



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	HEARN, William Edward
ACCESSION NO	2004.0049
CATEGORY	University, individuals
ACTIVITY	Academics – Classics; Chancellors
DATE RANGE	1837-1929
SIZE OF COLLECTION	12 cm
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>William Edward Hearn was born in Ireland in 1826, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. In 1849 he was appointed Professor of Classics at the Queen's College, Galway, and later held office of Examiner to the Queen's University of Ireland. Hearn was one of the four Professors appointed at the opening of the University of Melbourne in 1854. His field covered modern history, modern literature, political economy and logic. When the Professor of Classics, Henry Erskine Rowe, died less than a month after arrival in Melbourne, Hearn conducted classes in classics until Professor Irving arrived in July 1856. In January 1859 Hearn offered himself as a candidate for the Murray District in a by-election for the Legislative Assembly; he was defeated, but the University Council afterwards passed a statute to prevent Professors from sitting in Parliament. He was a member of the University Council from 1882 until 1886, and Chancellor from May to October 1886. In July 1873, he became Dean of Law, resigning his professorship in other subjects at the end of that year. After a defeat at the polls in 1874, he was elected to the Legislative Council in 1878. He died in April 1888.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	October 2004
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	Items deposited with University of Melbourne Archives in 2004 include: medallions awarded to Hearn; a 'Victorian Railways 'Member of Parliament Free Pass', gold chain and medal; photograph of Hearn in his University robes; news cutting about Hearn.
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	See 1961.0001; 2009.0003; and 1979.0195 about William Hearn from the Department of History La Nauze papers.

Collection:

Accession:

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
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NOTE ON LISTING	
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LISTED BY	Kim Burrell
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DATE	10 March 2011
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Collection:

Accession:

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		5 medallions: 'Praemium Laboris' medallion inscribed to W.E. Hearn 'A Suo Patre 1837'; Trinity College Dublin Historical Society Medallion for History, inscribed to W.E. Hearn, 1847 (MDCCCXLVII); Trinity College Dublin Historical Society Medallion for Oratory, inscribed to W.E. Hearn, 1848; 'Historica Societas Collegii Dubliniensis' medallion inscribed to W.E. Hearn for 'Egregie Merenti in Poesi 1848'; 'Victorian Railways 'Member of Parliament Free Pass', gold chain and medal inscribed on back to The Hon. W. Edw. Hearn, LLD, date unknown, but c.1878. Tinted photograph of Hearn in his University robes, 1869; news cutting about Hearn in the series 'Great Australian Lawyers', <i>The Age</i> , November 23, 1929.	1837-1929

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