

April S. Brewer. The First Editions of Robert Frost: A Bibliography and Analysis of Robert Frost Monographs in the Rare Book Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A Master's Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. April, 2007. 41 pages. Advisor: Charles B. McNamara

This paper is a detailed analysis of the first edition monographs by four-time Pulitzer Prize winning poet Robert Frost in the Rare Book Collection (RBC) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It includes a biographical sketch and information about the collection, including the donation of a large amount of materials by Clifford P. Lyons, a former UNC professor. This paper also compares the RBC's collection to other notable Frost collections. The bulk of this paper is a detailed bibliography with a condition analysis of the first editions held by the RBC. There is also a detailed desiderata list and recommendations for the future development for the RBC's Frost collection.

Headings:

Frost, Robert, 1874-1963 – Bibliography

Special collections – Collection development

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Rare Book Collection.

THE FIRST EDITIONS OF ROBERT FROST: A BIBLIOGRAPHY AND ANALYSIS
OF ROBERT FROST MONOGRAPHS IN THE RARE BOOK COLLECTION AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

by
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Approved by

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Part I

Introduction

Robert Frost was called the “dean of American poets” in his Associated Press obituary (*New York Times*, 30 January 1963, p1). In that same paper, an article called, “A Poet of Rural Spirit,” named Frost, “the most widely read poet in America” (*New York Times*, 30 January 1963, p5). While there is no way to prove either statement today, 44 years after his death, Frost is still an important part of twentieth-century American literature; a poet whose work is still read in schools all over the country.

As such an important part of twentieth-century American literature, and a four time Pulitzer Prize winner, Robert Frost’s works are heavily collected by institutions and individuals. Inscribed first editions of some of his books have been priced in the tens of thousands of dollars. And while most of his books had large first print runs, Henry Holt, Frost’s longtime publisher, also issued many of Frost’s books in limited editions. And there are a few separate editions of Frost’s poems that are very rare, and can command a very high price. But most of Frost’s material can be obtained for reasonable amounts, and so it is easy to build a basic collection of Frost, even one including many first editions.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Rare Book Collection (RBC) has a collection of Robert Frost materials. His works have come in from various donors

who collected twentieth-century American literature. The RBC was also given an author collection of Robert Frost by former English professor Clifford Lyons in 1981.

While a basic bibliography of the Lyons collection was compiled after it arrived at the RBC, no complete bibliography of the entire Frost collection has been compiled. This analysis is only concerned with the first editions of Frost, but it is hoped to be the impetus for future collecting, and of use to researchers and librarians.

Biographical Sketch and Publishing Highlights

Robert Lee Frost, who is often considered the quintessential New Englander, was born on March 26, 1874 in San Francisco, and named for a Confederate general. Neither one of these factors seems to have made him any less of a New Englander. Frost's ancestors were in New England for generations before his father, William Prescott Frost, Jr., a Harvard graduate, moved his family to California. William Frost worked as a journalist and pursued a political career until he died of tuberculosis in 1885, at the age of thirty-four.

Following William's death, his wife moved the family back to New England, to live with her wealthy in-laws, and to teach school. In 1888, after having very little formal schooling, Frost passed the entrance exams and entered Lawrence High School in Lawrence, MA, where his father had gone. It was at Lawrence High that Frost first began to write poetry, even publishing some in the school paper, and eventually met his future bride, his co-valedictorian of the class of 1892, Elinor Miriam White. Although Frost wanted to marry Elinor right away, she went off to St. Lawrence University, and he went off to Dartmouth. Frost did not even complete a semester at Dartmouth, returning

home in December of 1892. Although Frost claimed he left school because his mother needed him at home, it is generally thought that he was afraid Elinor was meeting other men.

Back at home, Frost spent time teaching, working in a mill, and doing other odd jobs. He tried to convince Elinor to leave college to marry him, but she was set on finishing her studies. What Frost really wanted to do with his life was be a poet, and 1894 the New York *Independent* published “My Butterfly.” Frost earned fifteen dollars for the poem, and this encouraged him in his goal. After another refusal from Elinor, Frost had “My Butterfly” and four other poems privately printed in two copies, under the title *Twilight*. One he delivered to Elinor, who accepted it with no words, and the other he destroyed, in anger at her rebuff. Frost, upset over being refused again, undertook an impromptu trip to the Dismal Swamp in North Carolina. Whether he intended to commit suicide in the Swamp, or just get away from the site of his heartbreak, he ended up back in Massachusetts a few days later.

Frost then worked as a reporter and as a teacher, and in December 1895, months after she had graduated from St. Lawrence, Elinor and Frost were married. Their first child, Elliot, was born in 1896. In 1897, Frost entered Harvard as a special student, but withdrew 18 months later in 1899, when Elinor was expecting their second child, Lesley, and Frost was suffering from an illness believed to be tuberculosis. A year later, the Frosts’ first child died, followed shortly thereafter by Frost’s mother. Frost’s grandfather bought the couple a poultry farm in Derry, NH, where they lived for nine years. During this period in Derry, the Frosts had four more children (Carol in 1902, Irma in 1903, Marjorie in 1905, and Elinor Bettina in 1907, but she only lived 3 days), and Frost wrote

many of the poems that appeared in *A Boy's Will* and *North of Boston*. Frost started teaching again in 1906, which he did, first at the Pinkerton Academy, and then at the Plymouth Normal School, until he moved the family to England.

Although Frost had published poems in magazines and newspapers while living in Derry and Plymouth, it was only after moving to England in 1912, living among the company of other poets, that he first found critical acclaim. His first book, *A Boy's Will* (1913), was published by David Nutt, and reviewed favorably by Ezra Pound in *Poetry*. Pound went on to give a rave review of *North of Boston* in *Poetry* in 1914.

Before he left England, Frost published *North of Boston* (1914), also with David Nutt. When he returned to America in 1915, he found that *North of Boston* had already been published by Henry Holt and Company, who had bought the sheets from David Nutt. Holt brought out an edition of *A Boy's Will* in 1915, followed by another edition of *North of Boston*, and then *Mountain Interval* in 1916, cementing Frost's relationship with the publishers. Frost was soon asked to be a Phi Beta Kappa Poet at Tufts College, the start of his extensive collection of awards and honors. Frost was also named Phi Beta Kappa Poet at Harvard, and hired as a professor at Amherst, which was also the school who gave him his first of many honorary degrees.

Frost left his post at Amherst in 1920, only to take teaching posts at the University of Michigan, Amherst again, Michigan again, Harvard, and Dartmouth, up to 1949, when he was given a lifetime appointment as the Simpson Lecturer in Literature at Amherst. He also helped start the Writers' Conference at Middlebury College, at Bread Loaf, in 1926, a connection he maintained for the next forty years. It was during this period that he published: *New Hampshire* (1923) which got him his first Pulitzer; *West-Running*

Brook (1928); *Collected Poems* (1928) which won him his second Pulitzer; *A Further Range* (1936) which was his third Pulitzer; *A Witness Tree* (1942) which was his fourth Pulitzer; *Come In* (1943); *A Masque of Reason* (1945); *Steeple Bush* (1947); and *Complete Poems* (1949). It was also during this period where Frost suffered a lot of personal losses, from the loss of his daughter Marjorie in 1934 to puerperal fever, to the death of Elinor in 1938 from cancer and heart-attack, and lastly the suicide of his son Carol in 1940.

In the 1950s, Frost garnered more public acclaim. In August 1954 the State Department sent him to Brazil as a delegate to the World Congress of Writers. The State Department also sent him to London in 1957, and Moscow in 1962. Frost was appointed Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress in 1958, and was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal in 1960. The pinnacle of these honors was being asked to read at President Kennedy's inauguration in January, 1961. While Frost did write a new poem for this occasion, the wind and the glare on the day made it difficult for him to read his papers. Instead, he recited "The Gift Outright" from memory.

In 1962 Frost published his last book, *In the Clearing*. Less than a month before his death in 1963, Frost was awarded the Bollingen Prize for poetry. After his death on January 29, President Kennedy, among many others, paid tribute to him. The library named for him at Amherst was dedicated in the months following his death, honoring his forty year connection to the school. In 1974, to honor Frost's centennial, new collections of his poetry and prose, as well as a large amount of criticism, were published. A stamp in his honor was also issued that year (a sheet of which is in the Southern Historical Collection). Frost was survived by two daughters and a number of grandchildren.

Robert Frost, Clifford Lyons, and Chapel Hill

Clifford P. Lyons met Robert Frost in 1937 while Lyons was teaching in the English department at the University of Florida, Gainesville. The Frosts were the neighbors of the Lyonses. During World War II, Lyons was stationed in Boston, where he and his wife renewed their friendship with Frost. Lyons came to UNC in 1946 as a Professor in the English Department, and served as Chair of the department from 1946-1952. Lyons was also named Kenan Professor of English in 1961, and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1951-1954. He retired from UNC in 1974.

Starting in 1947, Lyons hosted Robert Frost on an annual visit to the area. Frost visited and lectured at UNC for 15 years. The University also gave Frost an honorary Doctor of Letters in 1953. The Lyonses collected Frost's works, and would often have him inscribe books when he was visiting. Due to this long-standing friendship, the Lyons collection of Robert Frost materials contains many inscribed copies, manuscripts, correspondence, and other materials related to Robert Frost. There is even one of Frost's walking sticks in the collection.

In 1981, the Lyonses donated their collection of Robert Frost materials to the Rare Book Collection. This collection contained about 400 printed items including books, Christmas cards, and other printed materials. The collection also contained a number of manuscripts, correspondence, photographs, and Gladys Lyons' extensive clipping file. All of these manuscript materials and the photographs were transferred to the Southern Historical Collection in 1985, where they can be found today.

The Lyons collection, added to the existing collection of Robert Frost in the RBC, which had about 100 items, has given the RBC an almost complete collection of

Christmas cards, many in multiple copies, as well as a large number of monographs and related works. And while the current Frost collection has not been expanded recently, the addition of the Lyons collection has helped to make the Frost collection a small, but well-rounded, part of the RBC.

The RBC Collection in Context

There are four major collections of Robert Frost in the country. These are held at the University of Virginia (UVA), Amherst College, Dartmouth College, and Jones Library, the public library in Amherst, MA. The interest in Frost at Amherst, Dartmouth, and the Jones Library are the result of years of association with each of these institutions. The UVA collection, however, was mostly the work of Clifton Waller Barrett, whose collection interests spanned much more than just Frost.

The Jones Library's first director was Charles Green who, with W. B. Shubrick Clymer, created a bibliography of Frost up to 1937, published by the Jones Library. Frost made many donations to the collection at the Jones Library, through his friendship with Charles Green, and with the town of Amherst. This collection has some 12,000 items, including 350 signed editions and states, original drafts of many poems, and correspondence with Frost's childhood sweetheart, Sabra Peterson. The Jones Library also has a collection J.J. Lankes material. He was an artist who created woodcuts for many of Frost's works. This collection contains artist's proofs, and some actual blocks for various Frost books. The Clymer & Green bibliography in 1937 was based on the collection of the Jones Library.

The Dartmouth collection is another one that Frost help build. Although he never completed his degree at Dartmouth, he did go back to teach there in the 1940s. The Dartmouth collection contains about 1500 printed works, both by and about Frost, including many inscribed and association copies. Dartmouth also has extensive manuscripts in their collection, over 2000 photographs, and hundreds of audio recordings of Frost reading or “saying” his poems.

The Amherst collection was born out of Frost’s long association with the College. In the library that bears his name, Amherst holds a collection rich in manuscript materials and printed works. Many of the books were inscribed by Frost to Amherst students and professors. Amherst also has hundreds of recordings of Frost “saying” his poems, and a very comprehensive collection of Frost’s poetry in magazine and other publications. Most of the correspondence in this collection is related to Amherst.

The UVA collection is one of the best recognized, partially because of the bibliography based on it. The Barrett collection is one of the most extensive in the country, with a complete collection of Frost Christmas cards, all of his monographs, many of which have been inscribed, and an extensive collection of manuscript and ephemeral publications. The Barrett Collection also has the Lawrance Thompson copies of many of Frost’s books. While the Barrett collection was the basis for UVA’s Frost collection, bringing with it the only copy of *Twilight* in existence, UVA has also recently obtained the Frederick G. Melcher Collection of Robert Frost. Melcher was a publisher and a friend of Frost. The Melcher Collection contains a wealth of manuscripts, correspondence, and a number of printed works. It was in one of the books in the Melcher Collection that a previously unpublished poem of Frost’s was found in

September, 2006. This poem, “War Thoughts a Home,” was published in the *Virginia Quarterly Review* on October 2, 2006.

There is also a sizeable collection at the University of Michigan, which was donated by Frost’s great grandson, Robert Frost II. The Library of Congress has a large collection of materials related to Frost, as part of the Louis Untermeyer Collection. And Boston University has a large collection, donated by Paul C. Richards. All of these collections are significantly larger than the UNC collection, but Robert Frost is not a major collecting area at UNC.

Methodology

The goal of this paper is two-fold. First, to assess the RBC’s collection of Frost monographs in the context of the universe of Robert Frost collections, and second, to look for areas in which the RBC can expand its holdings. In order to fulfill these objectives, it was first necessary to establish the immensity of this analysis by identifying the bibliographical universe of Robert Frost. This was done using a number of Frost bibliographies, most notably Crane’s bibliography based on the Barrett collection at UVA, published in 1974, and Clymer & Green’s bibliography from 1937, which Crane used as a reference.

Armed with these tools, and the UNC OPAC, I was able to create a list of items to examine. Each of these books was then examined closely, to make an assessment of its condition. Any defects in the condition were noted, as were any bookplates, inscriptions, or other features of note. Each title examined was also compared to its description in Crane and Clymer & Green, with any discrepancies noted. To describe the condition of

each book, the standard rating system of the rare book world was employed: Fine, Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, etc.

After this condition assessment was completed, two lists were created, one of high spots and one of desiderata. Using *American Book Prices Current* to look at auction records, and *Bookman's Price Index* to look at sales in the past, and AbeBooks.com to see current objects being sold, information was obtained about each item on the desiderata list. A search was also done on WorldCat, for items on both the high-spot list and the desiderata list, to see how UNC compared to other libraries. This bibliography and analysis is hoped to be of use in future collection development at the RBC.

Part II

Annotated Bibliography

This bibliography is based on *Robert Frost: Books and Manuscripts in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library*, compiled in 1974 by Joan St. C. Crane. The Crane bibliography focuses on the first and other notable editions of Frost monographs, including one monograph not printed during his lifetime. This particular monograph, *One Favored Acorn*, was published in 1969, and so is not being considered in this analysis. Although the Crane bibliography is based on the UVA collection, it is the most detailed bibliography available and will serve as the basis for this work.

The bibliography is arranged chronologically, but later editions are included under the first edition of that title. All of the editions listed are found in Crane, so each edition is listed with the number assigned to it by Crane. Following the line identifying the edition and the Crane number, is the publication information. Beneath that is brief information, if any, about the print run or publication. This information generally comes from Crane, but is supplemented by *Robert Frost: A Bibliography*, by Clymer and Green. This book was published in 1937, though, so only has information up to that date. Beneath the printing information is the call number for any holdings of the RBC. Each copy is then listed and described, beginning with the bookplate, any notes about the copy, including any inscriptions, and then a condition report. Although Frost materials have

been given by many donors, the most common bookplate is that of the Lyons collection. This bookplate reads: "The Lyons Collection of Robert Frost. Donated by Clifford and Gladys Lyons." It is shortened to "Lyons" in this bibliography. All other bookplates are written out. When the condition of any copy is less than Fine, any defects are identified.

Abbreviations

- Crane: Joan St. C. Crane, compiler. *Robert Frost: A Descriptive Catalogue of Books and Manuscripts in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library University of Virginia*. Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1974.
- C&G: W.B. Shubrick Clymer and Charles R. Green. *Robert Frost: A Bibliography*. Amherst, MA: The Jones Library, Inc., 1937.

1894

Twilight.

[First edition] Crane: A1

Lawrence, MA: American Printing House, 1894.

Frost had two copies of this privately printed, one he gave to Elinor Miriam White (his future wife), and one he kept and later destroyed. Frost later sold the surviving copy to Earle J. Bernheimer, and then sold it to Roy V. Thornton, a friend of Frost's. Frost helped negotiate the final sale of the copy to C. Waller Barrett, who donated it to UVA as part of his collection. The Barrett copy is the only copy in existence.

RBC Holdings: none.

1913

A Boy's Will.

[First Edition] Crane: A2

London: David Nutt, 1913.

There were two issues of this edition in four variant bindings. There were 1000 sets of sheets printed, according to the printer, Spottiswoode, Ballantyne & Co., Ltd. Records indicate that 100 copies were bound by Simpkin Marshall (binding C), and then 70 copies of this 100 were purchased, along with 616 unbound sets of sheets, by Dunster House. The 616 sets were bound in England (binding D), before being shipped to America. This means that 284 copies (first issue, bindings A and B) were bound and sold by David Nutt. The copies in binding A were bound before April 1, 1913, and the copies in binding B were bound during the war.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 B6 1913.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Second issue, binding C. *Inscription*: "For Burton Emmett," includes a holograph copy of "A Minor Bird" (from *West-Running Brook*, as noted by Frost). *Condition*: Fine.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Second issue, binding D. Signed. Also included is an advertisement for *North of Boston*, with an inscription to Clifford Lyons. *Condition*: Very Good. Slight staining on covers, and the bookplate glued to the front cover has made a bump.

[First American Edition] Crane: A2.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1915.

First printing consisted of 750 copies. Two binding variants exist.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1915.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Coarse blue linen cloth covered boards, buff endpapers. *Condition*: Good. Some wear on corners and sunning on spine and edges. Some minor chips and tears in text-block, and one larger tear on page 27. Page 64 is discolored from facing endpaper.

c.2: *Notes*: Coarse blue linen cloth covered boards, buff end papers. *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Good. Underlining and annotations throughout, with minor tears and stains on many pages. Boards are faded and stained.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Presented by William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: Fine blue linen cloth covered boards, white endpapers. Signed on free endpaper. *Condition*: Fine.

1914

North of Boston.

[First Edition, first issue] Crane: A3

London: David Nutt, 1914.

An edition of 1000 copies, in 5 variant bindings, although Binding B was only used for the second issue.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 N67 1914.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Binding F. In torn glassine wrapper. A copy of "The Pasture" is inscribed on title page, signed "For Burton Emmett." Some pages uncut. *Condition*: Fine.

[First Edition, second issue (for American publication)] Crane: A3.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1914.

An edition of 150 copies; part of the 1000 sets of sheets printed for the first issue, but bound in variant B.

RBC Holdings: none.

[First edition published in America (first American edition)] Crane: A3.2

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1915.

An edition of 1300 copies.

RBC Holdings: none.

[First Illustrated Edition] Crane: A3.3

New York: Henry Holt and Company, [1919].

This edition was of 500 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 N67 1919.

Bookplate: "This book was presented by the Officers of the Univ. and the Horace Williams Philos. Soc." *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Very Good. Label on front is scuffed. Foxing on uncut edges, and on tissue covering plates. Glue stains on front free endpaper. A white mark on spine.

1916

Mountain Interval.

[First Edition] Crane: A4

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1916.

A first edition of 4000 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M6 1916.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Medium weight paper with fourth gathering heavy. First state. Inscribed on half-title, "You're searching Joe, For things that don't exist, [illegible] beginnings. Ends or beginnings there are no such things. There are only middles. Robert Frost, 1916. For Dorothy Terry." *Condition*: Very Good. Back corners are bumped. Minor scuffs on front and back. A few creases and penciled annotations on text-block.

1923

Selected Poems.

[First Edition] Crane: A5

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1923.

An edition of 1025 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1923.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Condition*: Fine; missing dust-jacket.

[First English Edition] Crane: A5.1

London: William Heinemann Ltd.; New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1923.

RBC Holdings: PS3511 .R94 A6 1923b.

Condition: Fine, with a Very Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket has a few chips, and light staining.

New Hampshire: A Poem with Notes and Grace Notes.

[First Edition] Crane: A6

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1923.

A first printing of 5350 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511. R94 N4 1923.

c.1: *Bookplate*: The Gregory L. Paine Collection of American Literature. *Notes*: First printing, October 1923. Free endpaper is signed "Gregory Paine." *Condition*: Very Good. A line down the middle of the title label, and a few marks on the cloth. Some penciled numbers on the endpapers.

c.2: *Bookplate*: From the library of Richmond P. Bond and Marjorie N. Bond. *Notes*: First printing, October 1923. *Condition*: Fine.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Presented by William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: Third printing, May, 1924. Inscribed, "Something there is that doesn't love a wall, Robert Frost." *Condition*: Very Good. The paper covering the boards is worn on the head and foot of spine, and torn slightly on the bottom corner.

c.4: *Bookplate*: Gift of Hugh Griffith from the library of Philip M. Griffith. *Notes*: First printing, October 1923. Endpaper is signed, "Philip M. Griffith," and the inscription reads, "from my lovely Grandmother, Alda Lester Mahone, whose book this was and who loved poetry." *Condition*: Good. Spine has darkened, and boards are slightly stained. The paper covering the boards is torn on the bottom. Slight foxing on pages.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A6

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1923.

An edition of 350 numbered copies, all signed.

RBC Holdings: P3511. R94 N4.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Copy 329 of 350.

Condition: Fine.

[First English Edition] Crane: A6.1

London: Grant Richards, Ltd., 1924.

An edition of 150 sets of sheets of the original printing, bound with cancel title-leaf of Grant Richards, Ltd., London.

RBC Holdings: none.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A6.2

Hanover, NH: New Dresden Press, 1955.

An edition of 750 copies, all signed.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 N4 1955.

c.1: *Notes*: Copy 350. *Condition*: Fine.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Copy 174. Inscribed on free endpaper, "For Gladys and Cliff, once more, from Robert, Chapel Hill, March 21 '56." *Condition*: Fine.

1924

An Old Man's Winter Night.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A7

Northampton, MA: The Hampshire Bookshop, 1924.

An edition of 175 copies.

RBC Holdings: none.

Several Short Poems.

[Only edition in this format] Crane: A8

[New York: Henry Holt and Company], [1924].

An edition of 2000 copies, unbound, printed in February, 1924. This was intended for distribution at Robert Frost lectures, primarily at Smith College, Vassar College and the University of Maine.

RBC Holdings: none.

1928

Selected Poems.

[First Edition (of expanded selection)] Crane: A9

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1928.

An edition of 3,475 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1928.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Condition:* Fine, in a Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket has small piece missing near the bottom of the spine and minor chips along the edges.

West-Running Brook.

[First Edition] Crane: A10

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1928.

A first edition of 9,400 copies. C&G report that it is generally accepted that only 1,000 copies actually say "First Edition" on the verso of the title page.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 W4.

c.1: *Condition:* Ex-library copy. Fair. Significant wear on all edges, and especially on the corners. Some pieces of the text-block are missing, but nothing compromising the text.

c.2: *Bookplate:* Presented by W.L. Woodward. *Notes:* A small label from Brentano's on the back inside cover. *Condition:* Very Good. Paper is worn away from all corners of boards. Paper is slightly discolored along fore-edge.

[Second Edition, Limited] Crane: A10.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1928.

An edition of 1000 copies, 980 of which were for sale. All signed.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 W4 1928.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Copy 119. In torn glassine wrapper. *Condition*: Fine.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Presented by Julian Mason, In Honor of the Class of 1953. *Notes*: Copy 708. Limitation statement has been altered to read, "This copy is Number 708 is for Edward Greenlaw from Robert Frost." The end is the standard signature. *Condition*: Fine.

1929

A Way Out.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A11

New York: The Harbor Press, 1929.

An edition of 485 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 W3 1929.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes*: Copy 18. Also includes an advertisement for this edition. *Condition*: Very Good. Blue marks appear on two pages.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Copy 1, author's presentation copy. In glassine wrapper. Inscribed, "For Gladys and Clifford Lyons, from their friend, Robert Frost, After the visit of 1942." *Condition*: Fine.

The Lovely Shall Be Choosers.

[First Edition] Crane: A12

New York: Random House, 1929.

This poem appeared in a pamphlet with eleven other poems, in an edition of 475 copies. The pamphlet was enclosed in a yellow wrapper. Crane reports that the pamphlets were only sold as a set.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 L69 1929.

Notes: This pamphlet is separate, not part of the set enclosed in yellow wrapper.

Condition: Very Fine.

The Cow's in the Corn.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A13

Gaylordsville, [CT]: The Slide Mountain Press, 1929.

An edition of 91 copies, all signed.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 C69 1929.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes:* Copy 62. *Condition:* Good. Torn along the spine, and chips on the head and foot of spine. Only a small piece of the spine label remains.

1930

Collected Poems.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A14

New York: Random House, 1930.

An edition of 1000 numbered copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1930.

Bookplate: Burton Emmett Collection of First Editions. *Notes:* Copy 131, signed.

Condition: Fine.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A14.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1930.

An edition of 3,870 copies. C&G report that this edition was printed from the same plates as the limited edition, but the table of contents was moved from back to front, and there is a new title page.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1930a.

Notes: Enclosed is a newspaper clipping about Frost reading at the Kennedy inauguration. The text of the new poem that he could not read at the inauguration is included in the article. *Condition:* Very Good, in a Good dust-jacket. Faint crescent shaped discoloration on front cover. Dust-jacket has small tears and chips along all edges, and small pieces missing from back corners.

[First English Edition] Crane: A14.2

London: Longmans, Green and Company, 1930.

Edition of 1000 copies, made from American sheets bound in England with a new title page.

RBC Holdings: none.

1931

Two Letters, Written on His Undergraduate Days at Dartmouth in 1892.

[First Edition] Crane: A15

Hanover, NH: The Printer's Devil Press, 1931.

RBC Holdings: none.

1932*The Augustan Books of Poetry.*

[First Edition of this selection] Crane: A16

London: Ernest Benn, Ltd., 1932.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511.R94 A6 1932.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Binding B. *Condition*: Very Good. A few bubbles from the gluing of the binding.

c.2: *Notes*: Binding B. *Condition*: Fine.

1933*The Lone Striker.*

[First Edition] Crane: A17

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1933.

An edition of 2000 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 L6 1933.

Condition: Very Good. Two small penciled notes.

1935*Three Poems.*

[First Edition] Crane: A18

Hanover, NH: Baker Library Press, 1935.

RBC Holdings: none.

The Gold Hesperidee.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A19

Cortland, NY: The Bibliophile Press, 1935.

A print run of 500 copies for the first state, but only 37 unnumbered copies were distributed before a mistake on page 17 was noticed, and the rest of the copies recalled. 203 corrected copies were printed as the second state. The second state sold out almost immediately, so some of the first state were numbered and released for distribution.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 G64 1935.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: First state, binding A, unnumbered. *Condition*: Good. Glue stain on inside front cover, has also discolored facing page.

1936

From Snow to Snow.

[First Edition] Crane: A20

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1936.

This edition was first printed for the Annual Convention of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association. 300 copies were later printed as a keepsake for the 20th anniversary dinner of the Hampshire Bookshop in Northampton, MA. Six months later, 1200 sets of sheets remaining from the first printing were bound for sale.

RBC Holdings: none.

[Second Printing from First Edition plates] Crane: A20.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1936.

A first printing of 3000 copies printed on December 1, 1936, with a second printing of 1200 copies on December 24, 1936.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 F7 1936.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Presented by Mrs. Helen Hogan. *Notes*: Inscribed, "Helen from Frances, Christmas 1936." *Condition*: Good. Sunning on spine and along edges. Dust-jacket has minor chips and tears.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Roland McClamroch Collection. *Condition*: Good. Sunning on spine, minor scuffs and chips on dust-jacket. Some foxing.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed, "For Gladys and Clifford Lyons, from their friends, Elinor and Robert Frost, Christmas 1937." *Condition*: Good. Slight sunning on spine. Some foxing. Dust-jacket was torn along spine and been repaired.

A Further Range.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A21

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1936.

An edition of 803 copies.

RBC Holdings: none.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A21.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1936.

There were 4000 copies of the first trade impression, 6000 copies of the second trade impression, and 59,000 copies of the Book of the Month Club edition (third trade impression).

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 F8 1936.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: Book of the Month Club edition, third impression of trade edition plates. *Condition*: Fine, in a Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket has large tear on back, and some other creases.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacking edition or printing statement. Lyons' signature on pastedown, dated January 20, 1937. A fair copy of "Lines Written Last Autumn" is on the free endpaper, signed, "Robert Frost, For Clifford Lyons, April 9 1938, Gainesville Florida." On the verso of the free endpaper, Lyons writes, "In a visit here in 1961, Mr. Frost went to the shelf, picked up this book, and [illegible] seeing what had been written on the fly-piece visibly started. He turned and said, "That was the year I died." Clifford Lyons." In another ink, Lyons writes, "See emendation he made on p. 47. C.L." On page 47 Frost has crossed out "I warned the clouds," on line 11 and changed it to, "You opening clouds." *Condition*: Good. Slight foxing and a faded spine. Star on front cover has been colored in with pencil. Penciled annotations. Dust-jacket has been repaired. Dust-jacket was torn along the spine, with minor tears and chips along the edges.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Presented by Dr. and Mrs. John R. Dykers, Jr. in memory of Mrs. Maureen Vardeman. *Notes*: First impression of limited edition plates. Endpaper is signed, "Jenni A. Flexan, May 1936." *Condition*: Good, but missing dust-jacket. Spine is very sunned.

[First English Edition] Crane: A21.2

London: Jonathan Cape, 1937.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 F8 1937.

Bookplate: Presented by Dr. & Mrs. John R. Dykers, Jr. *Condition*: Very Good. Slight foxing throughout. One corner is slightly bumped.

Selected Poems.

[First Edition of expanded selection] Crane: A22

London: Jonathan Cape, 1936.

Crane reports that this is the first book of Frost's with material by other authors. There are introductory essays by W.H. Auden, C. Day Lewis, Paul Engle, and Edwin Muir.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1936.

Condition: Good. Spine has darkened, with minor stains and scuffs on boards. Some foxing along the bottom edge of the text-block.

1939

Collected Poems.

[First Edition] Crane: A23

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1939.

An edition of 3750 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1939.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: Personal bookplate of William F. Broer, Jr. Signed on first blank page. *Condition*: Good. Title

page is torn at spine, but still secure. Black mark on bottom of text-block. Spine of dust-jacket has darkened, and a scuff on spine label.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed, "For Gladys and Clifford Lyons from their old friend Robert Frost." Also, a fair copy of "An Individualist" on the recto of the frontispiece. Poem is signed, "R.F., Visit of March 1946." *Condition*: Fair. Covers are slightly scuffed. Foxing, especially on the fore-edge. Penciled annotations on Table of Contents. Some pages stained, with corners turned down. Dust-jacket was torn and has missing pieces. Has been repaired.

[Halcyon House Edition] Noted with Crane: A23

New York: Halcyon House, 1939.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1939a.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes*: Second printing. Inscribed, "For Cliff and Gladys, Chapel Hill Jan 25 53," following a signed fair copy of "In a Bedroom Closet." *Condition*: Very Good. Minor tears on dust-jacket. Penciled annotations on Table of Contents.

A Considerable Speck.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A24

[Boston]: [The Colonial Society of Massachusetts], 1939.

An edition of fewer than 100 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost Folio PS3511 .R94 C65.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes*: Signed, "Robert Frost to Clifford Lyons." Was framed. A note on the back of the frame said, "This autographed poem sent to Clifford Lyons by Robert Frost – about 1939 or 40 in Gainesville, Fla." *Condition*: Good. Some pencil marks and indentations left from framing.

1942

A Witness Tree.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A25

New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1942.

An edition of 735 copies.

RBC Holdings: none.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A25.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1942.

An edition of 8500 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 W5.

c.1: *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Good. Spine is very faded. Discoloration along the spine on the endpapers. Missing dust-jacket.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Roland McClamroch Collection. *Notes*: A sticker from the Bull's Head Bookshop, Chapel Hill, is on the front endpaper. *Condition*: Very Good. Some foxing on edges, and a darkened spine. Missing dust-jacket.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Four holograph poems: "The Middleness of the Road," "One Step Backward Taken," "A Mood Apart," and "Skies," added to the text, with notations made in the table of contents. All poems signed "RF." Also inscribed, "To Gladys and Clifford, This tree as a witness to our friendship, from Robert, with a revised Table of Contents, March 12 1946, Gainesville." Signed by Lyons on front pastedown. *Condition*: Very Good, with a Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket is torn, but been repaired. Some marks and creases on dust-jacket. Penciled annotations on some pages.

c.4 *Notes*: Instead of saying "FIRST PRINTING" on the title page verso, it says "August, 1942." *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Good. A sunned spine and bumped corners.

[First English Edition] Crane: A25.2

London: Jonathan Cape, 1943.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 W5 1943.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Condition*: Good.

Sunning on back cover and along spine. White mark on front cover.

1943

Come In, and Other Poems.

[First Edition] Crane: A26

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1943.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1943.

c.1: *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Fair. Spine has darkened. Scuffing and stains on back cover. Pencil and pen annotations. Fingerprints on frontispiece and title page.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Roland McClamroch Collection. *Condition*: Fine, in Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket is torn on front, and the spine has darkened.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed, "Robert Frost in 1943 to Gladys and Clifford Lyons then and in 1952 again." A fern leaf is pressed between pages 50-51, and a wildflower is pressed between pages 94-95. *Condition*: Good. Spine has darkened and some minor staining on text-block. Dust-jacket is torn at spine, and has small pieces missing from corners. Minor scuffs on dust-jacket, and spine has darkened.

[Armed Services Edition] Noted with Crane: A26

New York: Armed Services Editions, Council on Books in Wartime, 1943.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1943b.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Condition*: Fair. The half-title page is separate. Minor water damage on top. Back cover is slightly stained and creased.

[First English Edition] Crane: A26.1

London: Jonathan Cape, 1944.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1944b.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Notes*: Dust-jacket has "Ordeal by Hunger" by George R. Stewart on the reverse. *Condition*: Fine, in a Very Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket is slightly foxed, and scuffed on the corners.

1945

A Masque of Reason.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A27

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1945.

An edition of 800 numbered copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M3 1945.

c.1: *Notes*: Copy 563, signed. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition*: Ex-library copy. Very Good. A few spots on text-block.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Roland McClamroch Collection. *Notes*: Copy 216, signed. A sticker from Bull's Head Bookshop, Chapel Hill, on front pastedown. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition*: Very Good. Foxing on all edges. A few marks on cover.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A27.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1945.

An edition of 15,000 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M3.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Condition*: Very Good, in Good dust-jacket. Dark mark on endpaper. Dust-jacket is scuffed, with small chips on spine.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Presented by Lewis Leary and Mary Warren Leary. *Condition*: Good. Small stain on front cover, with the corners bumped. Two pages creased. Dust-jacket has a pieces missing from back and the front corners. Front has a tear.

c.3 *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed, "To Gladys and Clifford for being so nice about it. R." and "The play seems out for an almost infinite run. Don't mind a little thing like the actors fighting. The only thing I worry about is the sun: We'll be all right if nothing goes wrong with the lighting. R." *Condition*: Good, in a Fair dust-jacket. Some foxing. Pen annotations in text-block, and pencil annotations on dust-jacket. Dust-jacket has small pieces missing and tears on both front and back. Dust-jacket back is scuffed.

1946

The Courage to Be New.

[First Edition] Crane: A28

Ripton, VT: n.p., 1946.

This poem was printed for the dedication services of the Orris C. Manning Memorial Park, Ripton, Vermont, in July 1946.

RBC Holdings: none.

The Poems of Robert Frost.

[First Edition of this selection] Crane: A29

New York: The Modern Library, [1946].

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1946.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Newspaper clipping pasted to page 149. Inscribed, "To Cliff and Gladys from Robert." Signed by Lyons on free endpaper and half-title. Note on title page by Lyons, "cut copy." *Condition*: Poor. Lacks dust-jacket. Back cover shows signs of water damage. Pages 235-238 and 269-272 are cut out. Newspaper clipping has stained facing page. Text-block is loose in case. Heavily annotated.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. Inscribed, "Gladys and Cliff's, with my approval, Robert, March 1959." *Condition*: Very Good in Good dust-jacket. Very small stain on corner. Dust-jacket has darkened spine, and torn at spine. Small tears along edges. Minor scuffs on back. Pen mark on front.

c.3: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. Inscribed, "For Clifford and Gladys, Greenwood Road, March 15, 1958," with a signed fair copy of "Of A Winter Evening," facing half-title page. *Condition*: Good. Small pencil annotations on Table of Contents. Dust-jacket has minor chips on spine and at corners. Some pencil marks on front of dust-jacket.

c.4: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. Inscribed, "For Cliff and Gladys' [illegible], from Robert, 1959." *Condition*: Fine, in Very Good dust-jacket. Very small tears on dust-jacket, and a small crease. Faint black line on back of dust-jacket.

c.5 *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. Inscribed on half-title, "To Mrs. Charles Lyons, in friendship established at the home of her son in Chapel Hill, June 7-8-9th 1953, Robert Frost." *Condition*: Good. Missing dust-jacket. Slight water damage to top edge. A narrow dent along the fore-edge of boards and text-block. Some scuffing on boards.

c.6: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. Inscribed on half-title, "One more in small part payment for great things I owe Clifford Lyons (such as his talks about Shakespeare), Robert Frost, Greenwood Road, 1958." *Condition*: Fine, in Good dust-jacket. Dust-jacket spine has darkened, with minor chips form edges and minor scuffs on back.

c.7: *Notes*: Lacks edition statement. A sticker from the Bull's Head Bookshop, Chapel Hill, on front pastedown. *Condition*: As New in Fine dust-jacket.

1947

Steeple Bush.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A30

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1947.

An edition of 751 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 S7.

Notes: In slipcase, as issued. Copy 210. In torn glassine wrapper. *Condition:* Fine.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A30.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1947.

An edition of 7600 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 S7 1947.

c.1: *Bookplate:* Presented by Lewis Leary. *Condition:* Very Good, in Good dust-jacket. Small hole at top of spine. Dust-jacket has a darkened spine, and slight water damage on front and back. Chipping along edges of dust-jacket.

c.2: *Bookplate:* Roland McClamroch Collection. *Notes:* Signed by McClamroch on pastedown. *Condition:* Good. Foxing on edges of text-block. Dust-jacket has darkened spine and minor creasing, especially along spine.

c.3: *Bookplate:* Lyons. *Notes:* Inscribed on free endpaper, "To Gladys and Clifford from Robert." Wildflower pressed between pages 36-37. A sticker for Bull's Head Bookshop, Chapel Hill, on pastedown. Three newspaper clippings, one a review, pasted to the blank pages at end. *Condition:* Fair, in a Good dust-jacket. Pressed flower has stained facing page. Clippings have stained facing pages. Slight foxing on edges. Dust-jacket has minor scuffs and a sunned spine. A few pen marks on front of dust-jacket.

c.4: *Bookplate:* Personal bookplate of Louis Untermeyer. *Condition:* Very Good in a Good dust-jacket. Slight foxing on top-edge and endpapers. Dust-jacket spine has yellowed, with some faint dark marks on front.

A Masque of Mercy.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A31

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1947.

An edition of 751 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M26.

c.1: *Notes:* Copy 131. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition:* Fine.

c.2: *Bookplate:* Lyons. *Notes:* Copy 12, inscribed, "To Gladys and Clifford from Robert, Christmas 1947." In slipcase, as issued. *Condition:* Very Good. Small mark on front cover. Faint red and blue marks on edges and on endpapers.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A31.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1947.

An edition of 7500 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M26 1947.

c.1: *Bookplate*: Roland McClamroch Collection. *Notes*: Signed by McClamroch on front pastedown. *Condition*: Good. White spots on boards. A few annotations. Dust-jacket is sunned on spine and along fore-edge. Minor chips along edges.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed on free endpaper, "To Gladys and Clifford from Robert." A sticker from the Bull's Head Bookshop, Chapel Hill, on pastedown.

Condition: Good. White spots on boards, with top corners bumped. Dust-jacket is sunned on spine, with minor scuffs on back. Small tear on front of dust-jacket.

Two Poems on Revolution.

[First Separate Edition of *A Semi Revolution*] Crane: A32

Boston: Bookbuilders Workshop, 1947.

According to Crane, there were 25 good copies, and 7 seconds, but this was printed without Frost's consent. No copies were distributed for sale.

RBC Holdings: none.

A Sermon.

[First Edition] Crane: A33

Cincinnati, OH: Victor E. Reichert, 1947.

An edition of 500 copies, not authorized by Frost.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 S47 1947.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes*: Lacks change from "worry" to "mercy" on page 14, as noted by Crane. *Condition*: Fine.

1948

A Masque of Reason: Containing A Masque of Mercy and A Masque of Reason.

[First English Edition] Crane: A34

London: Jonathan Cape, 1948.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 M3 1948.

Condition: Very Good. Small tear on one page. Dust-jacket is slightly scuffed and small tear on back, and small piece missing from spine.

1949

Complete Poems of Robert Frost.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A35

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1949.

An edition of 500 copies, all signed.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1949.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes:* Copy 482. In slipcase. Inscribed on blank page before copy statement, "To Cliff and Gladys, who have already made it so much theirs – and made me so much theirs, Robert, January 26 1950, Chapel Hill." Back endpaper has a note, "This is a copy of the 1949 Limited Edition of Complete Poems of R.F., 1949, a copy given to us by Mr. Frost. On one of his visits to C.H. in the early fifties, and as always a guest in our home, I asked him if he would give his ratings of some of the poems. He readily assented. He went, not systematically, but skipingly down the Table of Contents. In addition to the ratings, he made comments on some of the poems, which I copied down in the margins. Unhappily, as we were getting into A Further Range, we were interrupted by someone coming to the door (a man from Porlock [sp]) and we did not get back to it. Clifford Lyons." *Condition:* Good. Faint black lines on back cover. A small piece missing from title-page. Heavily annotated Table of Contents, and other annotations throughout (see Lyons' note).

[Reissue by Limited Editions Club] Noted in Crane: A35

New York: Limited Editions Club, 1950.

An edition of 1500 copies, printed for the members of the Limited Edition Club, under the direction of Bruce Rogers, with decorations engraved by Thomas W. Nason.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1950 v.1, 2.

Notes: Copy 1460, signed by Frost, Thomas Nason, and Bruce Rogers. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition:* Very Good. A few small stains in volume 1.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A35.1

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1949.

An edition of 7325 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 1949b.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Condition:* Good. Black mark on bottom edge of text-block. Text-block sagging slightly in case. Dust-jacket has small scuffs and tears. Spine is slightly sunned.

[First English Edition] Crane: A35.2

London: Jonathan Cape, 1951.

RBC Holdings: none.

1951

Hard Not to be King.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A36

New York: House of Books, Ltd., 1951.

An edition of 300 copies.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 H3 1951.

Notes: Copy 108, signed. *Condition:* Ex-library copy. Very Good. Spine is sunned.

1954

Aforesaid.

[First Edition] Crane: A37

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1954.

An edition of 650 copies, 500 of which were for sale.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A7.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes:* Copy 204, signed. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition:* Good. Some penciled annotations on Table of Contents. A few fingerprints.

1955

Robert Frost: Selected Poems.

[First Edition of this selection] Crane: A38

London: Penguin Books, 1955.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 A6 1955.

Bookplate: Presented by the William A. Whitaker Foundation. *Condition:* Very Good. Spine is creased. Edges of text-block are slightly discolored.

1959

You Come Too: Favorite Poems for Young Readers.

[First Edition] Crane: A39

New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1959.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511.R94 Y8.

c.1: *Condition:* Fine, in Good dust-jacket. Two small tears on dust-jacket, and the price has been cut out.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Lyons. *Notes*: Inscribed on free endpaper, "It's from having stood contrasted, That good and bad so long have lasted, Robert Frost, To the understanding of Cliff and Gladys Lyons, with confidence, Chapel Hill, March 16 1960." *Condition*: Good. One pen annotation, and a dent on the bottom edge. Some creasing around the dent. Dust-jacket has foxing on cover, and some slight scuffs.

1961

Dedication.

[First Separate Edition] Crane: A40
New York: Spiral Press, 1961.

An edition of 500 copies was printed in March 1961 for friends of Holt, Rinehart and Winston and of The Spiral Press. A pamphlet edition from the same type was later printed for Holt as a keepsake for the dinner Frost was given by President Kennedy's Cabinet. A copy of the pamphlet is available in the Southern Historical Collection. RBC Holdings: Frost Folio PS3511.R94 D42.

Bookplate: Lyons. *Notes*: Copy 106. Inscribed on free endpaper, "To Clifford and Gladys, from Robert." *Condition*: Good. Small tear on spine. Endpapers have some marks.

1962

In the Clearing.

[Limited Edition] Crane: A41
New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1962.
An edition of 1500 numbered copies, all signed.
RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 I5.

Notes: Copy 825. In slipcase, as issued. *Condition*: Very Good. One small pen mark on page facing title page.

[Trade Edition] Crane: A41.1
New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1962.
RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 I5 1962.

c.1: *Notes*: Dust-jacket has a black back cover, matching the front and spine. Crane notes that the back of the back of the dust-jacket was white. *Condition*: Good. A small tear on top of spine, and minor scuffs. One page is creased.

c.2: *Bookplate*: Presented by Charles M. & Charlotte Shaffer. *Notes*: Lacks edition statement, and price on front flap. Dust-jacket has a white back, as noted in Crane. *Condition*: Very Good, in a Good dust-jacket. A mark on one page. Dust-jacket has foxing on flaps, and some scuffs and scratches.

[First English Edition] Crane: A41.2

London: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1962.

RBC Holdings: Frost PS3511 .R94 I5 1962b.

Notes: Has dust-jacket, not mentioned in Crane. Dust-jacket is all black, with price on front flap, and quotes from *Poetry Quarterly*, *Time and Tide*, and Edmund Blunden of *The Bookman* on the back. *Condition:* Very Good, in Good dust-jacket. Corners are slightly bumped. Dust-jacket has some small tears, and some creasing.

Part III

Collection Assessment and High-Spots

In 1965, a library school student did a collection assessment of the Robert Frost Collection in the RBC. At that time, she identified a total of 90 items by or relating to Robert Frost (Henn 1965, 1). Sixteen years later, the Lyonses donated their large collection, and the number of items jumped dramatically. Although Robert Frost has not been actively collected in the last few years, the RBC has a sizeable collection of Robert Frost materials, including most first editions (as described above), most Christmas cards, and many versions of poetry and prose printed in magazines. This collection of printed materials is supplemented by manuscripts and related correspondence in the Southern Historical Collection. Among the printed first editions, there are some notable high-spots, either for their relatively rarity, or for their inscriptions. These high-spots include:

- *North of Boston*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1919. (Crane A3.3) Five hundred copies were printed, and WorldCat reports copies at 21 libraries.
- *A Way Out*. New York: Harbor Press, 1929. (Crane A11) Four hundred eighty-five copies were printed, and WorldCat reports copies at 102 libraries. The RBC has copy no.1, inscribed to the Lyonses.
- *The Cow's in the Corn*. Gaylordsville: The Slide Mountain Press, 1929. (Crane A13) Ninety-one copies were printed, and WorldCat reports copies available at 11 libraries. The RBC has copy no. 62, and 2 mimeographed copies of this play are available in the SHC.
- *The Gold Hesperidee*. Cortland, NY: The Bibliophile Press, 1935. (Crane A19) Five hundred copies were printed, of which 37 were unnumbered. WorldCat reports that copies are available in 25 libraries. The RBC copy is unnumbered.

- *A Considerable Speck*. [Boston]: [The Colonial Society of Massachusetts], 1939. (Crane A24) Fewer than 100 copies were printed, and it is available in 27 libraries, according to WorldCat. The RBC copy is inscribed to Cliff Lyons.
- *A Witness Tree*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1942. (Crane A25.1) Although 8500 copies were printed, and it is held by hundreds of libraries, the RBC copy has four holograph poems, and an emended Table of Contents.
- *A Sermon*. Cincinnati, OH: Victor E. Reichert, 1947. (Crane A33) Five hundred copies were printed, and WorldCat reports holdings in 18 libraries.

While this collection is a mere fraction of the collections at UVA, Dartmouth or Amherst, the large number of signed or inscribed copies, mostly from the Lyons collection, does increase the value of the collection. Many of these inscribed copies, however, are not in the best condition, since they show signs of frequent handling, and are annotated. From this assessment, it can be assumed that Clifford Lyons read his books often, and enjoyed annotating them.

Desiderata

Of the sixty-eight editions being considered in this bibliography, the RBC is missing fifteen, or 22%. One of these fifteen is *Twilight*. Although *Twilight* is unobtainable, a facsimile edition of 175 copies was printed for the Barrett Library in 1966. No copies of this facsimile are currently available for sale, but it is something for the RBC to watch for in the future. Of the fourteen other missing editions, three are not currently available for sale, and have not been seen at auction or for sale for the past five years. These three titles are: *Two Letters, written on his Undergraduate Days at Dartmouth in 1892* (Hanover, NH: The Printer's Devil Press, 1931), of which the number printed is unknown, and WorldCat only reports 7 libraries with copies; *The Courage to Be New* (Ripton, VT: n.p., 1946), of which the number printed is unknown, and WorldCat

reports only 5 libraries with copies; and *Two Poems on Revolution* (Boston: Bookbuilders Workshop, 1947), of which 32 copies were printed, and WorldCat reports copies at 5 libraries. One other title, *An Old Man's Winter Night* (Northampton, MA: The Hampshire Bookshop, 1924) is not currently available on AbeBooks.com, but was sold at auction in 2002 for £3200. There were only 175 copies of this edition printed, and WorldCat only reports 5 libraries with a copy.

Of the remaining ten editions missing from the RBC, all are currently available at AbeBooks, most in multiple copies. Prices for these titles vary from \$20 up to \$3000. For most titles, though, Very Good or Fine editions are available for under \$1000. There are also, though, some listings for inscribed copies with prices over \$10,000, including a copy of the 1951 English edition of *Complete Poems* inscribed to Jean and Strom Thurmond being offered for \$15,000.

Recommendations

Since Robert Frost is such an integral part of American poetry, interest in his works is unlikely to diminish anytime soon. While the RBC does not need to make Frost a collecting focus at the moment, there are small gaps in the collection that can be relatively easily filled. Clifford and Gladys Lyons certainly helped fill many of the gaps existing in the collection before the 1980s.

Monographs, however, are only part of a complete author collection. The Crane bibliography divides the print collection of the Barrett Library into four parts: A: monographs; B: Christmas cards; C: first appearances of poetry; and D: first appearances of prose. This analysis has focused solely on the first part of the RBC collection, so it

would be worth looking at the other three sections. This is especially true for sections C and D, since many of these may already be in the RBC collection, thanks to the Lyonses and others.

Frost wrote in the Lyons' copy of the 1949 Limited Edition of *Complete Poems*, "To Cliff and Gladys, who have already made it so much theirs – and made me so much theirs, Robert, January 26 1950, Chapel Hill." Much like Cliff and Gladys, UNC and Chapel Hill were happy to make Robert Frost theirs, and any strengthening of this collection will help cement that relationship. While there is no need to make extending this collection a high priority in the RBC, it is something that should be reassessed regularly, to support the rest of the twentieth-century American literary holdings.

Resources

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