The Ghost of Criticism Yet To Come, appearing in 1967, could have told us: "Pound will die in 1972, Auden in 1973, Robert Lowell in 1977. Who do you think will, ten years hence, succeed Lowell as the most considerable poet of the English-speaking world?" Many acceptable candidates would probably have come to mind, including William Stafford, W. S. Merwin, James Dickey, Louis Simpson, Robert Creeley, James Wright, Robert Bly, Philip Larkin, Ted Hughes, even Allen Ginsberg. But so many strange things happened between 1967 and 1977 that, when Lowell did die, there was no unanimity about the succession, and now, a year and a half after Lowell's death, two of the more conspicuous contenders are not anyone from that formidable catalogue but a pair of unexpected figures, an enigmatic Briton and an anomalous American, whose powerful emergence very few could have foreseen: Geoffrey Hill (from Worcestershire) and A. R. Ammons (from North Carolina). (About Hill I will say only that his eloquence, so far, is as alien to readers in the United States as is Ammons's to those in the United Kingdom.)

Ammons, with his 400-page Collected Poems 1951-1971 and almost...
Sentinel, "I never dreamed of being a Poet poet. I think I always wanted to be an amateur poet." But critics have long recognized Ammons as a major American poet, and the measure of their esteem is implied by the stature of the poets to whom they compare him. A.R. Ammons, American poet who was one of the leading late 20th-century exponents of the Transcendentalist tradition. A 1949 graduate of Wake Forest College (now University), Ammons worked as an elementary school principal and as a glass company executive before turning his full attention to. Encyclopaedia Britannica's editors oversee subject areas in which they have extensive knowledge, whether from years of experience gained by working on that content or via study for an advanced degree. See Article History. Alternative Title: Archie Randolph Ammons. ammons on unconventionality. poets that are unconventional are in danger and so some seek to disguise themselves (like a stick insect) while others seek to be glaringly unconventional (like a ladybird) and so are openly ostracised but the enforces of the social codes may want, half-willingly, to be free, as free as the artist that they profess to despise. Ammons attitude to critics. generally dismisses them as failed poets themselves - but there is no reason for the poet and critic to be at odds. Ammons view of role of the poet. to bring things together and touch a source that feels like life The Complete Poems of A. R. Ammons, Volume I presents the first half of Archie Randolph Ammons's long career, including the complete texts of his three book-length poems from that period: the verse diary Tape for the Turn of the Year, the Bollingen Prize-winning Sphere: The Form of a Motion, and the daring kaleidoscope of The Snow Poems, which late. in life Ammons said of all his long poems was his favorite. Here are many of Ammons's most widely celebrated lyrics and meditations, including "Corsons Inlet," "Still," "Gravelly Run," and "The City Limits." Others are more directly inspired by his