

# Guide to the William V. Caldwell Papers

MS 1648



compiled by Carol King

June 1994

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1648

**CREATOR:** Caldwell, William Vinal

**TITLE:** William Vinal Caldwell papers

**DATES:** 1942-1945

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of original drawings, with photocopies and photographs, of the Italian campaign during World War II. The sketches depict daily life in the army camps, soldiers in combat, local inhabitants and scenery, and weaponry. Included are illustrations done at the 24th Replacement Depot near Naples; drawings of the areas of Monterenzio, Monte della Formiche, Lucca, Sassoleone, and San Clemente di Rignano; and drawings depicting the Apennines and Po Valley campaigns. The papers also include photocopies and notes pertaining to the "Pink Elephant" mural which William Caldwell painted for the Regimental Officers' Club at Fort McClellan and to the "Training Cycle" mural which has been exhibited at the Pentagon.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1648>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1648>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b.        box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of William V. Caldwell, 1993.

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### Conditions Governing Access

Due to the fragile nature of the material, the originals in boxes 2 and 3 are restricted. Researchers should consult the photocopies in box 1.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

William Vinal Caldwell Papers (MS 1648). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

William Vinal Caldwell, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, graduated from the Yale School of Fine Arts in 1941. He was primarily a portrait artist until his induction into the army in 1942. Stationed at Fort McClellan, Caldwell was attached to the Plans and Training Department, drawing tactical charts, maps, and diagrams. From 1944-1945 he served in Italy as a regimental artist, documenting the American servicemen's role in the Italian campaign. Following the war, Caldwell returned to his career as a portrait artist.

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## Scope and Contents

The William V. Caldwell Papers consist of sketches drawn by Caldwell in his capacity as regimental artist while assigned to the Special Service Company of the 337th Infantry Regiment, 85th Division, 5th Army and to the G-3 Historical Section, Allied Force Headquarters, in Italy from 1944-1945. These drawings depict daily life in the army camps, soldiers in combat, local inhabitants and scenery, weaponry, and the many accoutrements of battle.

The papers also include photocopies and notes pertaining to the "Pink Elephant" murals which Caldwell painted for the Regimental Officers' Club at Fort McClellan and to the "Training Cycle" mural which has been exhibited at the Pentagon.

The papers were the gift of William V. Caldwell in 1993.

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## Collection Contents

b.1	"8 Months of War in Italy: Apennines Campaign, Po Campaign": album of photocopies of drawings with captions	1944 - 1945
b.1	"Thirty-Six Drawings of the Italian Campaign, WWII": album of photocopies of drawings with lengthy narratives; photographs of eleven drawings	1944 October 7 - 1945 April 19
b.1	"Pink Elephant" Mural: photocopies of original sketches, publicity	1942
b.1	"Training Cycle" mural: photocopies of photograph, notes, publicity	1942 - 1943
b.2	Originals of photocopies in box 1 Due to the fragile nature of the material, the originals in boxes 2 and 3 are restricted. Researchers should consult the photocopies in box 1.	
b.3	Originals of photocopies in box 1 Due to the fragile nature of the material, the originals in boxes 2 and 3 are restricted. Researchers should consult the photocopies in box 1.	

## **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.

### **Subjects**

Art and war  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Art and the war  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Campaigns -- Italy  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Italy

### **Geographic Names**

Italy -- History -- Allied occupation, 1943-1947 --  
Pictorial works

### **Occupations**

Artists

### **Names**

Caldwell, William Vinal