

Accession number: 1992-24/21

Description: Single sheet of paper, written on both sides. Draft epitaph for Wolfe's monument in Garrick's hand.

Transcript: Wolf rais[e]d himself his lasting Monument
~~[His monument]~~ The pillars are his Country's good
Its ample base the Western Continent
The Epitaph is written in his blood –

Verso Glory himself Erects Wolf's Monument
The lofty Pillars are his Country's good,
The ample Base the Western Continent
The Epitaph is written in his blood

Note:

Aileen Osborn, 'The Literary Material in the Hereford Garrick Papers', M. Phil thesis, University of Birmingham, 1999, 220-1.

Other versions: Harvard Theatre Collection, autograph – a longer version given by Osborn here).

p. 200 'James Wolfe was second in command to Jeffrey Amherst in the last French and Indian wars. He and his adversary Montcalm were both killed on the Plains of Abraham on 13 September 1749, the decisive battle in the fall of "New France" to the British. Garrick's verses were possibly written at the time of the unveiling of a memorial to Wolfe at Westminster abbey in 1772.