINGS

Box 3

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Manuscript of <u>Biographies of American Authors</u> (1)
2	Manuscript of <u>Biographies of American Authors</u> (2)
3	Manuscript of <u>Biographies of American Authors</u> (3)
4	Manuscript of <u>Biographies of American Authors</u> (4)
5	Manuscript of <u>Biographies of American Authors</u> (5)
6	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter I, “The Renaissance <u>Per Se</u> ” (pages 1 – 25)
7	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter II, “Recent Southern Political Figures”
8	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter III, “Recent Southern Magazines . . .”
9	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter IV, “The Revisionist School of Southern Historians”
10	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter V, “Literary Criticism”
11	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 – 1950)</u> , Chapter VI – C, “Robert Penn Warren”
12	Manuscript of <u>The Southern Renaissance (1918 -1950)</u> , Chapter VI – B, “The Ordeal of Thomas Wolfe” (pages

	209 – 232)
13	Manuscript of <u>The Nashville Group</u> (1) John Crowe Ransom (pages 26 – 53)
14	Manuscript of <u>The Nashville Group</u> (2) Allen Tate (pages 54 – 75)
15	Manuscript of <u>The Nashville Group</u> (3) Donald Davidson (pages 76 – 97)
16	Manuscript of <u>The Nashville Group</u> (4) Robert Penn Warren (pages 98 – 121)
17	Manuscript of <u>The Woman's Vision</u> (Ellen Glasgow, Elizabeth M. Roberts, Caroline Gordon) [pages 122 – 154]
18	Manuscript of “Eudora Welty and Katherine Ann Porter” (pages 155 – 169)
19	Manuscript of <u>Four Poets</u> (Jarrell, Bishop, Stuart, Moore) [pages 244 – 272]
20	Manuscript of “Hugh Henry Brackenridge on Frontier Democracy”
21	Manuscript of “Irving as Humorist”
22	Manuscript fragment (American Poetry: Pound, Eliot, Tate, Crane)
23	Manuscripts of book reviews by Beatty
24	Manuscript of <u>A Biographical History of English Literature</u> (1)
25	Manuscript of <u>A Biographical History of English Literature</u> (2)
26	Manuscript of <u>A Biographical History of English Literature</u> (3)
27	Manuscript of “A Reaction to Keats”
28	Manuscript of “Macaulay and Carlyle”

NOTES – WRITINGS

Box 4

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Notes: American Literature (General)
2	Notes: Emerson
3	Notes: Thoreau, etc.
4	Notes: Southern Literature, etc.
5	Notes: Fugitives, etc.
6	Grade book, lecture notebook, etc.
7	Notes: English and Continental Literature
8	Miscellaneous manuscripts and notes
9	Manuscript of “A Note on Proletarian Aesthetic”
10	Manuscript of “College Presidents (A Note on Apostasy)”
11	Biographical and autobiographical material
12	Reviews of Beatty's books, etc.
13	English 302; 304: Ph.D. examinations (University of Chicago)
14	Notes and syllabi : English 535 (American Literature)

PHOTOGRAPHS – NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS – MISCELLANEOUS

Box 5

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Table of Contents, etc.
2	Miscellaneous
3	Photographs and sketches
4	Manuscripts by others (1)
5	Miscellaneous manuscripts by others (2)
6	Agrarian documents
7	Poems by others
8	Primary stories
9	Lowell correspondence (1)
10	Lowell correspondence (2)
11	Lowell correspondence (3)
12	Newspaper clippings of book reviews by Beatty (1930s)
13	Newspaper clippings of book reviews by Beatty (1940s)
14	Newspaper clippings of book reviews by Beatty (1950s)
15	Newspaper clippings of reviews of <u>William Byrd</u> (1932)
16	Newspaper clippings of reviews of <u>Bayard Taylor</u> (1937)
17	Newspaper clippings of reviews of <u>Lord Macaulay</u> (1939)
18	Newspaper clippings of reviews of <u>James R. Lowell</u> (1942)
19	Newspaper clippings of reviews of books edited by Beatty (1940-1945)
20	Newspaper clippings of items about Beatty
21	Newspaper clippings of items about Beatty family
22	Newspaper clippings referring to Davidson, Cheney, and Warren
23	Newspaper clippings referring to friends of Beatty
24	Newspaper clippings of miscellaneous book reviews
25	Miscellaneous newspaper clippings

JOURNAL AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Box 6

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	“Seminal Emissions” (pamphlet) by James C. Jackson, M.D. Reviews in brief of Beatty’s <u>Lord Macaulay</u> Miscellaneous manuscript notes (three sheets)

- 2 “Digging Up Daylight” from The American Review (pamphlet)
Handwritten memo dated March 30, 1960
The Saturday Review of Literature (December 26, 1936)
(two copies)
Newsweek (January 23, 1939)
The Nation (February 11, 1939)
- 3 The Saturday Review of Literature (June 24, 1950)
The New Republic (March 8, 1939)
- 4 River: A Magazine in the Deep South (June 1937) (two copies)
The Observer: A Literary publication (October – November, 1933)
The Hopkins Review (Summer 1951)
- 5 “The Ninth Part of Speech (A Verse Letter: To Louis Zahner) by
Donald Davidson [inscribed by Davidson]
These Fragments (pamphlet) by George Marion O’Donnell
[Reprint from the April Number of The Sewanee
Review, 1935]
Rains (Pluies) St.-John Pearse (1945)
The Fugitive: Clippings and Comment Collected by Merrill Moore
(literary magazine)
- 6 “The Ocular History of James Joyce” by Noah D. Fabricant, M.D.
“William Byrd and the Virginian Author of The Wanderer” by
Kenneth Ballard Murdock [Reprinted from Harvard Studies
and Notes in Philology and Literature, Volume 17 (1935)]
“A Great Teacher’s Legacy” (Tribute to Edwin Mims) [one sheet]
“Poe and the Southern Literary Tradition” by Jay B. Hubbell
[Reprint from the University of Texas Studies in Literature
and Language, Volume II, Number 2, Summer 1960]
The Saturday Review of Literature (January 23, 1943)
The English Journal (April, 1954)
“The New South and the Conservative Tradition” by Donald
Davidson (pamphlet) [inscribed by Davidson]
“Waltzing Matilda” by William Power (graduate student in English
at Vanderbilt)
“Structural Devices in the Works of Faulkner” by Harry Campbell
[inscribed by author]
Governor Robert L. Taylor and the Blair Educational Bill in
Tennessee by Daniel M. Robison (1932)
The Political Background of Tennessee’s War of the Roses
by Daniel M. Robison
Tennessee Politics and the Agrarian Revolt (1886 -1896)
by Daniel M. Robison (1933)
- 7 Vanderbilt Alumnus (December 1939)
Fundamentals of Air Fighting (pamphlet)
VU 75 (brochure of Vanderbilt history in brief)

- 8 Review of James Russell Lowell (1942) by Roy F. Nichols
of University of Pennsylvania
Review of Wright and Tinling's *The Secret Diary of William Byrd
of Westover, 1709 – 1712* by Beatty
The Southwestern Journal (December 1934)
“Brief Articles and Notes” (pamphlet of varied literary
commentaries) [two copies]
The South Atlantic Quarterly (April, 1948)

INDEX CARDS

Box 7

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
(no folders)	Miscellaneous handwritten notes on index cards

CORRESPONDENCE – WRITINGS

Box 8

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Correspondence (Outgoing) July 5, 1943 – November 8, 1943
2	Correspondence (Outgoing) November 9, 1943 – January 11, 1944
3	Correspondence (Outgoing) January 13, 1944
4	Correspondence (Outgoing) Undated
5	Correspondence (Incoming) B – Davidson, W.W.
6	Correspondence (Incoming) Davidson, Donald – Leatherman
7	Correspondence (Incoming) McCarthy – Ransom
8	Correspondence (Incoming) Rose – Stuart
9	Correspondence (Incoming) Sullivan – Tate
10	Correspondence (Incoming) Taylor – Williams
11	Correspondence (Incoming) Woods – Unidentified
12	Manuscript: Dedication, Preface, Title Page, Table of Contents
13	Manuscript: Notes on the Authors
14	Manuscript: “Writing at Vanderbilt” by Beatty
15	Manuscript: Introduction
16	Manuscript: Introduction
17	Manuscripts of entries: Boone and Brooks (Prose)
18	Manuscripts of entries: Cheney and Davidson (Prose)
19	Manuscripts of entries: Haun and Lytle (Prose)
20	Manuscripts of entries: Nixon and Owsley (Prose)
21	Manuscripts of entries: Parks (Prose)

22	Manuscripts of entries: Ransom (Prose)
23	Manuscripts of entries: Still – Stuart (Prose)
24	Manuscripts of entries: Tate – Wade (Prose)
25	Manuscripts of entries: Warren – Woods (Prose)
26	Manuscripts of entries: Clark – Moore (Poetry)
27	Manuscripts of entries: Moses – Parks (Poetry)
28	Manuscripts of entries: Ransom – Tate (Poetry)
29	Manuscripts of entries: Warren – Wills (Poetry)
30	Miscellaneous manuscripts
31	Newspaper clipping: review of Giles J. Patterson’s <u>Journal of a Southern Student (1846 – 1848)</u> which is edited and introduced by Beatty; from <u>The Nashville Banner</u> (January 24, 1945)

WRITINGS

Box 9

Folder

Contents

(no folders)

Typescript of James Russell Lowell