

**Oliver Goldsmith papers, 1758-1797**  
**FLP.RBD.GOLDSMITH**

**Finding aid prepared by Garrett Boos**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

November 20, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Free Library of Philadelphia: Rare Book Department  
Philadelphia, PA, 19103

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Free Library of Philadelphia: Rare Book Department
<b>Creator</b>	Elkins, William McIntire, 1882-1947
<b>Title</b>	Oliver Goldsmith papers
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1758-1798
<b>Extent</b>	2.11 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection is comprised of letters and other documents to and from Oliver Goldsmith. The first series has letters and documents from members in his literary circle as well as documents related to Oliver Goldsmith's works. The second series is composed of contracts between Oliver Goldsmith and John Newbery.

### Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], [Box and folder number], Oliver Goldsmith papers, 1758-1797, Free Library of Philadelphia, Rare Book Department.

## Biographical/Historical note

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Oliver Goldsmith was an Anglo-Irish author best known for his novel *The Vicar of Wakefield* (1766) and his play *She Stoops to Conquer* (1773). He was most likely born in Pallas, Ireland between 1728 and 1731. He attended Trinity College and studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and the University of Leyden. From 1754 to 1756 he traveled through Europe and may have obtained a medical degree. It is known that he failed the examination at the College of Surgeons. In 1756 he moved to London and practiced unsuccessfully as a physician. From 1757 he began writing, editing, and proof-reading for various magazines. These magazines included *British Magazine*, *Bee*, and *Lady's Magazine*. From 1760 to 1761 he became a proof-reader and preface-writer for the publisher John Newberry. Newberry is credited with popularizing children's literature, and the Newberry Medal was named in his honor. One of Goldsmith's better known contributions to Newberry's magazines was the "Chinese Letters" for *Public Ledger*. In 1762 he founded the Samuel Johnson's literary club known as The Club, with several other writers. Oliver Goldsmith died from a kidney infection on April 4, 1774.

### Bibliography:

*International Dictionary of Theatre*. Gale, vol. 2.

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## Scope and Contents note

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This collection is comprised of letters and other documents to and from Oliver Goldsmith. The first series has letters and documents from members of "The Club" as well as documents related to Oliver Goldsmith's works. The second series is composed of contracts between Oliver Goldsmith and John Newberry. Of particular interest are Newberry's financial accounts with Oliver Goldsmith and accounts kept by Goldsmith's landlady Elizabeth Fleming on Oliver Goldsmith's living arrangements.

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## Arrangement note

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This collection is arranged into two series: 1. Goldsmith and 2. Goldsmith-Newberry papers. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order by author, and then by chronological order.

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Free Library of Philadelphia: Rare Book Department

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

This collection is open to researchers by appointment. Please contact the Curator for information on access.

### **Conditions Governing Use note**

The right of access to material does not imply the right of publication. Permission for reprinting, reproduction, or extensive quotation from the rare books, manuscripts, prints, or drawings must be obtained through written application, stating the use to be made of the material. The reader bears the responsibility for any possible infringement of copyright laws in the publication of such material. A reproduction fee will be charged if the material is to be reproduced in a commercial publication.

Some of the materials in this collection may be too fragile for use without the Curator's supervision.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Gift of William McIntire Elkins.

### **Processing Information note**

This finding aid was entered into AT by Garrett Boos from legacy data compiled by the Rare Book Department. Each item was examined and description enhanced and standardized where necessary.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials note**

British Library: GOLDSMITH-PERCY PAPERS, Add. 42515.

## Controlled Access Headings

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### Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Manuscripts

### Personal Name(s)

- Burney, Charles, 1726-1814
- Carr, John, 1723-1807
- Colman, George, 1732-1794
- Cumberland, Richard, 1631-1718
- Dodsley, James, 1724-1797
- Garrick, David, 1717-1779
- Garrick, Eva Marie Violetti, 1724-1822
- Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774
- Griffin, William, 1766-1830
- Johnson, Samuel, 1709-1784
- Langton, Bennet, 1737-1801
- Malone, Edmond, 1741-1812
- Newbery, John, 1713-1767
- Nourse, John, 1762?-1790
- Percy, Thomas, 1729-1811
- Reynolds, Joshua, Sir, 1723-1792
- Wingrave, Francis

### Subject(s)

- Authors

## Collection Inventory

Goldsmith 1758-1798	
	<b>Call-Number</b>
<p>Boswell, James. Autograph letter signed to the Reverend Thomas Percy. London, 1 page May 6</p> <p><b>General note</b></p> <p>Transcription laid in.</p>	Goldsmith
<p>Bunbury, Catherine Horneck. Copy of a letter to Oliver Goldsmith, in verse, 2 pages undated</p> <p><b>General note</b></p> <p>Copy in an unidentified hand.</p>	Goldsmith
<p>Burke, Edmund. Autograph letter signed to David Garrick. Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 1 page undated</p> <p><b>General note</b></p> <p>With seal.</p>	Goldsmith
<p>Cumberland, Richard, 1631-1718. Autograph letter signed to George Colman. Wells Somersetshire, 3 pages 1787 July 10</p>	Goldsmith

## Goldsmith

**General note**

Date from postmark.

Garrick, David, 1717-1779. Autograph letter signed to John Carr. London, 2 pages 1773  
April 17

Goldsmith

**General note**

With seal.

Garrick, David, 1717-1779. Autograph letter signed to an unidentified recipient, 1  
page undated

Goldsmith

Garrick, David, 1717-1779. Autograph manuscripts signed of several poems on Oliver  
Goldsmith: "An Extempore Epitaph", "Another", "Upon Dr. Goldsmith's Characteristical  
Cookery" and "Jupiter & Mercury". London, 2 pages undated

Goldsmith

**General note**

Sometimes called "Garrick's Famous Epitaphs on Oliver Goldsmith". Bound as a volume.  
Portrait of Garrick and related documents bound in. Bookplate of A. Edward Newton.  
Housed separately.

Garrick, Eva Marie Violetti. Autograph letter signed to an unidentified recipient.  
Hampton Middlesex, 1 page July 31

Goldsmith

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph letter signed to Jane Lawder. Temple  
Exchange Coffee house, near Temple Bar, London, 3 pages 1758 August 15

Goldsmith

**General note**



Printed transcription laid in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph manuscript signed of "The Captivity: An Oratorio". London, 18 pages 1764

Goldsmith

**General note**

Seventeen page manuscript, and one page Autograph document signed. Receipt to Mr. Dodsley "for an oratorio", October 31st 1764. Bound as a volume. Bookplate of John Murray III.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph note signed to John Dodesley (James Dodsley). Gray's Inn London, 1 page 1764 March 10

Goldsmith

**General note**

Inserted in Goldsmith's *An Inquiry Into the Present State of Polite Learning in Europe* (London, 1759), copy 2.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by James Dodsley, for writing his *History of England*. London, 1 page 1764 August 08

Goldsmith

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph letter signed to Sir Joshua Reynolds. Paris, 3 pages 1770 July 29

Goldsmith

**General note**

With seal.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Document signed. Contract with William Griffin for the *History of Animated Nature*. London, 1 page 1772 June 27

Goldsmith

## Goldsmith

**General note**

With the seal and two signatures of Goldsmith. Signed twice by George Corral, witness. Autograph document signed. Receipt for sale of this assignment by William. Griffin to John Nourse, signed by Griffin, June 30, 1772, on verso. Signed by Francis Wingrave, witness.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Copy of a letter to Catherine Horneck Bunbury, largely in verse. Possibly London, 8 pages undated

Goldsmith

**General note**

Possibly in the hand of Bennet Langton.

Johnson, Samuel, 1649-1703. Autograph letter signed to possibly David Garrick. London, 1 page May 25

Goldsmith

**General note**

Autograph letter signed from G. Birkbeck Hill, Oxford, Jan. 14, 1889, identifying the recipient, laid in.

Langton, Bennet, 1737-1801. Autograph letter signed to Charles Burney. Headington, Oxfordshire, 3 pages July 27

Goldsmith

**General note**

With seal. Small piece missing with loss of text.

Percy, Thomas, 1729-1811. Autograph letter signed to an unidentified publisher. Dublin, 2 pages 1798 July 16

Goldsmith

**General note**

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

Signed "Thos: Dromore". Possibly to J. Swan.

Percy, Thomas, 1729-1811. Autograph letter signed to Edmond Malone. Dromore House  
Dromore, Down, Northern Ireland, 3 pages 1803 October 5

Goldsmith

**General note**

Signed "Thos: Dromore". With seal.

Reynolds, Joshua, Sir, 1723-1792. Autograph letter to Thomas Percy. Leicesterfields,  
London, 1 page 1768 April 02

Goldsmith

**General note**

Autograph note in unidentified hand, supplying year. With seal.

Reynolds, Joshua, Sir, 1723-1792. Autograph letter signed to an unidentified recipient.  
London, 3 pages 1784 October 26

Goldsmith

Reynolds, Joshua, Sir, 1723-1792. Autograph letter signed to Thomas Percy.  
Leicesterfields, London, 1 page March 1

Goldsmith

Reynolds, Joshua, Sir, 1723-1792. Autograph letter signed to the Reverend Thomas  
Percy. Leicesterfields, London, 1 page March 3

Goldsmith

**General note**

With seal.

**Goldsmith-Newberry papers 1761-1767**

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

## Call-Number

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Fleming, Elizabeth. Autograph document. Statement of money paid Elizabeth Fleming by John Newbery on account of Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1763 February

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Fleming, Elizabeth. Autograph document. Memorandum of account with Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1763 August 14

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Fleming, Elizabeth. Autograph document signed. Statement of Oliver Goldsmith's account paid by John Newbery. London, 1 page 1763 December 9

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Fleming, Elizabeth. Autograph document. Bill for board, extras, washing and mending to Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1763 December 25

**General note**

Signed by Goldsmith. Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph letter signed to John Newbery. London, 1 page 1762

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by John Newbery for abridgment of Plutarc's *Lives*. London, 1 page 1762 March 5

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by John Newbery for *The Cock-Lane Ghost*. London, 1 page 1762 March 5

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by John Newbery for the manuscript of *Chinese Letters* "The Citizen of the World". London, 1 page 1762 March 5

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Promissory note to John Newbery. London, 1 page 1763 October 11

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by John Newbery. London, 1 page 1763 October 11

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipts for payment by John Newbery for *A Preface to the History of the World*, *The History of England*, *Translations of the Life of Christ*, and *The Lives of the Fathers*. London, 1 page 1763 October 11

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Receipt for payment by John Newbery. London, 1 page 1763 December 17

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Statement of account with John Newbery for *The Traveler* and other literary work. London, 1 page 1766 June 7

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph document signed. Promissory note to John Newberry. London, 1 page 1767 July 7

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1730?-1774. Autograph letter signed to John Newberry relating to Plutarch's *Lives*. London, 1 page undated

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Newberry, John, 1713-1767. Autograph document signed. Statement of account with Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1761 October 14

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Newberry, John, 1713-1767. Autograph manuscript signed. Memorandum listing books sent to Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1762 November 25

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Goldsmith-  
Newberry  
Papers

Newberry, John, 1713-1767. Autograph manuscripts signed of eleven memoranda concerning Oliver Goldsmith's accounts. London, 11 slips of paper; size varies 1764 July 7

## Goldsmith-Newberry papers

**General note**

One memorandum on verso of an autograph letter signed from J. Barr to Mr. Newbery, March 28th 1767, with Barr's seal. bound as a volume.

Newbery, John, 1713-1767. Autograph document. Memorandum of account with Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1764 October 29

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Newbery, John, 1713-1767. Autograph manuscript signed. Memorandum listing books sent to Oliver Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1765 September 11

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Newbery, John, 1713-1767. Autograph document signed. Memorandum of account with Oliver. Goldsmith. London, 1 page 1766 October 11

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.

Newbery, John, 1713-1767. Autograph document. Memorandum of account with Oliver Goldsmith mentioning *The Traveler: A Poem, essays, etc.* London, 2 pages undated

Goldsmith-  
Newbery  
Papers

**General note**

Bound as a volume. Transcription bound in.