



# ArchivesSpace

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## Arthur Robert Burns American Diary5801338

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Description is written in: English.

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Burns, Arthur Robert, 1895-1981
<b>Title:</b>	Arthur Robert Burns American Diary
<b>ID:</b>	5801338
<b>ID:</b>	MS#0170 (also MsColl/Burns)
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1926-1981
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.42 linear feet 1 box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Arthur Robert Burns American Diary; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Arthur Robert Burns (1895-1981), born in London; BSc, PhD, London School of Economics; in the British Army 1914-1917. Lecturer, The University of London, 1922-1926. Came to U.S. in 1928. Professor Economics, Columbia, 1928-1962. Economist on War Production Board and Foreign Economic Administration 1941-1945.

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## Summary

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Burns' American Diary, an Englishman's view of American society, is the fruit of his Laura Spellman Rockefeller fellowship, 1926-1928. Very descriptive of his tour of U.S. and Canada

(Quebec, Vancouver), numerous illustrations and clippings are laid in. In addition to his economic and social concerns, of particular interest are the architecture of major cities, their theatrical life, their politics; his visits to certain universities (Harvard, University of Chicago, Stanford), and his long visit to Washington with other Rockefeller fellows and their ongoing meetings and discussions with members of the Federal Board of Trade and professors from all over at what was to become the Brookings Institute. Competition in business was his major interest; it is discussed in the Diary, and his 1936 book, *The Decline of Competition*, is said to be a major influence in undergraduate teaching in the U.S. Included in the Collection is a cassette of his memorial service at Columbia, 24 April 1981.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

accn number: Source of acquisition--Dept. of Economics. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--4/15/1987.

## Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared.  
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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Travel
- United States -- Description and travel
- Diaries
- Economists -- United States -- 20th century
- Audiocassettes
- Harvard University
- Brookings Institution
- University of Chicago
- Stanford University