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DUMAS, Alexandre

MSRC Staff

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ALEXANDRE DUMAS COLLECTION  
Collection 31-1

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June 1980

MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

## Scope Note

The Alexandre Dumas collection spans ½ linear foot. The materials were acquired through purchase and consist of reproduced prints of General Thomas Alexandre Dumas (1762-1806) Alexandre Dumas, pere (1802-1870), and Alexandre Dumas, fils (1824-1895). The highlight, of the collection, is four holographic manuscripts in french by Alexandre Dumas, pere, a well-known French literary figure. He is probably best known for his classic novel, *The Three Musketeers*, published in 1844.

Alexandre Dumas, pere also wrote plays, other novels and memoirs. The four holographic manuscripts by pere in the collection are all written in beautiful French script. One manuscript, is an attack on French politics and diplomacy in reference to Poland, is believed to be dated around 1863. Another manuscript is an autographed poem with no title and no date. A translated copy is attached, however, for research convenience. The third manuscript violently criticizes the religious authorities in Rome for crediting Pere with the authorship of "*La Dame Aux Camelias*," which in fact was written by his son, Alexandre Dumas, fils. The fourth manuscript is an address to the voters of La Gironde to solicit their votes for the National Assembly election. A translation of this last manuscript is also attached.

An excellent biography of the three Alexandre Dumas is located in the first folder of the collection. This sketch includes a literary synopsis of the careers of Alexandre Dumas, pere and Alexandre Dumas, fils. A genealogical family tree and bibliography is also included in the sketch.

Biographical Data  
Alexandre Dumas, pere (1802-1870)

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1802, July 28 | Born in Viller-Colterets, the son of Haitian born mulatto, Thomas Alexandre Dumas, and Marie Labouret Dumas, a Frenchwoman. |
| 1823          | Moved to Paris and worked as a copying clerk in the office of the Duke of Orleans.  |
| 1824          | Birth of his illegitimate son, Alexandre Dumas Fils.  |
| 1840          | Marriage to Ida Ferrier.  |
| 1844          | Publication of <i>The Three Musketeers and Monte Cristo</i> .   |
| 1847          | Opening of Dumas' Theatre, the Historique.  |
| 1848          | Candidate for election to the Chamber of Deputies, which he lost. Leaves Paris for Brussels.                                |
| 1851          | Voluntarily exiles himself to Brussels after the coup d'etat in France.   |
| 1853          | Returns to Paris  |
| 1857-1864     | Travels to England, Russia, Sicily and Naples   |
| 1870          | Died near Dieppe  |

## Series Description

- Series A**  
Box 31-1  
**Biographical Material**  
Biographical information on the Dumas family, Thomas-Alexandre Dumas, Alexandre Dumas, pere and Alexandre Dumas, fils
- Series B**  
Box 31-1  
**Photographs**  
Prints, phonographs of Gen-Thomas Alexandre Dumas, Alexandre Dumas, pere, and Alexandre Dumas, fils.
- Series C**  
Box 31-1  
**Manuscripts**  
Four holographic manuscripts by Alexandre Dumas, pere, all written in beautiful french script. Two manuscripts are political in nature, one manuscript is a poem and one is a rebuttal on authorship.

## Container List

**Series A**      **Biographical Material**  
Box            Folder  
31-1           1 "The Three Alexandre Dumas"

**Series B**      **Photographs**  
2 (General) Thomas Alexandre Dumas, 1762-1806  
3 Alexandre Dumas, pere - 1802-1870  
4 Alexandre Dumas, fils - 1824-1895

**Series C**      **Manuscripts**  
5 Manuscript - "An Attack on French Politics and Diplomacy in Reference to Poland". c. 1863  
  
6 Manuscript - Poem no title, no date, Translation included  
  
7 Manuscript - "Loterie d'une Montre de Quarante ecus au profit des religieuses de l'observateur Romain"  
  
8 Manuscript - Address to the Votees of La Gironde -Translation included.