

Title: Edgar Allan Poe Collection**Collection dates: 1770 - 1949****Collection number: MS 9****Extent: 11 linear feet, 14 boxes****Creators: Amelia F. Poe, Sara Sigourney Rice, and other contributors****Condition of access: Unrestricted, by appointment only****Language: English****Repository: Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections****Contact Information:**

Enoch Pratt Free Library

400 Cathedral Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: 443-984-4251

Email: spc@prattlibrary.org

Source of Acquisition:

The collection is a combination of two large benefactors, Amelia F. Poe and Sara Sigourney Rice, and some smaller pieces have been added over the years. Amelia Poe's gift of letters, books, clippings and other memorabilia was presented to the Library by Margaret Cheston Carey, a niece of Amelia Fitzgerald Poe in 1936. Amelia was the daughter of Judge Neilson Poe, a second cousin and close friend of Edgar. The collection was left to Reverend Neilson Poe Carey of Massachusetts by Amelia Poe and, upon Reverend Carey's death in 1935, the collection went to Margaret Carey with the provision that it be presented to a public institution. In 1942, Pratt received the collection of Sara Sigourney Rice. Rice, a Baltimore schoolteacher, led a crusade to clear Poe's name in the years following his death. She was responsible for the movement that led to the erection of the Poe Monument and reinterment of his remains from a questionable location to a place of prominence at Westminster Churchyard in downtown Baltimore.

Biographical Information:

Edgar Allan Poe was born on January 19, 1809 in Boston, MA. His parents were both struggling actors, and upon his father's disappearance and his mother's death, Poe was raised as a foster child by the wealthy Allan family in Richmond, VA. Poe attended the University of Virginia and West Point, but failed to graduate from either institution. He served in the Army from 1827 to 1829 when he was discharged. After he left the military, Poe moved to Baltimore with his aunt, Maria Clemm and her daughter Virginia. By this time, Poe published Tamerlane and Other Poems (1827), Al Aaraaf, Tamerlane, and Minor Poems (1829), and Poems (1831). Once in Baltimore, Poe began writing prose tales, five of which appeared in the Philadelphia Saturday Courier in 1832. In 1835, Poe became the editor of the Southern Literary Messenger until he was asked to leave in 1837. During his time as editor Poe became known for his harsh critiques and wild stories. From 1839 to 1840, Poe worked in Philadelphia as editor of Burton's Gentleman's Magazine. In 1841, he became editor of Graham's Magazine, but left a year later hoping to establish his own literary journal. By 1844, Poe moved to New York, with his wife, Virginia, whom he married in 1836, and her mother (his aunt) Maria Clemm. In 1845, Poe

became famous with his success for “The Raven.” He edited the *Broadway Journal* until it folded in 1847, the same year as Virginia died.

The last few years of Poe’s life are a mystery. It is known that Poe was in Richmond with his new fiancée and old sweetheart, Elmira Shelton, when he left on a boat bound for Philadelphia. Instead of reaching Philadelphia, he ended up unconscious on a street in Baltimore. Poe was found outside a tavern and taken to Washington College Hospital. The attending physician, Dr. J.J. Moran, reported that Poe had symptoms of tremors and delirium. The exact cause of Poe’s death is unknown. Poe died October 7, 1849.

Besides the previously mentioned volumes of poetry, Poe published many works of fiction. Some of those works include The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym, 1838, Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque, 1840, The Prose Romances of Edgar A. Poe, No. I. Containing the Murders in the Rue Morgue, and The Man That Was Used Up, 1843, Tales by Edgar A. Poe, 1845, and Eureka: A Prose Poem, 1848.

Scope and Contents Note:

The Edgar Allan Poe Collection spans the years 1770 to 1949, with the bulk of the dates from 1835 to 1900. The collection is not a comprehensive study of Poe’s work. Rather it is a glimpse into his family life and the movement, spearheaded by Rice, to erect a monument to the poet. The Collection is divided into five series according to donor of the collection and then subject of the materials: I. Amelia F. Poe Collection, 1770s-1909; II. Sara Sigourney Rice Collection, 1867-1908; III. Bernard J. Rosenmyer Illustrations, ca. 1900; IV. Commemorations of Edgar Allan Poe, 1850-1949; and V. Reprints of Edgar Allan Poe’s Works, 1845-1854. Persons interested in this collection may also want to look at the Joseph Katz Collection of Poeanna.

Series Description:

I. Amelia F. Poe Collection, 1770s-1909

The Amelia F. Poe Collection is the most significant portion of the Edgar Allan Poe Collection. Her collection consists of actual Poe correspondence and writings. This series is divided into four subseries. The first subseries, Writings and Correspondence of Edgar Allan Poe, 1833-1849, begins with two of Poe’s written pieces, followed by an alphabetical arrangement of Poe’s correspondence according to the addressee. Subseries two, Correspondence of Maria Clemm, 1835-1865, is arranged alphabetically by the person’s last name (either the addressee or addresser). Most of Maria Clemm’s correspondence deals with Poe’s mysterious death. The third subseries, Family Papers, 1770s-1908, includes correspondence, a muster roll, and a slave bill of sale. The last subseries is Amelia F. Poe Collection of Poeanna, 1806-1909. Amelia Poe collected letters, newspaper clippings, and prints in two scrapbooks. This subseries also contains a piece of Edgar and Virginia’s hair and a piece of Edgar’s original coffin.

II. Sara Sigourney Rice Collection, 1867-1908

Sara Sigourney Rice’s collection constitutes the second series in the Edgar Allan Poe Collection. Though most of the items are those of Rice’s, Pratt Library staff transferred some materials from Joseph Katz to the Rice Collection. All items are noted. This series is further divided into six subseries to accommodate all the material. The first subseries is Correspondence with Sara Sigourney Rice, 1867-1908. Between Rice serving as the Corresponding Secretary for the Edgar

Allan Poe Memorial Association and her personal activism to raise money for a new burial place for Poe, Rice received numerous correspondence from famous authors worldwide. Some of the authors include William C. Bryant, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Stephane Mallarme., and Alfred Tennyson. This subseries is arranged alphabetically by sender's last name. Subseries two is the Edgar Allan Poe Memorial Association. This includes correspondence and descriptions of the memorial volume and the monument. Subseries three is the Edgar Allan Poe Memorial Scrapbooks, 1865-1907. Rice created these books with newspaper clippings and correspondence about Poe. All but one of the scrapbooks are in their original formats. They are arranged chronologically. Subseries four is Correspondence regarding Edgar Allan Poe, 1861-1911. These letters, arranged chronologically, all relate to Poe or Poe materials, but are not addressed to Rice. Subseries five are a collection of Prints featuring Poe, statutes and monuments of Poe, and one of Rice. Subseries six is Writings of Sara Sigourney Rice and are arranged alphabetically by title. Poe is the subject of both of the pieces.

III. Bernard J. Rosenmeyer Illustrations, ca 1900

This series consists of pencil drawings depicting scenes from Poe's works. All illustrations are the work of Rosenmeyer. His daughter, Beatrice Lunsford, donated the images to the Enoch Pratt Free Library. The series is arranged alphabetically according to the title of the work Rosenmeyer illustrated.

IV. Commemorations of Edgar Allan Poe, 1850- 1949

This series is divided into two subseries: 1. Articles, 1850-1928 and 2. Ephemera, 1896-1949. The first subseries consists of articles written about Poe and his life. Most of the items are taken from magazines. If there is no magazine listed, the article may be an entire pamphlet or the magazine is unknown. The series is arranged chronologically. The second subseries are objects that honor Poe- items found in an auction, stamps, and a room at the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

V. Reprints of Edgar Allan Poe's Works, 1845-1854

This series is divided into two subseries: 1. Reprints in Journals, 1845-1854 and 2. Various Photo Duplications of Edgar Allan Poe's Letters, 1845. Both subseries contain items that were a part of the other series in the collection, but due to content and format fit best in their own series. All items arranged chronologically.

Container List:

Series I: Amelia Poe Papers, 1770s-1909

Subseries 1: Writings and Correspondence of Edgar Allan Poe, 1835-1849

Box 1	Folder	Edgar Allan Poe's Memorandum Book
	Folder	Manuscript of poem, "To Elizabeth"
	Folder	Correspondence with Maria Clemm, August 29, 1835
	Folder	Copy of above letter in the hand of W.C. Poe
	Folder	Correspondence with Maria Clemm, April 7, 1844
	Folder	Correspondence with Maria Clemm, September 18, 1849
	Folder	Correspondence with Frances Sergeant Osgood, February 13, 1846
	Folder	Correspondence with George Poe, Jr., January 12, 1836
	Folder	Correspondence with George Poe, Jr., November 11, 1845

- Folder Correspondence with Neilson Poe, August 8, 1845
 Folder Correspondence with F.W. Thomas and J.E. Dow,
 March 16, 1843
 Folder Correspondence with F.W. Thomas, February 14, 1849
- Subseries 2: Correspondence of Maria Clemm, 1835-1865*
- Box 1 Folder Gabriel Harrison to Clemm, 1864-1865
 Folder Oliver Wendell Holmes to Clemm, December 14, 1851
 Folder Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to Clemm, May 4, 1863
 Folder Dr. J.J. Moran to Clemm, November 15, 1849
 Folder Clemm to George Poe, Jr., February 21, 1836
 Folder Clemm to Neilson Poe, October 9, 1849
 Folder Neilson Poe to Clemm, October 11, 1849
 Folder Clemm to Neilson Poe, 1849-1861
 Folder William Poe to Maria Clemm, November 29, 1835
 Folder Annie Richmond to Clemm, 1849-1856
 Folder Elmira Shelton to Clemm, September 22, 1849
 Folder Sarah H. Whitman to Clemm, 1849-1860
 Folder Sarah H. Whitman to Clemm, n.d.
 Folder N.P. Willis to Clemm, October 1864
 Folder Clemm's Letter with Poe's Hair, 1849
- Subseries 3: Family Papers, 1770s-1908*
- Box 1 Folder Revolutionary War Muster Roll for David, George, and
 John Poe
 Folder Bill of Sale for Negro Slave- Sold by David Poe to John
 Poe, March 30, 1802
 Folder Correspondence of George Poe, Jr. to William Clemm, Jr.,
 March 6, 1809
 Folder Allan & Ellis written in the hand of John Allan (Poe's
 Foster father), 1816
 Folder Ode by Constantine Piso to Charles Carroll, translated by
 Neilson Poe, September 22, 1827
 Folder Virginia Clemm Poe to Edgar Allan Poe, February 14,
 1846
 Folder Lock of Virginia Clemm Poe's hair, January 1847
 Folder Correspondence of Elizabeth Ellet to Nancy Richmond
 (Poe's "Annie"), January 7, 1864
 Folder Amelia Poe to Mrs. H.C. January, December 2, 1908
- Subseries 4: Amelia F. Poe Collection of Poeanna, 1806-1909*
- Box 2 Newspaper Clippings Relating to E.A. Poe and the Poe
 Family, 1875-1906
- Box 3 Poe Family Letters and Documents, 1806-1909
- Box 4 Piece of Edgar Allan Poe's Original Coffin
 Lock of Edgar Allan Poe and Virginia Clemm Poe's
 Hair
- Box 5 Prints of Poe and family members

Series II: Sara Sigourney Rice Papers, 1867-1908*Subseries 1: Correspondence with Sara Sigourney Rice, 1867-1908*

Box	6	Folder	Anecdote about Poe's Death
		Folder	Henry Behr, April 17, 1882
		Folder	T.C. Bittle, January 19, 1877
		Folder	William H. Browne, 1876-1877
		Folder	William Cullen Bryant, April 19, 1875
		Folder	George Childs, 1876-1881
		Folder	James Wood Davidson, March 24, 1876
		Folder	William Dorlou, 1875- 1877
		Folder	Horace Howard Furness, September 1, 1878
		Folder	S.E. Gabbett, January 13, 1877
		Folder	Arthur Giannini, 1875
		Folder	William Fearing Gill, April 14, 1881
		Folder	James Harrison, July 10, 1901
		Folder	Paul H. Hayne, August 28, 1876
		Folder	David K. Hitchcock, December 11, 1875
		Folder	John H. Ingram, 1876-1877
		Folder	The International Review, March 4, 1876
		Folder	Thomas (?) B. Latrobe, December 9, 1876
		Folder	Sarah A. Lewis (Stella), 1877 to 1879
		Folder	S.D. Lewis, 1875-1876
		Folder	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, April 20, 1875
		Folder	James R. Lowell, 1875
		Folder	Thomas McWalton, April 15, 1885
		Folder	Stephane Mallarme, 1876-1877
		Folder	Mrs. William P. Meany, October 19, 1896
		Folder	Reverend D.H. Muller, January 31, 1908
		Folder	W.D. O'Connor, 1876-1877
		Folder	Owen R. Perkins, January 1, 1876
		Folder	J. Woods Poinier, January 3, 1877
		Folder	Algernon Charles Swinburne, 1875-1876
		Folder	Lord Alfred Tennyson, February 18, 1876
		Folder	Martin Farquhar Tupper, April 3, 1877
		Folder	Edward V. Valentine, January 24, 1877
		Folder	Sarah Helen Whitman, 1875- 1879
		Folder	John G. Whittier, 1868
		Folder	Winslow (Office of Judge Advocate General), 1875-1876
		Folder	William Winter, 1875-1881

Subseries 2: The Edgar Allan Poe Memorial Association

Box	6	Folder	Correspondence with the Association, 1875-1882
		Folder	Description of Edgar Allan Poe Monument
		Folder	Prospectus of Poe Memorial Volume
		Folder	Subscription card for Memorial Volume, ca 1900

Subseries 3: Edgar Allan Poe Memorabilia Scrapbooks, 1865-1907

- Box 7 Scrapbook, each page in individual folders, 1865-1885
- Box 8 Scrapbook, original form, 1877-1881
Scrapbook, original form, 1903-1905
Scrapbook, original form, 1907
- Subseries 4: Correspondence Regarding Edgar Allan Poe, 1861-1911*
- Box 9 Folder George Woodbury to Clarence Stedman, March 26, 1861
Folder Owen Perkins to William H. Browne, February 5, 1876
Folder Melville Bonhaum to John Ingram, November 28, 1876
Folder John H. Ingram to William H. Browne, December 27, 1876
Folder Thomas Davidson to William H. Browne, 1876
Folder Sarah H. Whitman to Eugene L. Didier, January 3, 1877
Folder Alexander Hynds to Eugene L. Didier, December 8, 1879
Folder Bill to Duprat & Company (Baudelaire), October 25, 1888
Folder Notes of Charles Baudelaire
Folder John B. Tabb to Fred M. Hopkins, March 17, 1896
Folder Orrin C. Painter to Walter Sawyer, April 23, 1901
Folder R.A. Douglas Lithgow to Walter Sawyer, April 9, 1911
Folder Sarah Whitman to Andrew Grossman, December
Folder Poem about Poe, author and date unknown

Subseries 5: Prints

- Box 9 Folder Edgar Allan Poe Prints
Folder Edgar Allan Poe Statutes
Folder Edgar Allan Poe Monument
Folder Sara Sigourney Rice
Folder Edgar Allan Poe commemoration painted for S.S. Rice,
designed by Arthur Giannini, 1875
Folder Miscellaneous Prints

Subseries 6: Writings of Sara Sigourney Rice

- Box 9 Folder "Correspondence"
Folder "Poe's Friendships Among Women"

Series III: Bernard J. Rosenmeyer Illustrations, ca 1900

- Box 10 Folder Annabelle Lee
Folder Israfael
Folder The Haunted Palace
Folder The Raven
Folder To Helen
Folder To One in Paradise I
Folder To One in Paradise II and III
Folder Volume I-II

Series IV: Commemorations of Edgar Allan Poe, 1850-1949

Subseries I: Ephemera, 1896-1949

- Box 10 Folder Auction Catalog, April 1896
Folder Balpex Exhibition Seals, March 20, 1949
- Box 11 Poe Room Scrapbook, Enoch Pratt Free Library,

December 1933-April 14, 1937

Subseries 2: Articles, 1850-1928

Box 12	Folder	<u>The International: A Miscellany of Literature, Science, and Art</u> , September 1, 1850
	Folder	"The Late Edgar Allan Poe," <u>Graham's Magazine</u> , 1850
	Folder	Autobiographic Notes," <u>Beadle's Monthly, A Magazine of To-Day</u> , February 1867
	Folder	"Poe's Death and Burial," <u>Beadle's Monthly, A Magazine of To-Day</u> , March 1867
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>Harper's New Monthly Magazine</u> , September 1872
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>British Quarterly Review</u> , July 1875
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>St James Magazine</u> , August 1875
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>Scribner's Magazine</u> , 1880 and 1884
	Folder	"Poe in Paris," <u>Graham(?) Illustrated Magazine</u> , August 1884
	Folder	"Poe's Cottage at Fordham," <u>Century Magazine</u> , November 1889
	Folder	"Some Memorials of Edgar Allan Poe," <u>Frank Leslie's Magazine</u> , April 1891
	Folder	"The Poe Monument and Memorial Volume," <u>The Homemaker</u> , January 1893
	Folder	"The Loves of Edgar A. Poe," <u>Godey's Lady Magazine</u> , August 1894
	Folder	"Poe in the South," <u>Century Magazine</u> , August 1894
	Folder	"Poe in Philadelphia," <u>Century Magazine</u> , September 1894
	Folder	"Poe in New York," <u>Century Magazine</u> , October 1894
	Folder	"Open Letters: Notes on Poe," <u>Century Magazine</u> , June 1895
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," by Edmund Gündel, 1895
	Folder	"Shall We Preserve the Poe Cottage at Fordham?" <u>Review Of Reviews</u> , April 1896
	Folder	"The Personality of Poe," <u>Munsey's Magazine</u> , July 1897
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>The Outlook</u> , May 1899
	Folder	"Edgar Poe's College Days at Charlottesville," <u>Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly</u> , October 1899
	Folder	"Poe Memorial Exercises," <u>Alumni Bulletin of UVA</u> , November 1899
Box 13	Folder	"Literary Landmarks of New York," <u>Metropolitan Magazine</u> , September 1900
	Folder	"Memorials of Edgar Allan Poe," <u>Independent</u> , April 1901
	Folder	"The Poe Cult," <u>The Bookman</u> , December 1902
	Folder	"Edgar Allan Poe," <u>The Critic</u> , August 1902
	Folder	"The New Edgar Allan Poe," September to October 1902
	Folder	"Stories of Authors' Loves: Poor Poe," <u>The Delineator</u> , 1902-1903

	Folder	“Poe-Chivers Papers,” <u>The Century Magazine</u> , 1903
	Folder	“Reminiscences of Edgar A. Poe,” <u>The Independent</u> , May 1904
	Folder	Edgar Allan Poe Special, <u>The Book News Monthly</u> , August 1907
	Folder	“The Poe Canon,” 1912
	Folder	“Miscellaneous Notes on Poe,” 1913
	Folder	“Who Was Outis?” <u>Studies in English</u> , 1928
	Folder	“A Madman of Letters”
	Folder	“American Bookmen- Edgar Allan Poe,” <u>The Bookman</u>
	Folder	“Landmarks of Poe in Richmond,” <u>The Century Magazine</u>
	Folder	“Poe’s Student Days at the University of Virginia,” <u>The Bookman</u>
	Folder	Reproductions of various newspaper articles
	Folder	Handwritten notebook, “About E.A. Poe,” author unknown
Box 14	Folder	Quotes about Poe

Series V: Reprints of Edgar Allan Poe’s Works, 1845-1854

Subseries 1: Reprints in Journals, 1845-1854

Box 14	Folder	<u>The Broadway Journal</u> , edited by Poe, August 30, 1845
	Folder	“The Facts of M. Valdemar’s Case,” <u>The American Review: A Whig Journal</u> , December 1845
	Folder	“The Raven,” 1845
	Folder	“Marginalia,” <u>Southern Literary Messenger</u> , April 1849
	Folder	“The Raven,” <u>The Illustrated New York Journal</u> , August 1854

Subseries 2: Various Photo Duplications of Edgar Allan Poe’s Letters, 1845

Box 14	Folder	Letters, 1845
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Processed by: Kristen Romano, December 2003