

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Stephen Parks Research Collection on John Dutton

OSB MSS 103



by Michael Rush

June 2005

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: OSB MSS 103

CREATOR: Parks, Stephen

TITLE: Stephen Parks research collection on John Dunton

DATES: 1962-1972

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4.77 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, research copies, and writings documenting Stephen Parks's research on John Dunton and the English book trade. Correspondents include Dunton scholars Robert Haig, S. Hodgson, Patricia Köster, and Gilbert McEwen, as well as the American Antiquarian Society, British Museum, Glasgow University Library, and the Union Theological Seminary Library. Research copies consist of photocopies and photostats of primary and secondary sources. Copies of primary sources include two volumes of Dunton manuscripts from the Bodleian Library, Ms Rawlinson D.71 and D.72; Dunton's will and that of his father, Rev. John Dunton; Dunton imprints; and legal papers. Copies of secondary sources include a Harvard University Ph.D. dissertation, "The True Secret History of Mr. John Dunton," by Theodore Merryman Hatfield, 1926. Also includes reprints of two papers by Parks, "John Dunton and The Works of the Learned," and "Bookseller's Trade Sales," both from the journal *The Library*, 1968 and 1969.

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

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 <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dunton>.

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.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Stephen Parks, February 2005.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Stephen Parks Research Collection on John Dunton 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

Stephen Parks Research Collection on John Dunton, James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Dunton (1659-1732) was a London bookseller during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. He was the son of Rev. John Dunton (1628-1676). After an apprenticeship from 1674 to 1681, Dunton went into business, primarily dealing in devotional works, sermons, political works, and chapbooks, as well as periodicals. The *Athenian Gazette* (1691-1697) was Dunton's most successful publication, and it influenced many eighteenth century periodicals. Another notable work was his *Life and Errors of John Dunton, Citizen of London* (1705), an early example of English autobiography. In his later years Dunton's bookselling business declined with his poor health, and he resorted to pamphleteering to support himself. He died in London on November 24, 1732.

Stephen Parks was the Curator of the James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library from 1972 to 2004. Parks's study of John Dunton, *John Dunton and the English Book Trade: A Study of His Career with a Checklist of his Publications* was published by Garland Publishing, Inc. in 1976.

Scope and Contents

The Stephen Parks Research Collection on John Dunton consists of correspondence and research materials, spanning the years 1962-1972. The collection documents Stephen Parks's research regarding John Dunton (1659-1732), a London bookseller. The collection is housed in 4 boxes (including 3 oversize boxes), and has been organized into three series: *Research Correspondence*, *Research Copies*, and *Writings of Stephen Parks*.

[Series I, Research Correspondence](#), is arranged alphabetically by correspondent in folders 1-11. The correspondence includes incoming letters and copies of outgoing correspondence. Correspondents include John Dunton scholars Robert Haig, S. Hodgson, Patricia Köster, and Gilbert McEwen, as well as the following repositories: the American Antiquarian Society, the British Museum, Glasgow University Library, and Union Theological Seminary.

[Series II, Research Copies](#), consists of bound and loose photocopies and photostats, and is arranged into two subseries, Primary Sources and Secondary Sources, in folders 12-21, and 24-29 (oversize). Primary Sources include two volumes of Dunton manuscripts from the Bodleian Library, Ms Rawlinson D.71 and D.72; John Dunton's will and that of his father, Rev. John Dunton; John Dunton imprints; and legal papers. Secondary Sources include a Harvard University Ph.D. dissertation, "The True Secret History of Mr. John Dunton," by Theodore Merryman Hatfield, 1926, and a few dealer catalogs.

[Series III, Writings of Stephen Parks](#), is arranged chronologically in folders 22-23. It consists of two reprints of papers by Stephen Parks, "John Dunton and *The Works of The Learned*," and "Bookseller's Trade Sales," both published in *The Library* (Oxford University Press, 1968, 1969).

Collection Contents

Series I: Research Correspondence, 1962-1972

11 Folders

Series I, Research Correspondence, is arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 1, f. 1	Adams, Stephen	1964 Jul
b. 1, f. 2	American Antiquarian Society	1964 Jan-Mar
b. 1, f. 3	British Museum	1964 Mar-Apr
b. 1, f. 4	Brouwer, G. J.	1962 Aug 28
b. 1, f. 5	Clifford, James L.	1962-1966
b. 1, f. 6	Haig, Robert	1962 May-Jun
b. 1, f. 7	Hodgson, S.	1964 Jun-Aug
b. 1, f. 8	Köster, Patricia	1972 Jan-Mar
b. 1, f. 9	McEwen, Gilbert D.	1962 May-Jun
b. 1, f. 10	Union Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.). Library	1964 May
b. 1, f. 11	University of Glasgow. Library	1964 May 7

Series II: Research Copies, n.d.

16 Folders

Series II, Research Copies, is arranged into two subseries: Primary Sources and Secondary Sources.

PRIMARY SOURCES

	Ms Rawlinson D.71, Bodleian Library (undated) Stored in: Oversize, Box 3, folder 28 Bound photocopies	n.d.
	Ms Rawlinson D.72, Bodleian Library (ca. 1687-1718) Stored in: Oversize, Box 4, folder 29 Bound photocopies	n.d.
	Ms Rawlinson D.72, Bodleian Library, copies of letters 59-63 (undated) Stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 24 Not included in the bound photocopy set of Ms Rawlinson D.72	n.d.
b. 1, f. 12	Typescript, photostat, and manuscript copies of the will (1675 Mar 15) of Rev. John Dunton (1628-1676) Discarded binder included note, "Somerset House. Admons Book. Bunce, 1674. John Dunton."	n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	Typescript copy of will (1711 Jun 20) of John Dunton (1659-1732) Will includes codicils dated 1720, 1729, and 1732.	n.d.
	Photostat copy of will (1711 Jun 20) of John Dunton (1659-1732) Stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 25	n.d.
b. 1, f. 14-17	John Dunton imprints (1680-1737) Also stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 26	n.d.
	John Dunton legal papers (1691-1708) Stored in: Oversize, Box 2, folder 27	n.d.

SECONDARY SOURCES

b. 1, f. 18	Theodore Merryman Hatfield, "The True Secret History of Mr. John Dunton", n.d. Ph.D. diss., Harvard University, 1926. Bound photocopies	n.d.
b. 1, f. 19	Papers removed from "The True Secret History of Mr. John Dunton"	n.d.
b. 1, f. 20	Dealer catalogs (1961, 1969)	n.d.
b. 1, f. 21	Clippings removed from <i>Sale Catalogues of Libraries of Eminent Persons</i> , Vol. 5 (1972, 1974) Volume cataloged separately	n.d.

Series III: Writings of Stephen Parks, 1968-69*2 Folders*

Series III, Writings of Stephen Parks, is arranged chronologically.

b. 1, f. 22	Parks, Stephen. "John Dunton and The Works of The Learned." London: The Bibliographical Society Reprinted by The University Press, Oxford from the Transactions of The Bibliographical Society, <i>The Library</i> , March 1968. 2 copies	1968
b. 1, f. 23	Parks, Stephen. "Booksellers' Trade Sales" Reprinted from The Transactions of the Bibliographical Society, <i>The Library</i> , Vol. 24, no. 3, Sep 1969	1969 Sep

Oversize*4.35 linear feet (3 boxes)*

b. 2, f. 24	Ms Rawlinson D.72, Bodleian Library, copies of letters 59-63 (ca. 1687-1718) (in Series II)	n.d.
b. 2, f. 25	Photostat copy of will (1711 Jun 20) of John Dunton (1659-1732) (in Series II)	n.d.
b. 2, f. 26	Oversize John Dunton imprints (1681-1719) (in Series II)	n.d.
b. 2, f. 27	John Dunton legal papers (1691-1708) (in Series II)	n.d.
b. 3, f. 28	Ms Rawlinson D.71, Bodleian Library (undated) (in Series II) Bound photocopies	n.d.
b. 4, f. 29	Ms Rawlinson D.72, Bodleian Library (ca. 1687-1718) (in Series II) Bound photocopies	n.d.

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

Book industries and trade -- England -- History
Booksellers and bookselling -- England --
London

Names

Dunton, John, 1627 or 1628-1676
Dunton, John, 1659-1733 -- Manuscripts
Parks, Stephen

Contributors

Parks, Stephen
Dunton, John, 1659-1733
Hatfield, Theodore Merryman