

Rokeby Museum Archives

I	Legal Documents and Genealogies	1 document box
II	Rokeby Farm and Household Accounts	3 document boxes
III	Robinson Family Personal Papers	5 document boxes
IV	Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson Papers	1 1/2 document boxes
V	Ann King Papers	1/2 document box
VI	Rowland Evans and Anna Stevens Robinson Papers	4 document boxes, 3 cartons
VII	Rowland Thomas and Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Papers	4 document boxes, 2 cartons
VIII	Miscellaneous Accounts and Records	Partial carton
IX	Stevens Family Papers	2 document boxes, 1 carton
X	Donoway Family Papers	1 document box

I. Legal Documents and Genealogies

Quantity: 1 document box 1 carton		
Biographical Note		
<p>The Robinsons were a Quaker family of merchants and farmers, who first emigrated to Rhode Island in 1675. Thomas R. Robinson, of the fourth generation in Rhode Island, emigrated to Vergennes, Vermont in 1792. In 1793, he moved his family onto the farm now known as Rokeby in Ferrisburgh, Vermont, which had been purchased by his brother, William. Four generations of Robinsons lived continuously at Rokeby until 1961 when the last family member died and, not having direct heirs, left the site to the Rowland E. Robinson Memorial Association to be operated as a museum. Members of the Robinson family were successful farmers with saw, grist, and fulling mills in addition to crops of fruit and grains, a lucrative flock of Merino sheep during the first half of the 19th century, and, eventually, a dairy herd from which Rokeby butter was produced. The Robinsons were also abolitionists, social activists, artists, and writers. Rokeby was designated a National Historic Landmark as a documented site on the Underground Railroad in 1997.</p>		
Scope and Content		
<p>Legal Documents and Genealogies is organized into three series. Land records consists of deeds for the Robinson property, including mill sites, summaries, and diagrams. Genealogies cover the Robinsons and some of the families to whom they were related by marriage. Wills, estates, and inventories includes wills, probate records, and inventories for various members of the Robinson family as well as of other families.</p>		
Organization		
	Series I	Land records
	Series II	Genealogies
	Series III	Wills, Estates, Inventories
Container List		
Series I. Land Records		
Box 1:1		
Folder	1	Deeds to Robinson property (sale), 1793-1875
	2	Deeds to Robinson property (quit claim), 1808-1914
	3	Miscellaneous land records, 1815-1920 and beyond
	4	Byrd family deeds, legal records, 1793-1828
Series II. Genealogies		
Box 1:1		
Folder	5	Robinson family, 1639-1849 Genealogy notes
	6	Gilpin family, 1206-1862 Genealogy chart and narrative
	7	Fish family, 1758-1884 Genealogy notes
	8	Stevens family, 1769-1895 Mr. C. Stevens Family Record
	9	Walker family, 1780 Genealogy notes
	10	Byrd family, 1827-1915 Genealogy notes
	11	Stevens family, 1847-1899 Genealogy notes
Series III. Wills, Estates, Inventories		
Box 1:1		
Folder	12	Rowland T. Robinson executor, Daniel Field estate accounts, inventories, 1863
	13	Rowland T. Robinson, inventory, will, probate, 1877-1896
	14	Robinson family inventories: household, clothing, farm, 1883-1903
	15	Rowland E. Robinson, inventory, will, probate, 1892-1903

I. Legal Documents and Genealogies

	16	George G. Robinson, inventory, will, probate, 1894-1896
	17	Ann S. Robinson, estate receipts, mortgage deed, probate, 1900-1921
	18	Rachael R. Elmer, will, surrogate court papers, Robert Elmer bequest, 1917-1939
	19	Elizabeth D. Robinson, inventory household, n.d.
	20	Rachel B. Stevens, estate inventory, will, 1858-1865
	21	Lucia Hazard, estate inventory, will - handled by Jos. Burroughs, 1860
	22	Minturn family, will in surrogate court, Niobe Minturn, 1864
	23	Ann King, will, probate, 1867
	24	George Davis, estate, inventory, 1857
Carton 1		
Volume	1	Stephen Foster Stevens, settling estate 1857

II. Rokeby Farm and Household Records

Quantity: 3 document boxes, 1 carton

Biographical Note

The Robinsons were a Quaker family of merchants and farmers, who first emigrated to Rhode Island in 1675. Thomas R. Robinson, of the fourth generation in Rhode Island, emigrated to Vergennes, Vermont in 1792. In 1793, he moved his family onto the farm now known as Rokeby in Ferrisburgh, Vermont, which had been purchased by his brother, William. Four generations of Robinsons lived continuously at Rokeby until 1961 when the last family member died and, not having direct heirs, left the site to the Rowland E. Robinson Memorial Association to be operated as a museum. Members of the Robinson family were successful farmers with saw, grist, and fulling mills in addition to crops of fruit and grains, a lucrative flock of Merino sheep during the first half of the 19th century, and, eventually, a dairy herd from which Rokeby butter was produced. The Robinsons were also abolitionists, social activists, artists, and writers. Rokeby was designated a National Historic Landmark as a documented site on the Underground Railroad in 1997.

Scope and Content

Rokeby Farm and Household Records includes account books, loose receipts and accounts, bills of sale and insurance policies from 1810 to 1961. The farm receipts provide information regarding the specific crops grown and animals kept on the farm, including the original bill of sale for the purchase of Merino sheep in 1810. The series includes the contents of Rowland T. Robinson's leather billfolds and notebook, which contained receipts and promissory notes, 1811-1900.

Container List

Box II:1

	1	Farm receipts, including product, labor records, 1810-1893
	2	Household receipts for taxes, auto repair, miscellaneous, 1810-1930
	3	Household receipts, accounts, bills of sale, 1819-1899
	4	Household receipts, magazine subscriptions, 1847-1935
	5	Rowland T. Robinson household inventory, bills of sale, receipts, 1851-1873
	6	Insurance, home and farm, 1864-1961
	7	Household receipts for groceries and sundries, 1900-1949
	8	Household receipts for repairs and improvements, 1900-1957
	9	Farm receipts, 1900-1919
	10	Farm receipts, 1920-1949
	11	Estimate for erecting steam engine for saw mill, n.d.
	12	Rowland T. Robinson contents of leather billfold, 1842-1894
	13	Rowland T. Robinson contents of leather billfold, A-B, 1811-1859
	14	Rowland T. Robinson contents of leather billfold, C-F, 1813-1892
	15	Rowland T. Robinson contents of leather billfold, G-Z, 1813-1900
	16	Rowland T. Robinson promissory notes and receipts, 1844-1868
	17	Rowland T. Robinson (Rowlie) Garage specifications & labor bill, 1941

Box II:2

Volume	1	Mill records, 1822-1831
	2	Farm records, 1830s - 1840s
	3	Sheep records, 1834
	4	Accounts, 1850s, 1869
	5	Farm records, breeding records, fruit lists, 1850s - 1860s
	6	Nursery book, fruit, 1853-1861
	7	Accounts, 1860s - 1890s

II. Rokeby Farm and Household Records

	8	Accounts, 1874
	9	"Farmers Annual Handbook for 1885"
	10	Accounts, 1891-1898
	11	Accounts, 1893-1904
Box II:3		
Volume	1	"Farm Book of Rowland Thomas Robinson" (Rowlie), 1902-1903
	2	Record book, credit debt, 1903-1906
	3	Ann Stevens Robinson notes, accounts, genealogy, 1905-1908
	4	Accounts, apples, 1906-1910
	5	Accounts, household and some farm, 1906-1909
	6	Rowland T. Robinson (Rowlie) farm diary, 1907-1908
	7	Receipt book, 1907-1910
	8	Household accounts, 1907-1910
	9	Receipt book, 1910-1914
	10	Accounts, 1910-1914
	11	Accounts, butter sales, 1913-1914
	12	Accounts, 1923-1930
Carton 1		
Volume	1	Thomas R. & Rowland T. Robinson accounts, 1751-1827
	2	Burling & Fitch and Burling & Robinson accounts, 1791-1795
	3	Thomas R. Robinson account book, 1797-1834
	4	Accounts, 1814-1816
	5	Accounts, 1833-1892
	6	Farm accounts, 1845-1852 with notes (fencing, mills 1902)

III. Robinson Family Personal Papers, 1793-1961

Quantity: 5 document boxes

Biographical Notes

Thomas Richardson Robinson (1761-1851) emigrated to Vermont in 1792. The son of "Quaker Tom" and Sarah Richardson Robinson of Newport, Rhode Island, and brother of William T. Robinson, who in 1793 purchased the property that became Rokeby. Thomas was a successful businessman and farmer who operated saw, grist, and fulling mills on the nearby Lewis Creek. William deeded the property to him in 1801; Thomas was one of the first in America to import Merino sheep from Spain (1810). He married Jemima Fish in 1787; their children were Abigail and Rowland Thomas. This collection contains Thomas Richardson Robinson's account books and school work.

George Gilpin Robinson (1825-1894), son of Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson, brother of Rowland Evans Robinson. George had early training as a printer, but settled at Rokeby to manage the farm for the rest of his life. He never married, was Ferrisburgh town clerk and a member of the Vergennes City Band, and served a term as representative in the Vermont legislature. George's will and some notes are in this collection.

Ann King Robinson Minturn (1827-1917), daughter of Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson, sister of Rowland Evans. Ann attended school in Ferrisburgh, married Lloyd Minturn in 1848. They had three children, lived in New York State and Massachusetts before returning to Ferrisburgh in 1872 when Lloyd became ill; he died the following year. Ann maintained a dairy farm and orchard in Shoreham, Vermont from 1880 until her death in 1917. Ann Minturn's notes and compositions are in this collection.

Rachael Robinson Elmer (1878-1919), daughter of Ann Stevens and Rowland Evans Robinson. She was artistically talented, studied art by correspondence course, at Goddard Seminary in Barre, Vermont, and later at the Art Students League in New York City. She had a career in New York as an illustrator, primarily of children's books. Rachael married Robert F. Elmer, a banker, in 1911; she died in 1919, a victim of the Spanish flu epidemic. She began to spell her name with an a, Rachael, as an adult. Robert F. Elmer (1878-1926), husband of Rachael Robinson Elmer was a New York City banker. He married Rachael in 1911; they had no children. Rachael's papers consist of school compositions, report cards, and scrapbooks. Robert's papers are his journals.

Mary Robinson Perkins (1884-1931) was the third child of Rowland Evans and Ann Stevens Robinson. She attended the Goddard Seminary in Barre, Vermont, from 1901 to 1903, when she graduated as the valedictorian of her class. After graduation Mary entered the University of Vermont in Burlington to pursue her studies. She graduated from the University of Vermont in 1910. Mary was a talented artist and pursued a career as a botanical artist and illustrator at the Department of Agriculture. She married Llewellyn Rood Perkins, a Middlebury College professor, at her family's home in 1912. The couple had two children, Llewellyn Robinson Perkins, born in 1914. A daughter, Ann, was born later. Mary died in 1931 while the family was living in California. Her papers consist primarily of school work and books, from her years at both Goddard Seminary and the University of Vermont along with some accounts and a diary from 1900.

Scope and Content

Robinson Family Personal Papers contains the miscellaneous personal papers (excluding correspondence, which forms its own separate collection) of several members of the Robinson family and household, including the following: Thomas Richardson Robinson (1761-1851), George Gilpin Robinson (1825-1894), Ann King Robinson Minturn (1827-1917), Rachael Robinson (1878-1919) and Robert F. Elmer, and Mary

III. Robinson Family Personal Papers, 1793-1961

Robinson Perkins (1884-1931).		
Organization		
	Series I	Thomas Richardson Robinson (1761-1851)
	Series II	George Gilpin Robinson (1825-1894)
	Series III	Ann King Robinson Minturn (1827-1917)
	Series IV	Rachel Robinson (1878-1919) and Robert F. Elmer
	Series V	Mary Robinson Perkins (1884-1931)
	Series VI	Scrapbooks, creator unidentified
Container List		
Series I. Thomas Richardson Robinson		
Box III:1		
Folder	1	School work, mathematics, n.d.
	2	Notebook of land transactions, 1795-1798
	3	Receipts, accounts, promissory notes, 1802-1848
	4	Account of his death written by his son Rowland T. Robinson, 1851
Series II. George Gilpin Robinson		
Box III:1		
Folder	5	Receipts, deeds, notices of election, obituary, 1830-1894
Series III. Ann King Robinson Minturn		
Box III:1		
Folder	6	Miscellaneous, 1827-1917
	7	Frances Minturn, schoolwork, 1869-1870
	8	Minturn family receipts, school work, 1863-1890
Series IV. Rachael Robinson and Robert F. Elmer		
Box III:1		
Folder	9	R.R. Elmer, Diary of a Quaker School Girl, essay, n.d.
	10	R.R. Elmer, receipts, miscellaneous, 1883-1919
	11	R.R. Elmer, Goodard accounts, report cards, commencement, 1894-1897
	12	R.R. Elmer, poem and pictures given to her on SS Germania, 1910
	13	R.R. Elmer, school compositions, n.d.
	14	R.R. Elmer Poem, Thanksgiving Night, 1905
	15	R.R. Elmer, ms copy Wee Winkle, n.d.
Box III:2		
Volume	1	R.R. Elmer, autograph album, 1889
	2	R.R. Elmer diary, book list, furniture inventory, 1897-1900
	3	R.R. Elmer diary, 1901
	4	R.F. Elmer, journal, 1929-1930
	5	R.F. Elmer, journal, 1930s
	6	R.F. Elmer, journal, 1931-1935
	7	R.F. Elmer, journal, 1936
	8	R.R. Elmer, notes, 1912-1919
	9	R.R. Elmer, scarpbook, cilpped pictures, 1885

III. Robinson Family Personal Papers, 1793-1961

Series V. Mary Robinson Perkins		
Box III:3		
Folder	1	Miscellaneous, clippings, accounts
	2	Early school programs
	3	School work
	4	School compositions
	5	School compositions
	6	School compositions, 1898
	7	School compositions, 1899
	8	Compositions on Longfellow and copied poetry
	9	School work (Goddard) 1901
	10	School work (Goddard) 1902
	11	School work (Goddard) 1903
	12	School work (Goddard)
	13	Description of Goddard graduation activities
	14	Valedictory Address Goddard Seminary 1903
	15	"The Philippic," ms. Newspaper
	16	Composition, "A Country Roadside"
	17	UVM Class notes, botany
	18	UVM Class notes, English
	19	UVM Class work, history, art
	20	UVM English compositions 1905
	21	UVM English compositions 1906
	22	UVM Class notes 1906
	23	UVM Class notes, Bible 1907
	24	UMV Class notes, bacteriology, 1907-1908
	25	UVM Zoology notebook
	26	1912 marriage miscellaneous, birth announcement
	26	Diary excerpt 1921
	28	Llewellyn Robinson Perkins
Box III:4		
Volume	1	Botanical notes 1907
	2	Scrapbook, "Odds & Ends" 1897
	3	Botany notebook 1902
	4	Physics notebook 1903
	5	<i>Wood's Illustrated Plant Record</i> 1898
	6	Journal 1900
	7	Bound notes, Latin & English, UVM 1906-1907
	8	Bound notes, Methods, UVM 1908-1909
	9	Shorthand copy book
	10	<i>The American System of Vertical Writing</i>
	11	School work 1895
	12	<i>The Normal Review System of Writing 4</i> 1892
	13	<i>The Normal Review System of Writing 5</i>
	14	<i>Spencerian System of Penmanship</i> 1897
	15	School work notes & compositions, sketches 1892
	16	Accounts 1900-01
	17	Accounts 1905-1906

III. Robinson Family Personal Papers, 1793-1961

	18	"Short History of Ferrisburgh"
Series VI. Scrapbooks, creator unidentified		
Box III:5		
Volume	1	Clipped and original art pasted over printed book (MRP or RRE)
	2	"Compilation of Miscellaneous 1818" Poetry clippings over used account book
	3	Poetry clippings over <i>Sherwood's Spelling Book</i> 1861
	4	Clippings over <i>Vermont School Report 1881-1882</i>
	5	Clippings over <i>New England Business Directory</i>
	6	One picture pasted in "Santa Claus" scrapbook
	7	Newspaper clippings, 1924 "Mark Twain's Scrapbook"
Carton 2		
	8	Scrapbook, clippings of illustrations over used account book

IV. Ann King Papers

Quantity: 1 half-size and part of 1 half-size document box

Biographical Note

Ann King was born in 1786 in England, the daughter of Francis and Katherine King. She emigrated to the United States and in the first two decades of the nineteenth century she taught school, founding her own school in New York City with Maria Marriott (school was in operation in 1820). She had previously taught at the Quaker Nine Partners' School in Millbrook, New York, where she met Rowland T. and Rachel G. Robinson. From the 1820s to the 1850s she lived off and on with the Robinsons, contributing to the education of their children with whom she maintained an extensive correspondence whenever they were separated. After the death of Rachel G. Robinson in 1862, she moved permanently to the Robinson farm. Rowland T. Robinson had proposed marriage, but his children objected. Ann died in Ferrisburgh in 1867. Ann King was a devout Quaker and was widely known as an educator. She was interested in the same progressive causes as the Robinsons, including spiritualism. Her interests were wide ranging, extending from the natural and domestic sciences to history, to spiritualism.

Scope and Content

Ann King's papers consist primarily of material copied for her by her many students and acquaintances. There are also mss on birch bark in a hand that may be identified as Ann's, and cards relating to schools where she taught. Papers are arranged in nine folders plus bound volumes. The first three folders contain copies, primarily of verse, but include prose in several fields. Most are loose pages, but there are two hand-bound volumes. The fourth contains mss material relating to Ann. The fifth contains mss on thin birch bark, prose and verse. The sixth contains rate cards for two schools in New York City. The last two folders contain spirit communications. The bound volumes contain copies, clippings, accounts, and material relating to the New York Yearly Meeting and the Nine Partners' School.

Container List

Box V:1		
Folder	1	Poetry copied by or for AK, 1819-49, most undated
	2	Prose copied by or for AK, 1819-49 most undated
	3	Handbound copies of prose and verse undated
	4	MSS by or relating to AK undated (missing, 01/06)
	5	MSS on birch bark 1823-4
	6	School cards 1814, 1820
	7	Writing specimens from students at Nine Partners 1815
	8	Spirit Communications
	9	Spirit Communications – Copied extracts of published accounts
Box V:2		
Volume	1	Account book & visitors to NYYM and Nine Partners, 1814-1819, 1845-1865
	2	Prose and verse copied by AK and other; begun Ceres NY, 1844
	3	Various prose extracts – one loose sheet – Ferrisburgh, 1 st mo. 1839
	4	Copies of prose and verse – not all in AK's hand , 1856, 1860 & undated
	5	Copies of prose and verse – clippings 1840 & undated
	6	Clippings, 1840 & undated
	7	Diary, 1821-1843

IV. Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson Papers

Quantity: Part of 1 half-size and 1 full-size document box

Biographical Note

Rowland Thomas Robinson was the only son of Thomas Richardson and Jemima Fish Robinson. He was born in Ferrisburgh, Vermont, on September 21, 1796. He attended a Quaker boarding school, Nine Partners' School, in Dutchess County, New York. There he met Rachel Gilpin, a fellow student, whom he married in 1820, and Ann King, a teacher who became a close friend and member of the family. Robinson was a farmer and social activist. He raised Merino sheep and a variety of arable copys, as well as apples and pears. He also operated grist, saw, and fulling mills and, at one point, a nursery. He operated a school on the property for about seven years, 1839-1846. In the 1830s he was instrumental in founding the Vermont Anti-Slavery Society and was the chief abolitionist organizer in Vermont. He was an active member of the Hicksite sect of the Society of Friends, but left the Quaker meeting in 1846 in response to the New York Yearly Meeting's increasing reluctance to actively address the issue of slavery. During this period the farm became an active and well-documented stop on the Underground Railroad. He became Ferrisburgh town clerk in 1857, a position that remained in the family until 1960. He appears to have suffered from frequent periods of ill health, but lived to age 83, dying in Ferrisburgh on August 25, 1879.

Rachel Gilpin Robinson was born on October 1, 1799 in New York City to George and Rachel Starr Gilpin. Her grandfather was George Gilpin, an aide-de-camp to George Washington. She attended a Quaker boarding school, Nine Partners' School in Dutchess County, New York. It was there that she met Rowland Thomas Robinson; they were married in 1820 and moved to the farm of Rowland's parents, Thomas and Jemima Robinson in Ferrisburgh, Vermont. Her piety can be noted in both her early letters to Rowland, before their marriage, and in her letters from Martha Furnace, a Quaker rest home in southern New Jersey, in the 1830s. She was clerk of the Society of Friends Women's Monthly Meeting in Ferrisburgh during the 1820s and 1830s. She appears to have suffered from chronic ill health most of her life. She stayed at Martha Furnace on at least two occasions and later took the water cure in Rochester, New York. The exact nature of her condition remains unclear, but may have been uterine cysts. She was devoted to progressive causes and sometimes annoyed her sons by her acceptance of African American domestic help in the house. She left the Society of Friends in 1846 because of its resistance to taking action against slavery. Rachel died in Ferrisburgh on January 3, 1862.

Scope and Content

The papers of Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson are collected as loose papers in folders and as bound volumes. Rowland's papers are arranged in nine folders. Folders 2 and 3 consist of receipts and bills, the first dealing with family including Ann King, and farm, and the second dealing with the town of Ferrisburgh, Vermont. Folders 4, 5, and 6 contain printed material, primarily newspaper and periodical clippings, including an extensive correspondence on capital punishment and material from the Vermont legislature. Folders 7, 8, and 9 consist of manuscripts and typescripts, including photocopies. They cover a wide range of subjects: social, literary, and agricultural. Attribution of a few of the ms. copies is conjectural. The collection, while sketchy, reveals a wide range of subjects, interests and concerns. The bound volumes contain obituaries and newspaper clippings, indexed by Rachel G. Robinson. Some of Robinson's financial papers are housed in Box II:1, folders 12-17.

Rachel Gilpin Robinson's papers are arranged in three folders plus a bound volume. Folder 1 contains her 1831 journal from her visit to Martha Furnace. Folders 2 and 3 consist of printed material: clippings on practical and domestic matters and hymns. The bound volume, dated 1817, contains copied verse and prose, as well as a list of books she owned.

Organization

Series I	Rowland Thomas Robinson, 1796-1879
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IV. Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson Papers

	Series II	Rachel Gilpin Robinson, 1799-1862
Container List		
Series I. Rowland Thomas Robinson		
Box IV:1		
Folder	1	Schoolwork 1816
	2	Misc. receipts, clippings, letter of recommendation from Nine
	3	NY Spectator with ad for sale of mills 8/1/1826
	4	Mill Lawsuit 1832
	5	Contents of handmade folder: bills, letters, notes, receipts 1840-69 &
	6	Clippings – Social Issues, 1842 & undated
	7	Antislavery Miscellaneous
	8	Spirit Communications
	9	New England Protective union
Volume		
	9	Records of the VT Anti-Slavery Society, 1834
	10	Records, Friends of Moral and Intellectual Improvement & New England
Box IV:2		
Volume	1	Obituaries, manuscript and copied by RTR
	2	Scrapbook, clippings on various issues from reform publications, 1830s 1840s
	3	Scrapbook, antislavery clippings, miscellaneous dates, 1833-1840
	4	Scrapbook, newspaper clippings, miscellaneous dates, 1840s
Series II. Rachel Gilpin Robinson		
Box IV:1		
Folder	10	Journal: Martha Furnace, NJ 1831
	11	Printed Material: Hymns & Poems 1834-37 & undated
Box IV:2		
Volume	5	Copies of verse and prose, list of books owned by RGR, Feb. 6, 1817

VII. Rowland Evans Ann Stevens Robinson Papers

Quantity: 4 document boxes, 3 cartons

Biographical Note

Rowland Evans Robinson (1833-1900) was a naturalist, farmer, commercial artist, illustrator, and author of many works portraying life in early Vermont. He became one of Vermont's best-known and loved writers and captured the country life of earlier days both in colorful stories and in hundreds of illustrations. Robinson was perhaps the best-known member of a remarkable Quaker family of farmers, artists, writers, and social activists. He was born at Rokeby, the family home in Ferrisburgh, Vermont, the son of Rowland Thomas and Rachel Gilpin Robinson. Robinson began his artistic career in the 1850s when he moved to New York City to study engraving. He began selling his drawings of farm and outdoor life to many of the agricultural and sporting magazines of the day. Extended stays in New York to pursue his artistic career continued throughout the 1870s, with regular returns home. During his father's illness in 1869, he became close to Ann Stevens, his father's nurse (and his second cousin), and they married in 1870. They settled at Rokeby and had three children, Rachael (b. 1878), Rowland (Rowlie) (b. 1882), and Mary (b. 1884). After many years as an artist, illustrator, and farmer, Robinson's eyesight began to fail and, by 1893, he was completely blind. With the help of his wife, he turned to writing and in a short time became a much-loved author of Vermont tales and essays on its natural history. He wrote several collections of short stories and was a regular contributor for several years to *Forest and Stream*. Beginning in the 1880s, his works were published in a total of fourteen book-length volumes. Robinson's written works fall into three major categories: nature writings, stories, and history. The nature writings describe the flora, fauna, geography, and geology of the Champlain Valley. They were widely published both in magazine articles and in collected works such as *In New England Field and Woods*, published in 1896. The stories center around the lives of the residents of the fictional community of Danvis, Vermont. Many of his characters speak in dialect: Yankee, Quaker plain English, French-Canadian English, Southern English. His stories are especially notable for his skill at capturing the sound of the language, the nuances of speech, and the humor and flavor of nineteenth-century everyday life. These works were published beginning in 1887 and continued to be published even after his death in 1900. The third area of his writings, history, is represented by *Vermont: A Study in Independence*, written for the American Commonwealth Series in 1892. Robinson died after a long fight with on October 15, 1900, at Rokeby in the room where he had been born. The Rowland Evans Robinson Memorial Association was formed in 1937 to keep his works and memory alive.

Ann (Anna) Stevens Robinson was born on August 25, 1841 in East Montpelier, the daughter of Stephen F. and Rachel Byrd Stevens. She was tutored at home with her siblings until age sixteen. She attended People's Academy in Morrisville and later obtained a scholarship to Glenwood Seminary in West Brattleboro, Vermont. After her graduation from Glenwood, she stayed on as a teacher of Latin, mathematics, and history. She was a proficient painter. She married Rowland Evans Robinson on July 25, 1870. They had three children, Rachel (b. 1878), Rowland (Rowlie) (b. 1882), and Mary (b. 1884). After her husband became blind, she encouraged him to write. Besides managing the family farm, carrying on the town clerk's work, and reading to her husband several hours each day, Anna also corrected her husband's manuscripts and prepared them for publication. She died on August 2, 1920.

Scope and Content

Rowland E. Robinson's papers are collected both in bound volumes and as loose papers. The bound volumes (or, more properly, notebooks) consist of his personal diaries, his daily observations of the natural world, his notes on the history of Ferrisburgh and Vermont, and ledgers of his living expenses during his stays in New York and at Rokeby. The loose papers include published notices and reviews of his books as well as other clippings related to his writings. Contracts, financial statements, receipts, agreements, and other financial records with his publishers are organized by publisher. Miscellaneous schoolwork, notes on the Abenaki dialect, enlistment rolls from the Vermont Regiment, and newspaper

VII. Rowland Evans Ann Stevens Robinson Papers

obituaries written at the time of his death are also included in the collection. Ann Stevens Robinson's papers include various writings, both published and unpublished; receipts and other miscellaneous documents; schoolwork; numerous scrapbooks, diaries, and other albums.

Organization

Rowland Evans Robinson			
	Series I	Reviews & Notices (Box VI:1)	
	Series II	Publishing & Financial Records (Box VI:1, 2)	
	Series III	Writings (Boxes VI:1, 2)	
	Series IV	Other Papers (Box VI:1)	
Ann Stevens Robinson			
	Series V	Writings (Box VI:3, 4)	
	Series VI	Receipts and Miscellaneous Papers (Box VI:3 4)	
	Series VII	School Work (Box VI: 3, 4)	
	Series VII	Diaries (Box VI:3, 4)	
	Series IX	Teaching Career (Box VI:2)	
	Series X	Scrapbooks	

Container List

Rowland Evans Robinson

Series I. Reviews and Notices

Box VI:1		
Folder	1	Uncle Lisha's Shop, 1888-1946
	2	Sam Lovel's Camps, 1889
	3	Danvis Folks, 1894-1895
	4	In New England Fields & Woods, 1896
	5	Uncle Lisha's Outing, 1897
	6	A Hero of Ticonderoga, 1897
	7	A Danvis Pioneer, 1900
	8	Sam Lovel's Boy, 1901
	9	Vermont: A Study of Independence, 1902
	10	Out of Bondage, 1905
	11	Hunting without a Gun, n.d.
	12	Clippings on RER's Books, 1893-1957
	13	Clipping Services, 1892-1896

Series II. Publishing and Financial Records

Box VI:1		
Folder	14	Hobart J. Shanley Receipts & Agreements, 1898-1900
	15	Houghton Mifflin Contracts, 1891-1904
	16	Houghton Mifflin Statements, 1907-1929
	17	Payment Records for Drawings, 1872-1873
	18	Receipts, 1871-1900
	19	Centennial Edition, 1936?
	20	Publishing Miscellaneous, 1879-1921
Box VI:2		
Volume	1	Ledger of NY Expenses, 1868
	2	Ledger of NY Expenses, 1870
	3	Ledger of NY Expenses & Pencil Sketches, 1871

VII. Rowland Evans Ann Stevens Robinson Papers

	4	Ledger of NY Expenses, 1872
	5	Ledger of Family Expenses, 1882-1891
	6	Ledger of NY Expenses, Notes & Sketches, n.d.
	7	Scrapbook of reviews of Vermont: Study of Independence, 1892
Series III. Writings		
Box VI:1		
Folder	21	Short Essays (School?), School Book, 1884-1885
	22	Notes on the Abenaki Dialect, n.d.
Box VI:2		
Volume	8	Nature Notes, 1870-1879
	9	Nature Notes, 1876-1881
	10	Nature Notes, 1879-1880
	11	Nature Notes, 1879-1881
	12	Nature Notes, 1880
	13	Nature Notes, 1882
	14	Nature Notes, 1896
	15	Ferrisburgh History, 1885
	16	Ferrisburgh History, n.d.
	17	History Notes & Accounts, n.d
	18	History Notes, Sketches, 1887
	19	Notebook, 1849
	20	Diary, 1859
	21	Reading List, 1888-1891
	22	Diary & Other Notes, 1897
	23	Illustration Notes, n.d
	24	Diary, May, 1886
	25	Notebook of story ideas, 1898
Series IV. Other Papers		
Box VI:1		
Folder	23	Vermont Regiment Papers, 1861-1867
	24	Vermont Regiment Papers, 1861-1867
	25	Obituaries, 1900-1901
	26	Miscellaneous, 1861-1897
	26	Memberships, 1847-1886
	28	Life insurance papers, 1873-1890
Ann Stevens Robinson		
Series V. Writings		
Box VI:3		
Folder	1	Writings, 1
	2	Writings, 2 1902-1911
	3	Writings, 3
	4	Writings, 4: Underground Railroad
Series VI. Receipts and Miscellaneous Papers		
Box VI:2		

VII. Rowland Evans Ann Stevens Robinson Papers

Folder	5	Receipts, 1862-1919
	6	Miscellaneous Papers, 1846-1944
Box VI:4		
Volume	1	Poetry copied, 1852
	2	Poetry copied, 1863
	3	Scrapbook, poetry clippings, 1857
	4	Sketch/scrapbook, started 1858
	5	"Album of Memory," autographs, photographs, original RER art
	6	Autograph album, 1897-1908
	7	Bible quotations, 1866
Series VII. Schoolwork		
Box VI:3		
Folder	7	Compositions
	8	Compositions
	9	Miscellaneous
	10	Miscellaneous
	11	Students Journal, (ASR editor) vol 2, nos 1-6
	12	Students Journal, (ASR editor) vol 5, nos 6-8, 1859
	13	Students Journal, (ASR editor) vol 13, no 9, 1860; vol 16, nos 4-5
	14	Students Journal, (ASR editor) vol 17, no 7-8, 1860; vol 19, nos 1-2,
Box VI:4		
Folder	15	Diary, 1913
Box VI:4		
Volume	9	Diary, 1866
	10	Diary, 1878
	11	Diary, 1882
	12	Diary, 1889
	13	Diary, 1902
	14	Diary, 1913
Series IX. Teaching Career		
Box VI:2		
Volume	27	Class book, 1860
	28	History book, 1862-63
	29	Composition subjects, 1863
	30	Class notes, 1864-65
	31	Session book, Glenwood, 1865
	32	Botany, physical geography, 1865
	34	Latin grammar, 1865
	35	Class book, Glenwood, 1866
	26	Composition class, 1866
	27	Botany review, 1867
	28	Spelling exercises, 1867
	29	Glenwood fall term, 1867

VII. Rowland Evans Ann Stevens Robinson Papers

	40	Composition class, 1867-68
	41	Glenwood class book, 1868
Series X. Scrapbooks		
Carton 3		
Volume	1	Art, reproductions, 1911-15
	2	Clippings of RER works, Forest & Stream, 1880s and 1890s
Carton 4		
Volume	1	Trip to NYC, 1893
	2	Advertising and trade cards, 1880-87
	3	ASR & RER published writings, 1870s, 1880s
	4	"Bunch Chickadee Xmass from Mother," 1879
	5	"Little Rachel's Picture Book From Mother," 1880
	6	"Little Rachel's Picture Book From Mother," 1889
	7	Bayard Taylor letters clippings, 1855-57
	8	Art and architecture reproductions, 1905-07
	9	Clippings family history, obits, genealogy
Carton 6		
Volume	1	RTR [son] from Cousin Rowl, pictures, n.d
	2	Picture book of clippings, n.d.
	3	Picture book of clippings, n.d.
	4	Picture book of clippings, nd.
	5	Clipped pictures on cloth, n.d.
	6	Pictures & cards, hardcover
	7	Pictures & cards, hardcover

VII. Rowland Thomas and Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Papers

Quantity: 4 document boxes, 2 cartons		
Biographical Note		
<p>Rowland Thomas Robinson, "Rowlie," (1882-1951) was the son of Rowland Evans and Ann Stevens Robinson. He attended Goddard Seminary and the University of Vermont. Rowlie was Ferrisburgh town clerk, a member of the Vergennes City Band, and represented Ferrisburgh in the Vermont legislature. He operated the family dairy farm and married Elizabeth Donoway in 1907. They had no children. Rowlie's account books and diaries are in this collection.</p>		
<p>Elizabeth Donoway Robinson (1882-1961) of Vergennes, Vermont, was the wife of Rowland Thomas, "Rowlie," Robinson. Following their marriage in 1907, she lived at Rokeby for the rest of her life, served as Ferrisburgh town clerk, helped manage the farm and tourist-boarding business. They had no children. She was instrumental in the life of the Rowland E. Robinson Memorial Association, which, upon her death, managed the museum that is Rokeby today. Elizabeth's household inventory and receipts, miscellaneous notes and scrapbooks are in this collection.</p>		
Organization		
Series I	Rowland Thomas Robinson Schoolwork	
Series II	Rowland Thomas Robinson Financial Records	
Series III	Rowland Thomas Robinson Miscellaneous Papers	
Series IV	Rowland Thomas & Elizabeth Robinson Joint Papers	
Series V	Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Miscellaneous Papers	
Series VI	Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Recipes	
Container List		
Rowland Thomas Robinson, 1882-1951		
Series i. Schoolwork		
Box VII:1		
Folder	1	Compositions 1
	2	Compositions 2
	3	Compositions 3
	4	Music
	5	Math
	6	Reports and programs
	7	Home Correspondence School, 1902
	8	Home Correspondence School, 2
	9	Home Correspondence School, 3
	10	Home Correspondence School, 4
	11	Home Correspondence School, 5
Box VII:2		
Volume	1	School notes, 1908
	2	School work, physics, 1899-1900
	3	School work, astronomy/drawing/rhetoric, 1899-1900
	4	School work, 1900
	5	Algebra book, 1899-1900
	6	Algebra book
	7	Algebra book, no 2
	8	Algebra book, no 3
	9	Algebra book, no 4
	10	Meservey's Ledger # 1, 1897

VII. Rowland Thomas and Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Papers

	11	Meservey's Ledger # 2, 1897
	12	Meservey's Ledger # 3, 1897
	13	Meservey's Ledger Cash book 1897
	14	Meservey's Ledger Day book, 1897
	15	Meservey's Ledger Invoice and sales, 1897
	16	"The Normal Review System of Writing"
Series II. Financial Records		
Box VII:1		
Folder	12	Receipts, Goddard Seminary, 1899-1900
	13	Bank accounts, 1903-1931
	14	Life Insurance, 1898-1931
Box VII:2		
Volume	17	"Cash Book," personal accounts, 1897-1900
	18	Expenses, 1832-93
Series III. Miscellaneous Papers		
Box VII:1		
Folder	15	Justice of Peace certificates
	16	Real Silk Hosiery Company
	17	Memberships
	18	Miscellaneous, obituary, 1902-1951
Box VII:2		
Volume	19	Diary, 1902
	20	Small diary, 1917-18
	21	Diary, 1931
	22	Diary, 1932
	23	Diary, 1935
	24	Sketchbook
	25	Small notebook, 1904
	26	Album, 1904
	27	Notebook, 1939
	28	Duplicating letter book, 1922
Series IV. Rowland T. and Elizabeth D. Robinson Joint Papers		
Box VII:1		
Folder	19	Marriage invitation, certificate, 1907
	20	Automobile insurance, 1932-1961
	21	Miscellaneous receipts, 1906-1951
	22	Town tax receipts, 1900-1961
	23	Direct mail advertising, 1898-1941
Box VII:2		
Volume	29	Spiral notebook, furniture descriptions, n.d.
	30	Seldom Inn Register, 1924-1941
	31	Small notebook, 1946-1949
Series V. Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Papers		
Box VII:3		
Folder	1	Papers, 1893, 1960

VII. Rowland Thomas and Elizabeth Donoway Robinson Papers

	2	Clippings
	3	Forest and Field Club, 1931-1940
	4	Writings, 1931-1940
Box VII:4		
Volume	1	Address book, n.d.
	2	School accounts, 1910
	3	Autograph book, 1887-1893
	4	Notebook, 1908
	5	Notebook, 1918
	6	Account book, 1926-1953
	7	Bank book, 1931
	8	Notebook, 1932
	9	Notebook, 1935
	10	Diary, 1935-1936
	11	Diary, 1937
	12	Notebook, 1941-49
	13	Notebook, 1949-50
	14	Ledger, 1954-55
	15	Receipt book, 1957-58
	16	Diary, 1959
	17	Saxophone sheet music (RTR)
	18	Saxophone sheet music (RTR)
	19	Saxophone sheet music (RTR)
Carton 2		
Volume	3	Scrapbook clippings, 1930
	4	Scrapbook clippings, 1940s
	5	Scrapbook, clippings, state legislature news, 1948-1949
	6	Scrapbook, clippings, home, garden, recipes, 1930s
	7	Scrapbook, miscellaneous
	8	Scrapbook, clippings, local RERMA news, 1930s
	9	Scrapbook, wedding and honeymoon, 1907
	10	Scrapbook of clippings, illustrated,
Carton 3		
Volume	3	Scrapbook, clippings/photos of RERMA and family, 1930s
Series VI. Recipes		
Box VII:3		
Folder	5	Manuscript
	6	First National Stores
	7	Mimeographed
	8	Extension Service
	9	Clippings 1
	10	Clippings 2
	11	Printed and pamphlets
Carton 2		
Volume	1	Scrapbook of recipes
	2	Scrapbook of recipes

VIII. Miscellaneous Accounts and Records

Qanality: 1 document box, 1 carton		
Container List		
Box VIII:1		
Volume	1	Christopher Fish, account book, Rhode Island 1766-1776
	2	Sawmill ledger, Addison County, 1803-1814
	3	NEPU Division No. 191 daybook, Addison County, 1853-1855
	4	Misc. farm receipts (not Rokeby)

IX. Stevens Family Papers

Quantity: 2 document boxes		
Biographical Note		
Ann Stevens Robinson (1841-1920), wife of Rowland Evans Robinson, was the daughter of Stephen Foster Stevens (1799-1858) and Rachel Byrd Stevens (1804-1868) of Montpelier, Vermont. Rachel Byrd was the niece of Thomas and Jemima Robinson, who first settled at Rokeby. The parents of Stephen Foster were Clark (1764-1853) and Huldah Foster Stevens (1766-1845). Clark Stevens served in the Revolutionary War, became a Quaker, and was an early settler of Montpelier. Stephen Foster Stevens was a cabinetmaker and had a shop in Monkton for a time. Some of his furniture is in the collection at Rokeby. He and his wife had six children.		
Organization		
Series I.	Clark Stevens, 1764-1853	
Series II.	Stephen Foster (1799-1858) and Rachel Byrd Stevens (1804-1868)	
Series III.	Mary Stevens and Horace A. Putnam	
Series IV.	William Byrd Stevens (1837-1864)	
Series V.	Chalres Foster Stevens	
Series VI.	Miscellaneous Stevens Family Papers	
Series VII.	Byrd Family Papers	
Series VIII.	Stevens Children Schoolwork	
Container List		
Series I. Clark Stevens, 1764-1853		
Box IX:1		
Folder	1	Receipts, 1791 – 1800
	2	Writings, journal pages
	3	Poetry, poems for family
	4	Obituary, account of his death, 1853, memorial pamphlet, 1855
Box IX:2		
Volume	1	Journal, 1849-1853
Series II. Stephen Foster and Rachel Byrd Stevens		
Box IX:1		
Folder	5	Marriage certificate, 1829
	6	Stephen F. Stevens receipts, writings
	7	Stephen F. Stevens papers from Sgt. at arms, 1857
	8	Rachel B. Stevens writings, household receipts
	P	Stephen F. Stevens account book, photocopy, original at UVM
Box IX:2		
Volume	2	SFS account books, cabinet making, Monkton VT, 1827-28
	3	SFS account book, 1837 – 1845
	4	SFS accounts, diaries, 1837 – 1845
	5	SFS, Sgt. at arms book for the extra session of 1857
	6	SFS, settling of estate, 1857
	7	RBS, album, 1823
	8	RBS, list of letters written, 1862-66, religious quotations, 1880-81
	9	RBS, maps
Series III. Mary Stevens and Horace A. Putnam		
Box IX:1		

IX. Stevens Family Papers

Folder	9	HAP receipts, scholarship, army pass, obituary
	10	HAP, deeds, 1848 – 67
	11	HAP, state enlistment forms
	12	MSP, poems, printed ephemera, letter
	13	Howard S. Putnam (son), report card, artwork, certificate of honor
Series IV. William Byrd Stevens		
Box IX:1		
Folder	33	Papers, letters, receipts, compositions, teaching license
	34	Military Service, accounts, pay stubs, orders, 1863-1867
	35	Obituaries, 1864
Box IX:2		
Volume	10	Accounts, student lists, 1857-60
	11	Penmanship practice book, 1858
	12	Penmanship practice book
Series V. Charles Foster Stevens		
Box IX:1		
Folder	14	Receipts, 1894
Box IX:2		
Volume	13	Account book, 1886-1892
Series VI. Miscellaneous Stevens Family Papers		
Box IX:1		
Folder	15	Writings, receipts
	16	Clippings (obituaries, wedding announcements)
Box IX:2		
Volume	14	Accounts, 1845, 1851, 1853, author unknown
Series VII. Byrd Family Papers		
Box IX:1		
Folder	17	Newspaper article, diary
	18	Thomas Byrd, marriage certificate, letter Ferrisburgh Friends
Box IX:2		
Volume	15	John H. Byrd album/account book, 1831
Carton 5		
Thomas Byrd Daybooks and Account Books		
Volume	1	Daybook #1, 9mo. 1792 – 9mo. 1793
	2	Daybook #4, 6mo. 11, 1785-1808
	3	Daybook, unnumbered, 11/21/1808-1828
	4	Ledger #1
	5	Ledger #3, with loose pages, 1794-1796
	6	Pages from Ledger #4
Series VIII. Stevens Children Schoolwork		
Box IX:1		
Folder	19	William Stevens, schoolwork (signed)
	20	Compositions, notes (unsigned)
	21	Compositions, notes (unsigned)

IX. Stevens Family Papers

	22	Compositions, notes (unsigned)
	23	Compositions, Stevens classmates
	24	Compositions (unsigned)
	25	Copied prose (unsigned)
	26	Poetry
	27	Greek and Latin
	28	Math notes
	29	Penmanship practice
	30	"The Gem" and the Lyceum Papers
	31	Attendance sheets & order of exercises
	32	Rewards of Merit & Public exercise programs

X. Donoway Family Papers

Quantity: 1 document box		
Organization		
Series I.	James B. Donoway	
Series II.	Catherine Donoway	
Series III.	Rose Donoway	
Container List		
Series I.	James B. Donoway	
Box X:1		
Folder	1	Legal receiptes, loose diary page
Volume	2	Daily Journal, 1925
	3	Daily Journal, 1926
	4	Daily Journal, 1927
	5	Daily Journal, 1928
	6	Daily Journal, 1929
	7	Daily Journal, 1930
	8	Daily Journal, 1931
	9	Daily Journal, 1932
	10	Daily Journal, 1933
	11	Daily Journal, 1934
	12	Daily Journal, 1939
	13	Daily Journal, 1940
	14	Daily Journal, 1941
Series II.	Catherine Donoway	
Box X:1		
Folder	2	School paper, immigration letter, clippings
Series III.	Rose Donoway	
Box X:1		
Folder	3	School and work papers
Volume	15	Diary, 1955