

Guide to the Norman Saunders Papers

GEN MSS 2093



by Brooke McManus

July 2023

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 2093

CREATOR: Saunders, Norman B., 1907- , author

TITLE: Norman Saunders papers

DATES: 1886-2014

BULK DATES: 1930-1989

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 55.1 linear feet (45 boxes) + 5 broadside, 1 record album storage

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection contains artwork, printed material, photographs, correspondence, personal papers, objects, and audiovisual and computer media by or relating to American illustrator Norman Saunders.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.saunders>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.saunders>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from David Saunders on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund and the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2019, and gift of David Saunders, 2019.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Box 46 (computer media): Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Boxes 47-48 (audiovisual material): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Norman Saunders Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Norman Saunders Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Norman Saunders (1907-1989)

Norman Saunders was an American artist and illustrator of pulp magazines, paperbacks, men's adventure magazines, comic books, and trading cards. Born in Minot, North Dakota, and raised in Minnesota by Elva Cox and Clare Saunders, he began his career at Fawcett Publications and studied painting in New York under Harvey Dunn at the Grand Central School of Art. During World War II, Saunders served first in the Military Police, then in the Army Corps of Engineers, where he supervised the construction of a gas pipeline following the Burma Road; in his spare time, he photographed and sketched German prisoners of war and people, landscapes, and architecture in China and India. Saunders illustrated covers and content for magazines including *Cap'n Billy's Whiz Bang*, *Modern Mechanics*, *Sports Afield*, *Saucy Movie Tales*, *Star Western*, *Sure Fire Detective*, *Romantic Range*, *Dime Detective*, *Max Brand's Western*, *Black Mask*, *Real Combat*, *World of Men*, and *Saga*. He also contributed work for paperbacks published by Ace, Bantam, Ballantine, and Ellery Queen.

In 1958, Saunders began creating artwork for the trading cards company Topps Chewing Gum, Inc.; in addition to baseball cards, he contributed art for the 1962 "Mars Attacks" series; "Batman" TV series in 1966; and "Wacky Packages" series from 1967 to 1976. Saunders married model and editor Ellene Politis in 1947, and they had four children including Zina, an illustrator, and David, a painter and sculptor who published a book about his father, *Norman Saunders*, in 2008.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains artwork, printed material, photographs, correspondence, personal papers, objects, and audiovisual and computer media by or relating to American illustrator Norman Saunders.

Included are original pencil drawings and watercolors Saunders contributed to pulp magazines and paperback books, as well as tear sheets, cover proofs, puzzles, calendars, and other material featuring his illustrations. Other artwork by Saunders consists of drawings and paintings of German prisoners of war, members of his unit in the Army Corps of Engineers, and people and places in China and India during World War II; and scenes from his travels in Africa, Europe, and Greece.

The collection contains a large amount of reference photographs used by Saunders to create illustrations of women, detectives, cowboys, and Indigenous Americans; slides and prints of Saunders's artwork; photographs of the 1381st Engineer Petroleum Distribution Company, the Army unit overseeing construction of an oil pipeline along Burma Road during World War II; and family and personal portraits and snapshots.

Objects include a Polaroid camera, two prop Colt .45 guns depicted in Western-themed illustrations by Saunders, and an antique opium pipe and carved chopsticks he obtained in China.

The collection also contains papers of Saunders's son David, including a proof of his book *Norman Saunders* and associated research materials.

Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Visual Material, 1886-2008. II. Correspondence, 1952-2005. III. Personal and Family Papers, 1927-2014. IV. Objects, circa 1945, undated. V. Computer and Audiovisual Media, 1962-circa 2008.

Collection Contents

Series I: Visual Material, 1886-2008

36.36 linear feet (31 boxes) + 3 broadside

This series contains original drawings and paintings by Norman Saunders, and printed material and ephemera featuring his illustrations, such as tear sheets and covers from pulp magazines, paperbacks, and comic books, puzzles, and posters. Also included are proofs of trading cards, stickers, and display boxes created for Topps's "Wacky Packages," "Batman," and "Superman in the Jungle" series.

Organized into three subseries: Original Artwork, Illustrated Works, and Photographs.

Original Artwork

This subseries consists of pencil and watercolor drawings, as well as a few oil paintings by Saunders. Included are drawings of American soldiers, German prisoners of war, and scenes from the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II, abstract works, travel sketches, and illustrations for magazines and books. World War II materials formerly housed in binders were rehoused in folders in existing order.

Arranged chronologically, with undated material filed at the end of the sequence.

b. 1, f. 1-15	263 drawings and watercolors	1924-1978
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 393	Unidentified watercolor drawings	1925
b. 19, f. 328	"Spring," original watercolor on board	1929
b. 15, f. 260	Pencil and watercolor drawings	1938
b. 15, f. 261-266	Pencil drawings [including some watercolors]	1938
b. 15, f. 267-285	Pencil drawings [including some watercolors]	1939-circa 1984
b. 16, f. 286-302	Watercolor and pencil drawings	1940
b. 2, f. 16-20	146 pencil drawings	1940-1941
b. 2, f. 21-25	146 pencil drawings	1941
b. 2, f. 26-32	182 pencil drawings	1941-1942
b. 2, f. 33-37	1942 Honeymoon East Hampton / 1971 Western sketches	1942-1971
b. 3, f. 38-40	WWII / Binder #1 / Nov. 19, 1942-March 1943 Includes drawings by Saunders created while he was in basic training at Fort Dix, Fort Ontario, Stoney Point.	1942-1943
b. 3, f. 41-45	WWII / Binder #2 / June 1943 / Corporal in the military police Scenes include "Jim Crow R.R. cars" and Nazi prisoners of war. Drawings often contain Saunders's handwritten observations on his subjects. Also includes extracts of Special Orders by the 768th Military Police Battalion, Fayetteville, New York, and Saunders's letters to his parents.	1943-1944

Original Artwork (continued)

b. 3, f. 46-49	WWII / Binder #3 / Engineers Petroleum Distribution Company 1381st / March 28, 1944 - Camp Claiborne, Louisiana / July 29, 1944 - to San Pedro, Cal / Sept. 1944 troop ship to Australia Includes photographs of Saunders and his brother Duane, and letters to his parents and Russell King.	1944
b. 3, f. 50-53	WWII / Binder #4 / October 1944 - Bombay India to Calcutta + up the Brahmaputra River to Ledo	1944
b. 3, f. 54-56	WWII / Binder #5 / Nov. 5, 1944 Ledo Road - India - To the border of Ledo/ Burma Road Include letters to Russell King.	1944
b. 3, f. 57-59	WWII / Binder #6 / Nov. 18, 1944 India - Ledo Road - Flies the hump Dec. 22, 1944 / Jan. 16, 1945 China - Burma Road Includes a letter to Duane Saunders with a photograph.	1944
b. 3, f. 60-64	WWII / Binder #7 / Yunnan, Shiquan, Mekong River / Dec. 1944 / Burma Road China / Jan. 1, 1945 Includes several letters to Russell King and two "V-Mail" forms with illustrations.	1944
b. 4, f. 65-69	WWII / Binder #8 / Jan. 31, 1945 - China - Burma Road / Feb. 15, 1945 - General Pick's "Token Convoy" Includes letters to Russell King	1945
b. 4, f. 70-74	WWII / Binder #9 / 1945 - China - Burma Road	1945
b. 4, f. 75-81	WWII / Binder #10 / China 1945 / Yunnan, Tali, Burma Road Includes writings, letters to Russell King, correspondence from the Army about his pipeline sketches and attempts to have them published in <i>Life</i> magazine, photos of his parents, and a letter from Fawcett Publications.	1945
b. 4, f. 82-85	WWII / Binder #11 / 1945 China - Burma Road / Gasoline drums, temples, tobacco, opium, prostitutes	1945
b. 4, f. 86-88	WWII / Binder #12 / China - 1945 - Burma Road / Tobacco, aluminum, temples, markets, air base Kunming Also depicts opium use, sex workers, and scenes from the Tinsukia district and town of Ledo in India.	1945
b. 5, f. 89-91	WWII / Binder #13 / Sept. 29, 1945 - Flies out of Kunming - Ledo - Acra - Karachi - NYC Includes letters, photos of artwork, printed material.	1945
b. 19, f. 329-343	Abstract paintings, watercolor on paper	1946
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 394-400	Abstract paintings, watercolor on paper	1946
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 423-425	Abstract paintings, watercolor on paper	1946
b. 20, f. 344-351	Matted abstract paintings, watercolor on paper	1946
b. 21, f. 352	"Hudson River Beach," Photostat of illustration	1947

Original Artwork (continued)

b. 16, f. 303	Watercolors from sketchpad	1952, undated
b. 21, f. 353	Watercolor drawings of Broadway (New York)	1955
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 433	"Head Hunters," sketch for <i>Real</i> magazine illustration	1955
b. 5, f. 92	Unidentified pen and ink drawing with red lines; notes on drawings [?]	circa 1955
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 434	Abstract painting, oil on board, signed on verso	1957
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 435	Abstract painting, oil on board, signed on recto	1957
b. 27 (Oversize)	Abstract painting, oil on board, signed on recto Box 27: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	1959
b. 16, f. 304-310	Pencil drawings [including some watercolors, writings]	1960s
b. 5, f. 93-95	Watercolor and pencil drawings of summer vacation at Wings Farm in Ithaca, NY	1963
b. 5, f. 96-100	Watercolor and pencil drawings of summer vacation at Fire Island, NY	1964
b. 21, f. 354-357	Watercolor and pencil drawings of summer vacation at Fire Island, NY	1964
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 401	Preliminary sketch for a "harem scene" for 1960s men's adventure magazine Red lines indicate use of dynamic symmetry.	1965
b. 21, f. 358	Watercolor drawings of street scene, Memorial Day event [?]	1966, undated
b. 5, f. 101-102	Watercolor drawings of summer vacation at Swiss Alps	1968
b. 21, f. 359-366	Matted watercolors of European vacation	1968
b. 21, f. 367-370	Matted watercolors of Italy	circa 1968
b. 6, f. 107	Europe sketchbook	1968
b. 6, f. 108	Europe sketchbook - loose materials	1968
b. 6, f. 109	Great Britain sketchbook	1971
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 402	Unidentified watercolor painting	1971
b. 5, f. 103-106	Travel sketches of Greece	1973
b. 22, f. 371-377	Travel sketches of Greece	1973
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 403	Design for an embroidered pillow, watercolor on transparency [?]	1973
b. 22, f. 378	Watercolor drawing of men next to fountain	1975
b. 6, f. 110	Africa sketchbook	1976

Original Artwork (continued)

b. 6, f. 111	Africa sketchbook - enclosed travel documents	1976
b. 22, f. 379	"The Last Stand," watercolor or ink on paper	undated
b. 22, f. 380	Pencil drawing of firing squad	undated
b. 22, f. 381	Watercolor drawing of sailboat	undated
b. 22, f. 382	Watercolor drawings of unidentified church	undated
b. 22, f. 383	Watercolor drawings of snowy scenes	undated
b. 22, f. 384	Pencil drawing of unidentified man	undated
b. 22, f. 385	Watercolor drawings of "1880 Sioux village Camp Huffman photo"	undated
b. 22, f. 386	Fireworks, watercolor on board	undated
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 404	Pencil drawings of fire engines [?]	undated
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 405	Watercolor drawings of snowy scene	undated
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 406	Unidentified pencil drawings	undated
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 407	Unidentified watercolor [?] drawing	undated
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 408	Unidentified watercolor and charcoal [?] drawing	undated
b. 28 (Oversize)	Abstract painting, oil on board	undated
b. 31 (Oversize)	Abstract painting, oil on board, framed Box 31: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated

Illustrated Works

This subseries consists of cover proofs, magazine interiors, posters, trading cards, display boxes, stickers, one record album cover, and other materials illustrated by Saunders. Included are tear sheets from *Modern Mechanics* and *Sports Afield*, in addition to covers of pulp magazines such as *Black Book Detective*, *Saucy Movie Tales*, *Mystery Adventure*, *Ten Detective Aces*, and *Western Trails*; comic books such as *Hopalong Cassidy* and *Tom Mix*; and paperbacks from Ballantine Books, Bantam Books, and Pocket Detective. The subseries also contains Saunders's "Night Rider," "An Eye Full," and "A Handy Hat Rack" illustrations, reproduced on jigsaw puzzles and calendars for the A. Fox Litho company, Milton Bradley, and Fairchild Corp. Illustrations created for Topps primarily include uncut sheets of trading cards and stickers for "Wacky Packages"; materials related to "Mars Attacks" are not present.

Organized under two subheadings: Magazines, Books, and Ephemera, and Topps Trading Card Collection. Within subheadings, materials are arranged in chronological order.

Magazines, Books, and Ephemera

Illustrated Works > Magazines, Books, and Ephemera (continued)

b. 7, f. 112-113	<i>Modern Mechanics</i> tear sheets	1929–1932
b. 7, f. 114	<i>Sports Afield</i> tear sheets	1934–1935
b. 7, f. 115-116	Saucy pulp magazine cover proofs	1936–1942
b. 7, f. 117-121	Paperback cover proofs	1937–2003
b. 7, f. 122-125	Western pulp magazine cover proofs	1937–1953
b. 7, f. 126-129	Detective pulp magazine cover proofs	1938–1953
b. 7, f. 130-134	Detective and sports pulp magazine cover proofs	1939–1957
b. 7, f. 135-137	Western, adventure, and sci-fi pulp magazine cover proofs	1942–1957
b. 7, f. 138-139	Men's adventure interiors [?] tear sheets	1946–1959
b. 7, f. 140-143	Comic book cover proofs	1948–1950
b. 17, f. 311	"Polaris & The Goddess," Photostat of illustration for <i>Fantastic Novels</i>	1950
b. 17, f. 312	Tear sheets, various	1951–1961
b. 17, f. 313	"Hank Williams," Photostat of illustration for <i>Saga</i> magazine (1957)	1956
b. 7, f. 144	Sample kit of calendars	1956
b. 22, f. 387	"An Eye Full," calendar, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1957
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 426	"An Eye Full," calendar, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1957
b. 29 (Oversize), f. 442	"An Eye Full," 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle by Milton Bradley	1957
b. 22, f. 388	"A Handy Hat Rack," calendar, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1956
b. 32 (Broadside)	"A Handy Hat Rack," calendar poster, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1957
b. 33 (Broadside)	"Night Rider," calendar poster, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1957
b. 29 (Oversize), f. 443	"Night Rider," 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle by Milton Bradley	1957
b. 22, f. 389	"Night Rider," calendar, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1958
b. 7, f. 145	"Night Rider," framed print embedded with thermometer, Corp. A. Fox Litho	1958
b. 7, f. 146	Various sized calendars, including "Night Rider," Corp. A. Fox Litho	1958
b. 17, f. 314	"An Eye Full," jigsaw puzzle, Fairchild Corp.	1959
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 436	"New Mexico Real Estate," poster for developer	1961
b. 22, f. 390	"Western Frontier Land" by Tommy Clayton Singers, LP album cover See also: Series V. Computer and Audiovisual Media, Box 48.	1962

Illustrated Works > Magazines, Books, and Ephemera (continued)

b. 22, f. 391	Photocopies of men's adventure magazine illustrations	1965
b. 23 (Oversize), f. 409	"Africa Trade Expo," New York Coliseum posters	1978
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 427	"Law, the Bill of Rights, and the Great Plains," symposium poster with Saunders's "Lawman" Illustration	1991
b. 22, f. 392	Photocopy of <i>Stag</i> magazine illustration (May 1942)	undated
Topps Trading Card Collection		
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 444	Flag Midgees - uncut sheet of 99 cards - with art by N.S.	1962
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 445	Flag Midgees - uncut blue & yellow proof sheet of 99 cards - with art by N.S.	1962
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 410	Gold Rush Bubblegum - display box - uncut sheets - with hands of N.S. kids	1964-1968
b. 18, f. 316-327	Blockheads - complete set of 12 - art by N.S., Basil Wolverton and Wally Wood	1965
b. 49 (Broadside)	Blockheads - The Pirate no. 2 - uncut sheet	1965
b. 50 (Broadside)	Blockheads - Witch Doctor no. 4 - uncut sheet	1965
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 411	Batman - display box - uncut sheet - with art by N.S.	1966
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 446	Batman (Black Bat) - uncut sheet of 55 cards - with art by N.S.	1966
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 412	Batman (Black Bat) - uncut sheet of 22 common cards - with art by N.S.	1966
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 447	Batman (Blue Bat) - uncut sheet of 44 cards - with art by N.S.	1966
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 448	Batman (Red Bat) - uncut sheet of 44 cards - with art by N.S.	1966
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 449	Superman In The Jungle - USA Version - uncut sheet of 3-color proof - by N.S.	1966
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 413	Superman In The Jungle - USA Version - display box - uncut sheet - by N.S.	1966
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 428	Superman In The Jungle - USA Version - uncut sheet of 16 puzzle pieces - by N.S.	1966
b. 34 (Broadside)	Ugly Buttons - uncut proof sheet - framed by Topps Vault with C.O.A. #20 of 26	1966
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 429	Teacher's Pets - display box - with Ugly Stickers art by N.S. and Wally Wood	1966

Illustrated Works > Topps Trading Card Collection (continued)

b. 26 (Oversize), f. 437-438	Disgusting Disguises - uncut transparent sheets of first 36 stickers	1967
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 414	Wacky Packages - uncut and unscored sheet of 24 die-cuts - with art by N.S.	1967
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 415	Wacky Packages - uncut and unscored sheet of 20 die-cuts - with art by N.S.	1967
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 430	Nutty Initials - uncut sheet of 55 stickers - with art by N.S.	1967
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 416	Love Initials - display box - uncut sheet - with art by N.S.	1969
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 450	Mod Initials - uncut sheet of 55 stickers - with art by N.S.	1969
b. 30 (Oversize), f. 451	Mod Generation - uncut sheet of 44 cards - with art by N.S. and Trina Robbins	1969
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 439	Pro Basketball - display box - uncut sheet - with art by N.S.	1969
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 417	Major League Baseball - display box - uncut sheet - with art by N.S.	1970
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 452	Flags Of The World - uncut sheet of 66 cards - with art by N.S.	1971
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 453	Flags Of The World - uncut sheet of 44 common cards - with art by N.S.	1971
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 431	Gumniks Bubblegum - display box - uncut sheet - with art by N.S.	1972
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 440	Candy Apple Bubblegum - display box - uncut sheet - w/ portraits of N.S. two sons	1973
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 454	Wacky Packages - Series #1 - uncut test proof sheet of 44 stickers on paper	1973
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 418	Wacky Packages - Series #2 - uncut sheet of 18 stickers	1973
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 419	Wacky Packages - Series #2 - uncut sheet of 15 stickers	1973
b. 25 (Oversize), f. 432	Wacky Packages - Series #3 - uncut and unscored sheet of 32 stickers	1973
b. 24 (Oversize), f. 420	Wacky Packages - Series #3 - uncut and unscored sheet of 12 stickers	1973
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 455	Wacky Packages - Series #5 - uncut and unscored sheet of 44 stickers	1973
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 456	Wacky Packages - Series #6 - uncut sheet of 44 stickers	1973

Illustrated Works > Topps Trading Card Collection (continued)

b. 24 (Oversize), f. 421-422	Wacky Posters - Complete set of 24 - with art by N.S. [missing numbers 17, 21, 22]	1973
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 457	Wacky Packages - Series #8 - uncut sheet of 44 stickers	1974
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 458	Wacky Packages - Re-issue Series #1 - uncut sheet of 66 stickers	1979
b. 26 (Oversize), f. 441	Fake Out Stickers - uncut sheet of 16 stickers	1979
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 459	Weird Wheels - uncut and unscored sheet of 55 stickers	1980
b. 30a (Oversize), f. 460	Norman Saunders Card Set - The Illustrated Press - uncut sheet	2008

Photographs

This subseries contains photographs taken in China and India during Saunders's tour of duty in World War II; photographs, slides, and negatives of his artwork; reference photographs of Saunders and his wife Ellene in various poses and Hollywood movie stills used to model his illustrations; and a small amount of family and personal photographs.

Photographs are also located in Series II. Correspondence and Series III. Personal and Family Papers.

Organized under five subheadings: World War II, Artwork by Saunders, Polaroids and Small Prints, Hollywood Reference, and Family and Personal.

World War II

b. 8, f. 147-149	Photos of the 1381st Engineer Petroleum Distribution Company / Burma Road WWII publications	1945
b. 8, f. 150-152	Photograph album - 1381st / India and China [loose photos]	circa 1945
b. 17, f. 315	Photograph album - 1381st / India and China [pages removed from]	circa 1945

Artwork by Saunders

b. 8, f. 153-154	Photographs and negatives	undated
b. 8, f. 155	Photographs, 1945-1953	undated

Slides and transparencies

b. 8, f. 156	"Army life sketches"	undated
b. 8, f. 157	"China '45"	undated
b. 8, f. 158	"Comics"	undated
b. 8, f. 159	"Detective/men"	undated
b. 8, f. 160	"Detectives"	undated

Photographs > Artwork by Saunders > Slides and transparencies (continued)

b. 8, f. 161	"Paperbacks saucys/misc."	undated
b. 8, f. 162	"Westerns"	undated
b. 9, f. 163	"Sports - Adventure - Sci-Fi"	undated
b. 9, f. 164	"Detectives covers" / "Cover repros"	undated
b. 9, f. 165	"B&W adventure illustrations" / "Men's mag. Illustrations"	undated
b. 9, f. 166	"Pocketbook repros"	undated
b. 9, f. 167	"Topps repros"	undated
b. 9, f. 168	Unidentified	undated
b. 9, f. 169-173	4 x 5" transparencies: "Mars Attacks" and unsorted	undated
b. 9, f. 174	4 x 5" transparencies: Unsorted covers	undated
Polaroids and Small Prints		
b. 10, f. 175	"Campfire cowboys posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 176-177	"Civilian adventurers posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 178	"Cowboys posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 179	"Donkey farm in Mexico"	1956
b. 10, f. 180	"Horses"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 181	[Horses, cows, stagecoaches]	undated
b. 10, f. 182	[Horses and riders in Central Park, New York]	1939
b. 10, f. 183	"Hunters posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 184	"Kossacks [sic] posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 185	"Man & woman poses by Norm and Ellene Saunders"	1957-1958, undated
b. 10, f. 186	"Men in torment and ecstasy posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 187	"Middle Easterners posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 188	"Mounted cowboys posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s

Photographs > Polaroids and Small Prints (continued)

b. 10, f. 189	"Native Americans posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 190	"Nazis posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 191	"Neighbors posing / Gigi & Carol Leone"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 192	"Orca sculpture by N.S. for <i>True Adv.</i> "	1959
b. 10, f. 193	"Photos of riverboats on Mississippi in 1932 with N.S."	1932
b. 10, f. 194	"Pirates posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 195	"Plaster lion by Rosa Bonheur and plaster horse w/ lights"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 196	"Poses for Topps cards by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 197	[Prop guns]	undated
b. 10, f. 198	"Romans posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 10, f. 199	"Safari adventures posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 11, f. 200	"Small town scenes / Columbus, Nebraska"	1958-1960
b. 11, f. 201	"Stage coaches and wagons"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 11, f. 202	"Struggling men posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 11, f. 203	"Trappers posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 11, f. 204	[Unidentified Indigenous men on horseback in front of Dominion Clothing Co., Canada] Photograph taken by Gary Carty [?] in unidentified city possibly Montréal.	undated
b. 11, f. 205	[Unidentified mountains]	undated
b. 11, f. 206	"War of 1898 posed by Norm Saunders"	circa 1950s-1960s
b. 11, f. 207-209	"Woman poses by Ellene Saunders"	1959, undated
b. 11, f. 210	"WWII Army G.I.s posed by Norm Saunders"	1961, undated

Photographs (continued)

Hollywood Reference

Contains 8"x10" black and white photographs, mostly of Hollywood westerns and period movies of the early 1930s. Includes photographs of popular performers such as of Marlene Dietrich, Gary Cooper, Mary Pickford, Jimmy Stewart, Spencer Tracy, Warner Oland, Anna May Wong, Wallace Beery, and George Arlis.

The photographs pre-date to the beginning of the Hays Code era of censorship (circa 1934) and were used as reference for Saunders' sketches in pulp fiction and westerns, with some examples of mirror image sketching.

b. 11, f. 211	[Unlabeled]	1931-1936, 1959
b. 11, f. 212	Westerns	1930s
b. 11, f. 213	"Horses / Wild"	1930s
b. 11, f. 214	"The Plainsman / G. Cooper" [and other films]	1930s
b. 11, f. 215	"Children"	1930s
b. 11, f. 216	[Various]	1930s
b. 11, f. 217	"Jail & Sheriff"	1930s
b. 11, f. 218	"Portraits"	1930s-1940s
b. 11, f. 219	"Transportation"	1928-1960
b. 11, f. 220	"Vehicles" [Western scenes]	1930s
b. 12, f. 221	"Interiors" [women]	1930s?
b. 12, f. 222	[Unlabeled]	1928-1936
b. 12, f. 223	[Unlabeled]	1930s
b. 12, f. 224	[Unlabeled] Contains Saunders' pencil drawing on the verso of a photograph of Jimmy Stewart.	1928-1930s
b. 12, f. 225	[Unlabeled]	1930s
b. 12, f. 226-227	"Misc."	1930s
b. 12, f. 228	"West / General"	1930s
b. 12, f. 229	Musicians	1930s
b. 12, f. 230	"Buildings"	1930s
b. 12, f. 231-232	"Horses & Riders"	1930s
b. 12, f. 233	"Women & Men"	1930s
b. 13, f. 234	"Circus & Carnival"	1930s
b. 13, f. 235	[Unlabeled]	1930s

Photographs > Hollywood Reference (continued)

b. 13, f. 236	"Horses and Rodeo"	1930s-1940s?
b. 13, f. 237	"High [Society?]" Includes an image of Jack Johnson (1878-1946), the first Black world heavyweight boxing champion.	1930s
b. 13, f. 238	"Struggles"	1930s
b. 13, f. 239-240	"Detectives & [illegible]" Includes clippings related to crime and addiction.	1930s
b. 13, f. 241	"Indians & Northwest" Includes studio photographs of white actors playing Indigenous characters, a few images featuring Indigenous men as film extras.	1928-1930s
b. 13, f. 242	"Bar Room"	1930s
b. 13, f. 243	[Athletic scenes]	1930s
b. 13, f. 244	[Unlabeled]	1930s
b. 13, f. 245	"Camera equipment"	1930s
b. 13, f. 246-248	"Hollywood stars"	1930s
b. 13, f. 249	"Hollywood horses"	1930s
b. 13, f. 250	Black and white photographs featuring horses, with pencil drawings by Saunders on verso	1930s
Family and Personal Photographs		
b. 14, f. 251-255	Family	1886-1989
b. 14, f. 256	Elva Saunders (mother)	circa 1930s-1940s
b. 14, f. 257	Allen and Arlene Anderson Allen Anderson was a lifelong friend.	circa 1942
b. 14, f. 258	PulpCon group photograph of Saunders, Henry Steeger, Walter Gibson, and others	1977
b. 14, f. 259	Color photographs of Saunders studio props	undated

Series II: Correspondence, 1952-2005*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

This series consists of letters to Norman Saunders from fans, friends, colleagues, and gallery owners, and a small amount of family correspondence, as well as condolence notes to Ellene Saunders after his death and correspondence about the posthumous sale of his works. Also included are a few photographs and ephemera.

Correspondence is also located in Series I. Visual Material.

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent, with empty envelopes filed at the end of the sequence.

b. 35, f. 461	Ballantine Books	1953
b. 35, f. 462	Bonn, Thomas (State University of New York, College at Cortland)	1983
b. 35, f. 463	Bronx Museum of the Arts	1980
b. 35, f. 464	Carr, Wooda N.	1985-1989
b. 35, f. 465	Cooley, Donald G.	1983
b. 35, f. 466	Daniel, Price (governor of Texas, letter of introduction for Saunders museum research trip)	1962
b. 35, f. 467	Dricks, Victor	1988-1996
b. 35, f. 468	Dunham, David	1980
b. 35, f. 469	Goffman, Judy	1989
b. 35, f. 470	Hamilton, Franklyn E.	1983-1989
b. 35, f. 471	The Illustration House	1990-1994
b. 35, f. 472	Lesser, Robert	1989
b. 35, f. 473	<i>The New Yorker</i>	1963
b. 35, f. 474	Oldewarris, Hans (Utopia Books)	1978
b. 35, f. 475	Ruehlmann, William (<i>Virginia Star-Ledger</i>)	1983
b. 35, f. 476	Saunders, Blaine	1985
b. 35, f. 477	Saunders, David	1988-1993
b. 35, f. 478	Saunders, Duane	1962
b. 35, f. 479	Saunders, Ellene Politis	1987, undated
b. 35, f. 480	Saunders, Ellene and Norman cards to David Saunders	1982, undated
b. 35, f. 481	Saunders, Norman, watercolor and birthday letter to Elva Saunders	1964
b. 35, f. 482	Shinohara, Noriko and Ushio	2005
b. 35, f. 483	Stathis, Lou (<i>Heavy Metal</i>)	1981

b. 35, f. 484	Steeger, Henry (including cancelled check to Saunders for cover of <i>Adventure Magazine</i>)	1952, 1989
b. 35, f. 485	Wilber, Ronald	1989-1991
b. 35, f. 486	Empty envelopes	1989-1991

Series III: Personal and Family Papers, 1927-2014

4.63 linear feet (5 boxes)

This series consists of ephemera, printed material, notes and writings, a World War II scrapbook, and other papers by or relating to Norman Saunders. Included is a chronological card catalog of Saunders's published works from 1928 to the early 2010s, and research files and proofs for David Saunders's book *Norman Saunders*.

Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

b. 36, f. 487	"100 Years of Norman Saunders" by David Saunders	2007
b. 36, f. 488	Address book and notecard with addresses	1947, 1983
b. 36, f. 489	Artwork by others (clipped from publications)	circa 1930s-1961
b. 36, f. 490	<i>The Building Of The Burma Road</i> by Tan Pei-Yang, McGraw Hill - 1945	1945
b. 36, f. 491	<i>China Then 1943 Now 1994</i> by B. A. Krawczyk	1994
b. 36, f. 492	Clare Saunders (father) memorial book	1946
b. 36, f. 493-494	Clippings	1969-2009
b. 39, f. 528	Clippings	1983-2012
b. 36, f. 495	Copies of Saunders pulp covers from Library of Congress microfilm	undated
b. 36, f. 496	David Saunders research notes on Norman Saunders and pulp illustration	2001-2002
b. 36, f. 497	Ephemera	1980-2004
b. 36, f. 498	Europe trip	1968
b. 39, f. 529	Federal Schools Art Program diploma	1927
b. 36, f. 499	Genealogy	2009
b. 39, f. 530	Harvey Dunn and Grand Central School of Art	1928, 2003
b. 36, f. 500	"Illustrating for Men's Magazines," draft typescript and published version of article by Saunders for <i>The Illustrator</i>	1959
b. 36, f. 501	<i>The Illustration Collector</i> #34	1996
b. 36, f. 502	Jensen Fine Art Gallery calling card, postcard, and clipping	1993
b. 36, f. 503	Ledo-Burma Road research	1957-2007
b. 36, f. 504	Letters & copies of publications w/ covers by N.S. / Random poor quality images of N.S. work	1957-2007
b. 39, f. 531	Manufacturer's Bank Newsletter with article on Norm & Ellene Saunders	1955
b. 36, f. 505	"Mars Attacks!" Tim Burton movie poster from Paris	1996
b. 36, f. 506	"The Norm Saunders Non-Sport Story" by Jim Nicewander (reprint of article from 1984 <i>Baseball Cards Magazine</i>)	1990

b. 36, f. 507	Norm's autobiography	undated
b. 36, f. 508	Norm's fans	1988-1989
b. 39, f. 532-533	<i>Norman Saunders</i> by David Saunders, color proofs of two-page spreads and cover	2008
b. 38	<i>Norman Saunders</i> by David Saunders, original printer's master proof	2008
b. 36, f. 509	Norman Saunders and Ellene Politis marriage certificate	1971
b. 36, f. 510	Norman Saunders / Minnesota years	2009
b. 36, f. 511	"Norman Saunders' Outlaws of the West: Illustrations for the Pulp Westerns," University of Nebraska-Lincoln exhibition	1991
b. 36, f. 512	Norman Saunders will (copy)	2002
b. 39, f. 534	"Orange Pulp" exhibition poster - University of Syracuse Art Galleries	2011
b. 36, f. 513	Other papers	1937-1968
b. 36, f. 514	<i>Popular Mechanics</i> with article on Burma Road	1944
b. 36, f. 515	PulpCon #18 Remembers Norm Saunders (badge with illustration of Saunders by Frank Hamilton)	1989
b. 36, f. 516	"The Pulp Collector" fanzine	1989
b. 36, f. 517	"Ranching and Cowboys: Myth and Reality"	2014
b. 39, f. 535	"Reform School" satirical diploma	1927
b. 36, f. 518	Salmagundi Club	1951-1957
b. 36, f. 519	"Scientific Fiction: Imaginary Voyages," Bronx Museum of the Arts exhibition	1980
b. 36, f. 520	United States Army "Special Service" booklets on Calcutta and Mumbai	1945
b. 36, f. 521	"Who Painted the Wacky Packs?" by David Saunders	2001
b. 36, f. 522-527	Works by Norman Saunders, 1928-1938 (chronological card catalog)	undated
b. 37	Works by Norman Saunders, 1939-2012 (chronological card catalog)	undated
b. 40, f. 536-543	World War II scrapbook Includes clippings on the 1381st Engineer Petroleum Distribution Company's work in India and China, various Army memoranda, and ephemera.	1944-1945

Series IV: Objects, circa 1945, undated*3.09 linear feet (5 boxes)*

This series consists of materials collected or used by Norman Saunders during his Army service in China in World War II, including an opium pipe, chopsticks, and a sewing kit; Colt pistols and a large ring of keys used as props for his illustrations; general artist tools; and a Polaroid camera.

Arranged by format.

b. 41	Antique opium pipe Box 41: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	circa 1945
b. 41	Black ebony carved chopsticks Box 41: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	circa 1945
b. 41	Sewing kit Box 41: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	circa 1945
b. 41	Hand-sewn pouch used for watercolor pad, paints, brushes in WWII China Box 41: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	circa 1945
b. 42	Wooden stamp Box 42: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated
b. 42	Ebony drawing pencil (sealed in tape) Box 42: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated
b. 42	Art studio mat knife with handmade sheath Box 42: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated
b. 43	Two prop Colt 45 pistols Box 43: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated
b. 44	Prop ring of keys Box 44: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated
b. 45	Polaroid land camera model 95 in case Box 45: In-process material pending conservation treatment/housing. For further information, consult Access Services.	undated

Series V: Computer and Audiovisual Media, 1962-circa 2008*0.42 linear feet (2 boxes) + 1 record album storage*

This series contains compact discs with images used in *Norman Saunders*, a phonograph record for which Saunders contributed album cover art, and a videocassette of an interview of Saunders conducted by his daughter Blaine in their New York home.

Arranged by format.

b. 46	Computer media Restricted fragile material. Access copies of digital files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	circa 2008
b. 47	Interview with Norman Saunders (videocassette tape) Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1984
b. 48 (Record Album Storage)	"Western Frontier Land" / Tommy Clayton Singers (phonograph record) Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information. See also: Series I. Visual Material, Box 22, f. 390.	1962

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Occupations

Artists -- United States -- 20th Century
Illustrators -- United States -- 20th Century

Subjects

Artists, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Book covers
Detective and mystery stories -- Illustrations
Illustrators, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Indians of North America -- Pictorial works -- 20th Century
Magazine covers
Pulp literature, American -- Illustrations
Trading cards
Wacky Packages (Trading cards)
Western stories -- Illustrations
World War, 1939-1945 -- Pictorial works
World War, 1939-1945 -- Prisoners and prisons, German -- Pictorial works

Genres / Formats

Audiovisual materials
Born digital
Calendars (documents)
Chopsticks
Collecting cards
Instant cameras
Jigsaw puzzles
Negatives (photographic)
Opium pipes
Paintings (visual works)
Pen and wash drawings
Pencil drawings
Periodical illustrations -- United States -- 20th Century
Photographs -- United States -- 20th Century
Proofs (printed matter)
Slides (photographs)
Tear sheets

Geographic Names

Africa -- Pictorial works

Burma Road (China and Burma) -- Pictorial works
China -- Pictorial works
Europe -- Pictorial works
Greece -- Pictorial works
India -- Pictorial works

Names

Saunders, David, 1954-

Corporate Bodies

Topps Chewing Gum, Inc.
Topps Company
United States. Army. Corps of Engineers -- Pictorial works