

Guide to Dracula- and vampire-related holdings in the Rosenbach Museum & Library
18 August 2020

HISTORICAL NOTE

Early English vampire literature was not highly regarded as a literary genre during Dr. Rosenbach's life (1876-1952), nor was it ever a particular interest of his. Dracole Waida, with its hand-colored woodcut of a supposed portrait of the historical non-vampire Vlad III Dracula, was collected by Dr. Rosenbach as an incunable, an example of early printing. In the 1970s the Rosenbach took a more expansive view and broader interpretation of the collections, expanding on areas where Dr. Rosenbach had only a small holding. The purchase of an early first edition and the notes for Dracula in 1970 are an example of this collections development.

Items collected by Dr. Rosenbach are distinguished with an “*”. The Rosenbach continues to collect works by and about Bram Stoker as well as other early vampire literature. This guide is updated as new material is acquired. Objects acquired since 2014 are marked with a “+”

SCOPE AND CONTENT

While the Rosenbach does not have a discrete “Dracula and vampire literature” collection, this guide does include those works throughout the Rosenbach collections that reflect this theme. A full list of works by Bram Stoker in the Rosenbach collection may be found in both our Bram Stoker collections guide and our Irish Authors collections guide.

The Dracula and vampire literature holdings at the Rosenbach consist of

- I. Manuscripts
- II. Books by Bram Stoker (1847-1912)
- III. Source material for Dracula
- IV. Other Dracula and early vampire literature

I. Bram Stoker Manuscripts

EL3 .S874d MS Dracula: notes and outlines, [ca. 1890 ca. 1896]. ca. 119 l. in case; 29 cm. Summary: Manuscript and typescript notes, photographs, and a newspaper clipping, comprising both background research and outlines for the book. The first section consists of 49 leaves of manuscript: a list of characters, notes on vampires, outlines for the whole book and for most chapters (all 7 chapters for each of books 1 3 and ch.26 27), chronologies, and miscellaneous notes on characters and events. The second section consists of 30 manuscript leaves tipped onto 10 sheets, 2 photographs, and a clipping: reading notes on vampires and werewolves; and shipwrecks, weather, geography, and language in the area of Whitby, North Yorkshire, where part of the story takes place. The last section consists of 37 leaves of typescript notes with manuscript corrections, being reading notes on various works

about the history and geography of the Carpathians, dream theory, and tombstones at Whitby.

Provenance note: The notes were sold with other items from Stoker's library at Sotheby's on 7 July 1913, when they were purchased by James F. Drake, Inc. They later came into the possession of Charles Scribner's Sons, who offered them for sale in several catalogs between 1938 and 1947. The next known owner was the firm of Charles Sessler of Philadelphia, from which the Rosenbach purchased them in 1970.

II. Dracula Books by Bram Stoker

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| EL3 .S874d 897
copy 1 | Dracula. Westminster: Archibald Constable and Company, 1897. With dust jacket. |
| EL3 .S874d 897
copy 2 | Dracula. Westminster: Archibald Constable and Company, 1897. Presentation copy inscribed to Lord Tennyson [Hallam Tennyson, son of the poet], July 1897. |
| EL3 .S874d 897b | +Dracula. London: Hutchinson, 1897. First Edition, Colonial issue, with cancel title-page. |
| EL3 .S874d 901 | +Dracula. Westminster: Archibald Constable and Company, 1901. Original pictorial gray-green wrappers printed in black. |

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III. Source material for Dracula

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| EL2 .B884p 646 | Browne, Sir Thomas. Pseudodoxia epidemica, or, Enquiries into very many received tenents, and commonly presumed truths. London: Printed by T.H. for Edward Dod, 1646. Stoker took two pages of notes from another copy of this book. |
| EL3 .M473l 849 | Mayo, Herbert, 1796-1852. Letters on the truths contained in popular superstitions. Frankfort o/M.: John David Sauerländer ; Edinburgh: Messrs. Blackwood, 1849. Stoker included this in a list of books in his notes for Dracula, but no notes about its contents survive. |

IV. Other Dracula and early vampire literature

- Incun 488d *Dracole Waida. [Nuremberg: Peter Wagner, ca. 1488]. [9] p.: port.; 19 cm. In German. Hand-colored woodcut portrait frontispiece. Summary: An anonymous account of the deeds of Vlad V Dracula, Prince of Wallachia. Translation published as: Dracula: a translation of the 1488 Nurnberg edition with an essay by Beverley D. Eddy (Philadelphia: Rosenbach Museum & Library, 1985). Provenance: Jacques Rosenthal, Munich, acquired 1930. Maroon morocco binding by Zaehnsdorf.
- EL3 .P766v 819a +Polidori, John William, 1795-1821. The vampyre : a tale. London: Printed for Sherwood, Neely and Jones, 1819. xxv, [26]-84 p. ; 21 cm. Gathering A reset to 23 lines rather than 24; "lmost" on p. 36. Henry R. Viets, "The London editions of Polidori's The Vampyre" in Papers of the Bibliographical Society, 1969, p. 83 ff (Viets issue IV). Early red pebbled cloth, spine relaid. Purchased from James Cummins Bookseller, 2014.
- EL3 .P766v 819b Polidori, John William, 1795-1821. The vampyre : a tale / by Lord Byron. Albany : Printed by E. & E. Hosford, 1819. [i]-viii, [9]-47, [48, blank] p. ; 14 cm. in pamphlet folder 28 cm. Blue printed boards. Shaw and Shoemaker 47487 Purchased from James Cummins Bookseller, June 2011.
- AL1 .W371y Webber, Charles Wilkins, 1819-1856. Yieger's cabinet. Spiritual Vampirism: The history of Etherial Softdown, and her friend of the "New Light" / by C.W. Webber. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Grambo & Co., 1853. Purchased from Peter Harrington, July 2020.