



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Bernarda Bryson  
Shahn Papers, 1872-2004, bulk  
1904-2004, in the Archives of American Art

Jean Fitzgerald

September 07, 2011

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Bernarda Bryson Shahn papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.brysberrn
<b>Date:</b>	1872-2004 (bulk 1904-2004)
<b>Extent:</b>	14.6 Linear feet 5.88 Gigabytes
<b>Creator:</b>	Bryson, Bernarda
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>The papers of painter, printmaker, and illustrator Bernarda Bryson Shahn measure 14.6 linear feet and 5.88 GB and date from 1872 to 2004, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1904-2004. Found within the papers are family and biographical materials, correspondence, writings including sound recordings of lectures by the Shahns, some in digital format, voluminous notebooks, five diaries, exhibition files, personal business records, printed material, seven scrapbooks, one sketchbook and other art work, and photographs. Although the bulk of the collection documents Bernarda's work, there are materials about or created by Ben Shahn scattered throughout the collection. There is a 2.7 linear foot unprocessed addition to this collection donated in 2011 that includes administrative files regarding Bernarda Shahn's work on the board of Skowhegan correspondence of both Bernarda and Ben Shahn; an inventory ledger with names of works of art by Ben Shahn; a scrapbook regarding Ben Shan's work in Japan; photographs of Ben and Bernarda Shahn and images of works of art by Ben Shahn; sketchbooks and notebooks by Ben and Bernarda Shahn; and printed material.</p>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Donated 1983 by Bernarada Bryson Shahn and in 2005 and 2011 by Bernarda Brsyon Shahn estate via Jonathan Shahn and Abigail Shahn, co-executors.

### Related Material

Also found in the Archives of American Art are two oral histories with Bernarda Bryson Shahn, one completed in 1983 by Liza Kirwin and another in 1995 by Pamela Meecham. The Archives also holds the Ben Shahn papers.

## Processing Information

The collection was arranged and described by Jean Fitzgerald in September 2011. An additional donation of papers is unprocessed. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2020 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

## Preferred Citation

Bernarda Bryson Shahn papers, 1872-2004, bulk 1904-2004. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

## Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment. Use of archival audiovisual recordings with no duplicate access copy requires advance notice.

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## Biographical Note

Bernarda Bryson Shahn (1903-2004) worked primarily in New Jersey as a painter, printmaker, and illustrator. She was married to Ben Shahn and often collaborated with him.

Bernarda Bryson was born on March 7, 1903 in Athens, Ohio, the daughter of the owner-editor of newspaper *The Athens Morning Journal*. After receiving early drawing and painting lessons from her mother, Bryson attended a private girls' school where she continued her studies in art and art history.

At Ohio University, Bryson majored in philosophy and attended art classes in which David Smith was a classmate. She later attended the Cleveland Art School where she studied printmaking.

Following graduation, Bryson taught etching and lithography at the art school of the Columbus Gallery of Fine Art. She also wrote for *The Ohio State Journal* and became editor of community paper *The South Side Advocate*. While in New York City to interview Diego Rivera, she met Ben Shahn who was assisting Rivera in painting the mural at Rockefeller Center. Bernarda Bryson and Ben Shahn were married in 1935.

Bernarda Bryson Shahn moved to New York and helped organize the Artists' Union and exhibited at the Whitney Gallery on Eighth Street. She then went to Woodstock to study lithography with Bolton Brown and was invited to set up a lithographic shop for the Resettlement Administration in Washington, D.C.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Bernarda Bryson Shahn executed illustrations for *Harper's Magazine*, *Scientific American* and *Fortune* in addition to random assignments from *Life*, *Sports Illustrated* and other publications. She illustrated many books including *Wuthering Heights* and *Pride and Prejudice* as well as writing and illustrating her own books *Gilgamesh*, *The Twenty Miracles of Saint Nicolas*, and *The Zoo*

*of Zeus*. Following the death of her husband in 1969, she wrote and designed a large monograph *Ben Shahn*, published by Abrams.

In the mid-1970s, Bernarda Bryson Shahn won further recognition when she returned to painting.

Bernarda Bryson Shahn died on December 12, 2004 in Roosevelt, New Jersey.

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## Scope and Content Note

The papers of painter, printmaker, and illustrator Bernarda Bryson Shahn measure 11.9 linear feet and 5.88 GB and date from 1872 to 2004, with the bulk of the materials dating from 1904-2004. Found within the papers are family and biographical materials, correspondence, writings including sound recordings of lectures by the Shahns, voluminous notebooks, five diaries, exhibition files, personal business records, printed material, seven scrapbooks, one sketchbook and other art work, and photographs. Although the bulk of the collection documents Bernarda's work, there are materials about or created by Ben Shahn scattered throughout the collection. There is a 2.7 linear foot unprocessed addition to this collection donated in 2011 that includes administrative files regarding Bernarda Shahn's work on the board of Skowhegan correspondence of both Bernarda and Ben Shahn; an inventory ledger with names of works of art by Ben Shahn; a scrapbook regarding Ben Shan's work in Japan; photographs of Ben and Bernarda Shahn and images of works of art by Ben Shahn; sketchbooks and notebooks by Ben and Bernarda Shahn; and printed material.

Biographical material includes biographical accounts for Bernarda and Ben Shahn, identification cards, membership cards, awards, appointment books and calendars, address books, and a video recording.

Correspondence is primarily between Bernarda Bryson Shahn and publishers, educational institutions, and colleagues and friends including Leo Lionni, Russell Lynes, Robert Osborn, and Warren Robbins.

There are four linear feet of notes, notebooks, typescripts, and other writings by Bernarda Bryson Shahn and others, many of which concern Ben Shahn. Included are numerous files of research notes for published and planned books about Ben Shahn, notebooks concerning art-related topics, card files of art work, lists, sound recordings of lectures by the Shahns and Gwen Knight, some in digital format, and many typescripts of writings about art and Ben Shahn, among other topics. There is also a folder of notes by Ben Shahn for the Mural for the Rural Rehabilitation Program. Five of Bernarda Shahn's diaries contain very brief daily entries and some illustrations. The 1972 diary contains much more elaborate illustrations.

The exhibition files contain letters, notes, and printed material concerning exhibitions of art work by Ben Shahn.

Personal business records include files concerning property, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, miscellaneous contracts, files concerning publishing, art price lists, and other scattered legal and/or financial records.

Printed material includes clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, press releases for Bernarda Bryson Shahn, Ben Shahn, and others, books including *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*, illustrated by Ben Shahn, and printed reproductions of art work. Seven scrapbooks also contain printed materials, notes, and photographs. Scrapbooks 1-4 document the creation of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial for which Jonathan Shahn created the large portrait bust. Scrapbooks 5-7 concern a book by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, and scrapbook 8 contains obituaries for Ben Shahn.

Art work includes a sketchbook with annotations, drawings, a portfolio of drawings, lettering designs, watercolor sketches, and layouts for publications.

Photographs are of unidentified and identified Shahn family members, Ben Shahn, Ben Shahn with friends and colleagues including Alexander Calder, Helen Hayes, Senator Jacob Javitz, and Nelson Rockefeller, Ben Shahn's studio, exhibition installations, and art work by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, Ben Shahn, and others. There are also travel photographs.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 11 series:

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1937-1999 (Box 1, 13; 35 folders)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1934-2004 (Box 1-5, 13, OV 14; 3.6 linear feet)
- Series 3: Notes and Writings, 1946-2001 (Box 5-9; 4.0 linear feet, ER01-ER09; 5.88 GB)
- Series 4: Diaries, 1965-1985 (Box 9; 5 folders)
- Series 5: Exhibition Files, 1955-2000 (Box 9; 5 folders)
- Series 6: Personal Business Records, 1932-2001 (Box 9, 10; 0.8 linear feet)
- Series 7: Printed Material, 1904-2004 (Box 10-11, 13, OV 14-15; 1.2 linear feet)
- Series 8: Scrapbooks, 1945-1978 (Box 11, 13, OV 15; 30 folders)
- Series 9: Art Work, 1970-2002 (Box 11-13, OV 14; 70 folders)
- Series 10: Photographs, 1872-1985 (Box 12; 34 folders)
- Series 11: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1904-2004 (Box 16-19, OV 20; 2.7 linear feet)

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Illustrators -- New Jersey -- Roosevelt  
Printmakers -- New Jersey -- Roosevelt  
Women artists -- New Jersey -- Roosevelt  
Women painters -- New Jersey -- Roosevelt

Types of Materials:

Diaries  
Drawings  
Photographs  
Scrapbooks  
Sketchbooks  
Sketches  
Sound recordings  
Watercolors

Names:

Calder, Alexander, 1898-1976 -- Photographs  
Hayes, Helen, 1900-1993  
Javitz, Jacob  
Knight, Gwendolyn  
Lionni, Leo, 1910-  
Lynes, Russell, 1910-1991  
Osborn, Robert Chesley, 1904-1994

Robbins, Warren M.  
Rockefeller, Nelson A. (Nelson Aldrich), 1908-1979  
Shahn, Ben, 1898-1969  
Shahn, Jonathan, 1938-

Occupations:

Painters -- New Jersey -- Roosevelt

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1937-1999

*35 Folders (Box 1, 13)*

Biographical Material includes a family history by Bernarda Bryson Shahn's aunt, biographical accounts for Ben and Bernarda Bryson Shahn, a passport and visa, membership cards and certificates, award certificates, appointment books and calendars containing brief entries, address books, and a video recording.

Box 1, Folder 1	Family History by Stella Bryson Collins, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Family Stories by Bernarda Shahn, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Biographical Accounts for the Whitney Museum, 1999
Box 1, Folder 4-9	Miscellaneous Biographical Accounts, 1967-1993, undated <i>(6 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 10	Biographical Material for Ben Shahn, 1945-1967, undated
Box 1, Folder 11	Passport and Visa for Bernarda Bryson Shahn, 1958-1980
Box 1, Folder 12	Library of Congress Card, 1937
Box 1, Folder 13	Membership Cards and Certificates, 1959-1994, undated
Box 1, Folder 14	Automobile Registration, 1995
Box 1, Folder 15	Award Certificates, 1956-1996, undated <i>(Oversized Material Housed in Box 13)</i>
Box 1, Folder 16-23	Appointment Books and Calendars, 1958-1998 <i>(8 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 24-29	Address Books, 1955-1956, undated <i>(6 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 30-34	Card File of Addresses, undated <i>(5 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 35	Unidentified Video Recording, undated <i>1 Videocassettes (VHS)</i>



Box 13, Folder 1

Two Oversized Award Certificates, 1956-1989,  
*(from Box 1, Folder 15)*

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1934-2004

### 3.6 Linear feet (Box 1-5, 13, OV 14)

Correspondence is primarily between Bernarda Bryson Shahn and publishers including Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., and Macmillan and Company, and educational institutions including the Fogg Museum and Ohio University. Correspondence is also between colleagues and friends including Leo Lionni, Russell Lynes, Robert Osborn, and Warren Robbins. There are one or two letters each from Alexander Calder, Buckminster Fuller, Robert Indiana, and Archibald MacLeish.

Box 1, Folder 36	Unidentified Correspondents, undated
Box 1, Folder 37-47	Correspondents with Unknown Surnames, undated (11 folders)
Box 1, Folder 48-49	Correspondents with Surnames "A,", undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 50-51	Correspondents with Surnames "B,", undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 52-53	Correspondents with Surnames "C,", undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 54	Correspondents with Surnames "D" - "E,", undated
Box 1, Folder 55	Correspondents with Surnames "F,", undated
Box 1, Folder 56	Correspondents with Surnames "G,", undated
Box 1, Folder 57-58	Correspondents with Surnames "H" - "I,", undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 59	Correspondents with Surnames "J" - "K,", undated
Box 1, Folder 60	Correspondents with Surnames "L,", undated
Box 1, Folder 61	Correspondents with Surnames "M,", undated (Oversized Material Housed in Box 13)
Box 1, Folder 62-64	Correspondents with Surnames "N" - "O,", undated (3 folders; Oversized Material Housed in OV 14)
Box 2, Folder 1	Correspondents with Surnames "P,", undated
Box 2, Folder 2-3	Correspondents with Surnames "R,", undated

	<i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 4-11	Correspondents with Surnames "S," undated <i>(8 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 12	Correspondents with Surnames "T," undated
Box 2, Folder 13	Correspondents with Surnames "V" - "Y," undated
Box 2, Folder 14	Correspondence, 1934-1943
Box 2, Folder 15	Correspondence, 1944-1945
Box 2, Folder 16	Correspondence, 1946
Box 2, Folder 17	Correspondence, 1947
Box 2, Folder 18-19	Correspondence, 1948 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 20	Correspondence, 1949
Box 2, Folder 21	Correspondence, 1950
Box 2, Folder 22-23	Correspondence, 1951 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 24	Correspondence, 1952-1953
Box 2, Folder 25	Correspondence, 1954
Box 2, Folder 26-27	Correspondence, 1955 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 28-29	Correspondence, 1956 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 30-31	Correspondence, 1957 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 32	Correspondence, 1958
Box 2, Folder 33	Correspondence, 1959

Box 2, Folder 34	Correspondence, 1960
Box 2, Folder 35-36	Correspondence, 1961 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 37-38	Correspondence, 1962 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 39-41	Correspondence, 1963 (3 folders)
Box 2, Folder 42-43	Correspondence, 1964 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 44	Correspondence, 1965
Box 2, Folder 45	Correspondence, 1966
Box 2, Folder 46-49	Correspondence, 1967 (4 folders)
Box 2, Folder 5-56	Correspondence, 1968 (7 folders)
Box 2, Folder 57-65	Correspondence, 1969 (9 folders)
Box 2, Folder 66-71	Correspondence, 1970 (6 folders)
Box 2, Folder 72-77	Correspondence, 1971 (6 folders)
Box 2, Folder 78-84	Correspondence, 1972 (7 folders)
Box 2, Folder 85-92	Correspondence, 1973 (8 folders)
Box 3, Folder 1-4	Correspondence, 1974 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 5-10	Correspondence, 1975 (6 folders)

Box 3, Folder 11-16	Correspondence, 1976 (6 folders)
Box 3, Folder 17-23	Correspondence, 1977 (7 folders)
Box 3, Folder 24-29	Correspondence, 1978 (6 folders)
Box 3, Folder 30-34	Correspondence, 1979 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 35-38	Correspondence, 1980 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 39-42	Correspondence, 1981 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 43-47	Correspondence, 1982 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 48-52	Correspondence, 1983 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 53-56	Correspondence, 1984 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 57-60	Correspondence, 1985 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 61-65	Correspondence, 1986 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 66-69	Correspondence, 1987 (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 70-74	Correspondence, 1988 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 75-79	Correspondence, 1989 (5 folders)
Box 3, Folder 80-82	Correspondence, 1990 (3 folders)
Box 4, Folder 1-4	Correspondence, 1990

	<i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 5-12	Correspondence, 1991 <i>(8 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 13-22	Correspondence, 1992 <i>(10 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 23-33	Correspondence, 1993 <i>(11 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 34-45	Correspondence, 1994 <i>(12 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 46-55	Correspondence, 1995 <i>(10 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 56-63	Correspondence, 1996 <i>(8 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 64-66	Correspondence, 1997 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 67-69	Correspondence, 1998 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 5, Folder 1-4	Correspondence, 1999 <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 5, Folder 5-6	Correspondence, 2000 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 5, Folder 7	Correspondence, 2001
Box 5, Folder 8	Correspondence, 2002-2003
Box 5, Folder 9	Correspondence, 2004
Box 13, Folder 1	An Oversized Illustrated Letter on Cloth from Joe Mason, undated, <i>(from Box 1, Folder 61)</i>
Oversize 14	Four Oversized Letters from Robert Osborn, undated, <i>(from Box 1, Folder 64)</i>

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## Series 3: Notes and Writings, 1946-2001

*4 Linear feet (Box 5-9)*

*5.88 Gigabytes (ER01-ER09)*

Notes and writings consist of miscellaneous notebooks concerning art-related topics, card files of art work and philosophical terms, address lists, miscellaneous lists, sound recordings of lectures by the Shahns and Gwen Knight, some in digital format, miscellaneous notes about art work and for publications, and typescripts for essays and books by Bernarda Bryson Shahn and others.

Box 5, Folder 10-23	Notebooks, undated (14 folders)
Box 5, Folder 24-29	Notebooks Concerning Images of Satan, 1951, undated (6 folders)
Box 6, Folder 1	Notebook, 1956-1964
Box 6, Folder 2	Notebook, 1966
Box 6, Folder 3	Notebook, 1970
Box 6, Folder 4	Notebook, 1981
Box 6, Folder 5	Notebook, 1984
Box 6, Folder 6	Notebook "Dates of Painting and Other Things," 1985
Box 6, Folder 7	Notebook, 1987
Box 6, Folder 8	Notebook, 1993
Box 6, Folder 9-10	Notebooks Concerning Devils and Monsters, 1994 (2 folders)
Box 6, Folder 11	Notebook, 1996
Box 6, Folder 12-16	Notebook "Reference: Bernarda Bryson Shahn's Published Material," 2005 (5 folders)
Box 6, Folder 17	Card File of Art Work, undated
Box 6, Folder 18	Card File of Philosophical Terms, undated
Box 6, Folder 19-21	Address Lists, undated

(3 folders)

- Box 6, Folder 22      Miscellaneous Addresses, undated
- Box 6, Folder 23      Lists of Items Judged for University Women's Organization in Tokyo, Japan, undated
- Box 6, Folder 24      "Howard Greenfield Material," , undated
- Box 6, Folder 25      List of Captions, undated
- Box 6, Folder 26      Lists of Names of People, undated
- Folder ER01          Lecture by Ben Shahn, Skowhegan (Undated), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.342 Gigabytes (Six computer files)*
- Folder ER02          Lecture by Ben Shahn at Skowhegan (1954), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.713 Gigabytes (14 computer files)*
- Folder ER03          Lecture by Ben Shahn at Skowhegan (1955), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*1.02 Gigabytes (21 computer files)*
- Folder ER04          Lecture by Ben Shahn at Skowhegan (1959), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.855 Gigabytes (18 computer files)*
- Folder ER05          Lecture by Ben Shahn at Skowhegan (1964), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*1 Gigabyte (21 computer files)*
- Folder ER06          Lecture by Bernarda Bryson Shahn at Skowhegan (1994), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.519 Gigabytes (Ten computer files)*
- Folder ER07          Lecture by Bernarda Bryson Shahn at Skowhegan (1995), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.399 Gigabytes (Eight computer files)*
- Folder ER08          Lecture by Bernarda Bryson Shahn and Gwen Knight at Skowhegan (1996), Digital Audio Recording,, 2014  
*0.582 Gigabytes (11 computer files)*
- Folder ER09          Lecture by Bernarda Bryson Shahn at Skowhegan (1997), Digital Audio Recording, 2014  
*0.445 Gigabytes (Eight computer files)*
- Box 6, Folder 30-32      Notes for Book on Ben Shahn, 1956-1971, undated



	<i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 6, Folder 33-41	Notes and Reproductions of Art Work for Book on Ben Shahn, undated <i>(9 folders)</i>
Box 6, Folder 42-44	Notes Concerning Art Work, 1968, undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 7, Folder 1-3	"Lists from Closet Walls," 1968, undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 7, Folder 4	Minutes of Meetings, 1968-1999
Box 7, Folder 5-6	Notes Concerning Trees in Roosevelt, New Jersey, 1974-1985 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 7, Folder 7	Notes Concerning Tokyo, Japan, 1980-1981
Box 7, Folder 8	Lists of Art Work from Retrospective Exhibition at Trenton City Museum, 1988
Box 7, Folder 9	Miscellaneous Notes about Ben Shahn by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, undated
Box 7, Folder 10-15	Miscellaneous Notes on 3.5-inch Floppy Discs, 1996-1997, undated <i>(6 folders) (Transfer of digital content not possible)</i>
Box 7, Folder 16-22	Miscellaneous Notes, 1946-2001, undated <i>(7 folders)</i>
Box 7, Folder 23	Typescript "About Sidney," undated
Box 7, Folder 24	Typescript "Alfred Dreyfus and Ben Shahn," undated
Box 7, Folder 25	Typescript "Art and/or Consciousness," undated
Box 7, Folder 26	Typescript "An Artistic Incident - The News Called It," undated
Box 7, Folder 27	Typescript "Anecdotes of Apollinaire," undated
Box 7, Folder 28	Typescript "Chaos," undated
Box 7, Folder 29	Typescript for Novel <i>Flight 112</i> , undated
Box 7, Folder 30	Typescript "The FSA File," undated

Box 7, Folder 31 Manuscript for *Play I and Self*, undated

Box 7, Folder 32 Typescript "Immortality of the Life of the Great Magician Cornelio Agrippa," undated

Box 7, Folder 33 Typescript "Legend for the Cartoon," undated

Box 7, Folder 34 Typescripts "A Letter to Many Friends" and "A Letter to My Italian Friends," undated

Box 7, Folder 35-37 Typescripts for Short Story "Lunch Hour," undated  
(3 folders)

Box 7, Folder 38 Typescript "Notes in the Search for a Definition of Quality in Prints," undated

Box 7, Folder 39 Typescript "Ode to Barbara," undated

Box 7, Folder 40 Typescript "Of the Taller Archive of Ben Shahn's Works," undated

Box 7, Folder 41 Typescript "Of the Wooden Mannequin," undated

Box 7, Folder 42 Typescript "The Other Side of the Painting," undated

Box 7, Folder 43 Typescript "Passage," undated

Box 7, Folder 44 Typescript "Philosophy and/or Art," undated

Box 7, Folder 45 Typescript "Possible Sequence of Ideas," undated

Box 7, Folder 46 Typescript "The Problem of Artistic Creation in America Today," undated

Box 7, Folder 47 Typescript "The Reel-Foot Lake Snake," undated

Box 7, Folder 48 Typescript "The Skowhegan Idea," undated

Box 7, Folder 49 Typescript "What Really Happened," undated

Box 7, Folder 50 Typescript "The Wonderful World of Conjecture," undated

Box 7, Folder 51 Typescripts for Untitled Stories, undated

Box 7, Folder 52 Poems, undated

- Box 7, Folder 53      Typescript on Communism, 1948
- Box 7, Folder 54-55      Typescripts on Japanese Printmaking, 1954-1959  
(2 folders)
- Box 7, Folder 56      Typescript "Love and Joy about Letters," 1963
- Box 7, Folder 57-76      Drafts for Book *Ben Shahn's Drawings*, undated  
(20 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 1-24      Drafts for Book *Ben Shahn's Drawings*, undated  
(24 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 25-29      Notes and Drafts for Book *The Legend of Gilgamesh*, 1872 - 2004  
(5 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 30-36      Draft for Book *Images of Satan*, undated  
(7 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 37-46      Notes and Drafts for Book *Twenty Miracles of Saint Nicholas*, 1958  
(10 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 47-53      Drafts for Book about Ben Shahn by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, 1972  
(7 folders)
- Box 8, Folder 54      Typescript "Ben Shahn: Photographs and Paintings," 1985
- Box 8, Folder 55      Typescript for Play *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, 1993
- Box 8, Folder 56      Typescript for Speech, 1993
- Box 8, Folder 57      Typescript "Third Allegory," 1994
- Box 8, Folder 58      Notes and Drafts for "The Zoo of Zeus," 1997
- Box 8, Folder 59      Miscellaneous Typescripts, undated
- Box 8, Folder 60      Typescript "Ben Shahn: Major American Artist" by Unidentified Author, undated
- Box 8, Folder 61      Typescript "Ben Shahn" by Unidentified Author, undated
- Box 8, Folder 62      Typescript "The White Gyrfalcon" by Charlton Ogburn, Jr., undated
- Box 8, Folder 63      Typescript about Ben Shahn "Self Arte," 1953

Box 8, Folder 64      Typescript by Carla Appel, 1998

Box 8, Folder 65      Typescript "Reconsidering the Hale County Record: Notes on Two Walker Evans Albums in the Library of Congress" by Beverly W. Brannan and Judith Keller, 1994

Box 8, Folder 66      Typescript "David Stone Martin" by Carmen Capalbo, undated

Box 8, Folder 67      Typescript by Ruth Eisenstein, undated

Box 8, Folder 68      Typescript "Pomegranada" by H. M. Koutoukas, undated

Box 8, Folder 69      Poem by Edward Locke, undated

Box 8, Folder 70      Poems by Gerald Metz, 1964, undated

Box 8, Folder 71      Typescript "Ben Shahn, Mon Ami Tres Cher,?" by Fernand Mourlot, undated

Box 8, Folder 72      Typescript by Norman Nadel, undated

Box 8, Folder 73      Typescript "Ben Shahn's Mural in Roosevelt, N. J." by Sarah Peskin, 1970

Box 8, Folder 74      Typescript "Originality in Graphic Arts" by the Print Council of America, undated

Box 8, Folder 75      Typescript of the Dreyfus Introduction, 1983

Box 8, Folder 76      Miscellaneous Typescripts by Warren Robbins, 1987-1993

Box 9, Folder 1      Typescript "Depression Years" by Edwin Rosskam, undated

Box 9, Folder 2      Typescript "Not Intended for Framing" by Edwin Rosskam, undated

Box 9, Folder 3      Typescript "Hildilid's Night" by Cheli Duran Ryan, undated

Box 9, Folder 4      Typescript "Ben Shahn" by J. T. S., undated

Box 9, Folder 5      Typescript "Ben Shahn and his Community" by Meredith Schor, 1992

Box 9, Folder 6      Notes by Ben Shahn for the Mural for the Rural Rehabilitation Program, undated

Box 9, Folder 7      Typescript "Imagination and Intention" possibly by Ben Shahn, undated

Box 9, Folder 8	Typescript "American Painting for the Past Twenty-Five Years" by Ben Shahn, 1951
Box 9, Folder 9	Typescript for Talk "The Aspen Papers" by Ben Shahn, 1953
Box 9, Folder 10	Handwritten Page by Ben Shahn, 1966
Box 9, Folder 11	Typescript by Charles Westheimer, undated
Box 9, Folder 12	Typescript "There's Power in the Brush" by Margareet Zoutewelle, 1996
Box 9, Folder 13	Miscellaneous Typescripts by Others, undated

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## Series 4: Diaries, 1965-1985

### *5 Folders (Box 9)*

Bernarda Bryson Shahn 's diaries contain very brief daily entries and some illustrations. The 1972 diary contains much more elaborate illustrations.

Box 9, Folder 14          Diary, 1965

Box 9, Folder 15          Diary, 1972

Box 9, Folder 16          Diary, 1973

Box 9, Folder 17          Diary, 1974

Box 9, Folder 18          Diary, 1985

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## Series 5: Exhibition Files, 1955-2000

### *5 Folders (Box 9)*

These files contain letters, notes, and printed material concerning exhibitions of art work by Ben Shahn.

Box 9, Folder 19-20	Ben Shahn Exhibition in Spoleto, Italy, 1955-1958 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 21	Ben Shahn Exhibition at the Salas Pablo Ruiz Picasso in Madrid, Spain, 1983-1985
Box 9, Folder 22	Ben Shahn Exhibition at the Starr Gallery in Newton Centre, Massachusetts, 1990
Box 9, Folder 23	Ben Shahn Exhibition at the Tama Art University Museum in Kaminoge, Tokyo, Japan, 2000

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## Series 6: Personal Business Records, 1932-2001

*0.8 Linear feet (Box 9, 10)*

Personal business records include of files concerning property owned by Bernarda Bryson Shahn 's parents, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, art legislation matters, miscellaneous contracts, files documenting Bernarda Bryson Shahn 's interactions with Harry N. Abrams, Inc. and the Midtown Galleries, records of payments and royalties from miscellaneous publishing houses, price lists, income tax records, loan agreements, insurance records, and miscellaneous receipts.

Box 9, Folder 24	File Concerning Property Owned by Bernarda Bryson Shahn 's Parents, 1965-1968
Box 9, Folder 25-29	File on Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 1968-2001 <i>(5 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 30-31	File Concerning Art Legislation, 1976-1992, undated <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 32	By-Laws of Roosevelt Arts Project, Inc., 1996
Box 9, Folder 33-36	Contracts, 1954-1990, undated <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 37-40	File Concerning Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1971-1994, undated <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 41-45	File Concerning Midtown Galleries, 1983-1994, undated <i>(5 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 46	Records of Payments from Publications, 1946-1967
Box 9, Folder 47	Royalty Statements: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1969-1973
Box 9, Folder 48-50	Royalty Statements: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1960-1984 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 9, Folder 51	Royalty Statements: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1956-1973
Box 9, Folder 52	Royalty Statements: Little, Brown and Company, 1960-1969
Box 9, Folder 53	Royalty Statements: Macmillan Company, 1966-1973
Box 9, Folder 54	Royalty Statements: Visual artists' and Galleries Association, Inc. (VAGA), 1992-1996
Box 9, Folder 55	Miscellaneous Royalty Statements, 1949-1970, undated



Box 9, Folder 56-61	Price Lists for Art Work, 1960-1999, undated (6 folders)
Box 10, Folder 1	Records of Works Sold, 1956-1988
Box 10, Folder 2	Payment Receipts for Art Work, 1934-1996
Box 10, Folder 3	Income Tax Records, 1948-1990
Box 10, Folder 4-6	Loan Agreements, 1955-1999, undated (3 folders)
Box 10, Folder 7	Deeds of Gift, 1970-1999, undated
Box 10, Folder 8	Insurance Records, 1969-1996
Box 10, Folder 9	Requests for Permission to Reproduce Images, 1963-1999
Box 10, Folder 10-11	Shipment Receipts, 1963-1997, undated (2 folders)
Box 10, Folder 12-14	Miscellaneous Receipts, 1941-1997, undated (3 folders)
Box 10, Folder 15	Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1932-1994, undated

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## Series 7: Printed Material, 1904-2004

### 1.2 Linear feet (Box 10-11, 13, OV 14-15)

Printed material includes clippings, prospectuses, exhibition announcements and catalogs for Bernarda Bryson Shahn, Ben Shahn, and others, press releases, calendars of events, programs, miscellaneous brochures and booklets, books including *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*, illustrated by Ben Shahn, reproductions of art work, and miscellaneous printed material.

Box 10, Folder 16-46	Clippings, 1904-2004, undated (31 folders)
Box 10, Folder 47-52	Clippings of Bernarda Bryson Shahn's Illustrations, undated (6 folders)
Box 10, Folder 53	Prospectuses, 1939-1993, undated
Box 10, Folder 54-64	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1933-2002, undated (11 folders)
Box 10, Folder 65-74	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Ben Shahn, 1932-2002, undated (10 folders)
Box 10, Folder 75	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Abby Shahn, 1987-1988
Box 10, Folder 76-77	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Jonathan Shahn, 1972-2001, undated (2 folders)
Box 10, Folder 78	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Judith Shahn, 1979-1996, undated
Box 10, Folder 79-80	Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs for Others, 1961-2002, undated (2 folders)
Box 11, Folder 1-2	Press Releases, 1964-1998, undated (2 folders)
Box 11, Folder 3	Calendars of Events, 1970-2000
Box 11, Folder 4-6	Programs, 1967-1996, undated (3 folders)
Box 11, Folder 7-9	Brochures for the Sale of Art Work, 1969-1994, undated (3 folders)
Box 11, Folder 10	Brochures for Art Classes, 1991-1997, undated

- Box 11, Folder 11-12      Brochures for the Sale of Books, 1967, undated  
(2 folders)
- Box 11, Folder 13      Miscellaneous Brochures, 1982-1999, undated
- Box 11, Folder 14      Booklet "Pickaxe and Pencil: References for the Study of the WPA," 1982
- Box 11, Folder 15      Book *Ben Shahn*, 1947
- Box 11, Folder 16      Book *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*, illustrated by Ben Shahn, 1949
- Box 11, Folder 17      Miscellaneous Book Covers, 1976, undated  
(*Oversized Material Housed in Box 13*)
- Box 11, Folder 18-22      Miscellaneous Reproductions of Art Work, undated  
(5 folders; *Oversized Material Housed in Box 13*)
- Box 11, Folder 23      Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1948-1972, undated  
(*Oversized Material Housed in Box 13 and OV 15*)
- Box 13, Folder 1      Oversized Cover for Book *A Vision Shared*, 1976,  
(from Box 11, Folder 17)
- Box 13, Folder 1      Oversized Reproduction of Art Work, undated,  
(from Box 11, Folder 22)
- Box 13, Folder 1      Oversized Poster of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, undated,  
(from Box 11, Folder 23)
- Enlarge 14      Oversized Exhibition Announcement for Bernarda Bryson Shahn, 1993,  
(from Box 10, Folder 59)
- Enlarge 15      Two Oversized Blue Prints for a Chapel, 1966,  
(from Box 11, Folder 23)

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## Series 8: Scrapbooks, 1945-1978

*30 Folders (Box 11, 13, OV 15)*

Scrapbooks 1-4 contain letters including one from Dag Hammaarskjold, notes, printed material, and photographs documenting the creation of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial for which Jonathan Shahn created the large portrait bust. Scrapbooks 5-7 contain notes, reproductions of art work, and photographs of images of the devil for a book by Bernarda Bryson Shahn . Scrapbook 8 contains obituaries for Ben Shahn, assembled by Zackary Gitlin.

Box 11, Folder 24-26	Scrapbook 1 for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 1945-1961, undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 11, Folder 27-31	Scrapbook 2 for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 1961 <i>(5 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 13)</i>
Box 11, Folder 32-34	Scrapbook 3 for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 1961 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 11, Folder 35-40	Scrapbook 4 for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, 1961-1962 <i>(6 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 13 and OV 15)</i>
Box 11, Folder 41-43	Scrapbook 5: "Images of the Devil," undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 11, Folder 44-47	Scrapbook 6: "Images of the Devil," 1978, undated <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 11, Folder 48-52	Scrapbook 7: "Images of the Devil," 1978, undated <i>(5 folders)</i>
Box 13, Folder 2	Two Oversized Drawings and a Blue Print of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial from Scrapbook 2, 1961, <i>(from Box 11, Folder 28)</i>
Box 13, Folder 3	Oversized Accountant's Report for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial from Scrapbook 4, 1962, <i>(from Box 11, Folder 37)</i>
Box 13, Folder 3	Oversized Blue Print of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial from Scrapbook 4, 1962, <i>(from Box 11, Folder 38)</i>
Box 13, Folder 4	Oversized Scrapbook 8: Ben Shahn Obituaries Assembled by Zackary Gitlin, 1969
Oversize 15	Four Oversized Blue Prints of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial from Scrapbook 4, 1961,

*(from Box 11, Folder 38)*

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## Series 9: Art Work, 1970-2002

70 Folders (Box 11-13, OV 14)

Art work includes a sketchbook with annotations, drawings, a portfolio of drawings, lettering designs, watercolor sketches, and layouts for miscellaneous books, booklets, and an exhibition catalog.

Box 11, Folder 53	Sketchbook with Annotations, 2002
Box 11, Folder 54-56	Drawings, undated (3 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 13)
Box 11, Folder 57-62	Portfolio of Drawings for the Thanks Poster, Bronx Mural, Jamaica, N.Y. Mural, and the Wisconsin (or Missouri) Mural, undated (6 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 13 and OV 14)
Box 11, Folder 63	Lettering Designs, 1982, undated
Box 11, Folder 64	Watercolor Sketches, undated
Box 11, Folder 65	Layout for Book of Poetry with Illustrations by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, undated
Box 11, Folder 66	Layout for Book <i>Which is What</i> , undated
Box 11, Folder 67	Layout for Unidentified Booklet, undated
Box 12, Folder 1	Layout for Exhibition Catalog, 1983
Box 12, Folder 2	Drawing by JoAnn Jones, 1997
Box 13, Folder 1	Oversized Drawing, undated, (from Box 11, Folder 55)
Box 13, Folder 1	Oversized Layout Design for Cover of Book <i>The Grindstone of God</i> , 1970
Box 13, Folder 5	Oversized Portfolio Cover, undated, (from Box 11, Folder 57)
Box 13, Folder 6	Ten Oversized Portfolio Drawings, undated, (from Box 11, Folder 57)
Box 13, Folder 7	Oversized Layout for a Book by Ben Shahn, undated
Oversize 14	Oversized Drawing from the Portfolio, undated, (from Box 11, Folder 57)

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## Series 10: Photographs, 1872-1985

### *34 Folders (Box 12)*

Photographs are of unidentified ancestors, Ben Shahn, Shahn family members, Ben Shahn with friends and colleagues including Alexander Calder, Helen Hayes, Senator Jacob Javitz, and Nelson Rockefeller, Ben Shahn's studio, exhibition installations, and art work by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, Ben Shahn, and others. There are also press photographs of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and President Bill Clinton and travel photographs of Malta.

Box 12, Folder 3	Photographs of Ancestors, 1872, undated
Box 12, Folder 4	Photographs of Ben Shahn, Bernarda Bryson Shahn, and Family, undated
Box 12, Folder 5	Photographs of Ben Shahn and Colleagues, undated
Box 12, Folder 6	Press Photographs of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and of President Clinton, 1942, undated
Box 12, Folder 7	Photographs of Miscellaneous Friends, 1944-1967, undated
Box 12, Folder 8-10	Photographs of Artists' Union Demonstrations by Ben Shahn, 1934-1935 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 12, Folder 11	Photograph of Ben Shahn's Studio, undated
Box 12, Folder 12	Photographs of Exhibition Installations, 1977, undated
Box 12, Folder 13	Photographs of Art Work by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, undated
Box 12, Folder 14-25	Photographs of Art Work by Ben Shahn, 1961-1978, undated <i>(12 folders)</i>
Box 12, Folder 26	Photographs of Art Work by Ben Shahn in Bernarda Bryson Shahn's Collection, undated
Box 12, Folder 27	Photographs of Miscellaneous Book Layouts, undated
Box 12, Folder 28	Photographs of Drawings by James Kearns, undated
Box 12, Folder 29	Photographs of Sculpture by James Kearns, undated
Box 12, Folder 30	Photographs of Sculpture by Charles Wells, 1985, undated
Box 12, Folder 31	Photographs of Art Work by Others, undated



- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Box 12, Folder 32-34 | Travel Photographs of Malta, 1980<br><i>(3 folders)</i> |
| Box 12, Folder 35    | Miscellaneous Travel Photographs, undated               |
| Box 12, Folder 36    | Miscellaneous Photographs, undated                      |

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## Series 11: Unprocessed Addition, circa 1904-2004

### *2.7 Linear feet (Boxes 16-19, OV 20)*

The unprocessed addition includes administrative files regarding Bernarda Shahn's work on the board of Skowhegan correspondence of both Bernarda and Ben Shahn; an inventory ledger with names of works of art by Ben Shahn; a scrapbook regarding Ben Shan's work in Japan; photographs of Ben and Bernarda Shahn and images of works of art by Ben Shahn; sketchbooks and notebooks by Ben and Bernarda Shahn; and printed material.

Box 16	Bernarda Bryson Shahn Unprocessed Papers, circa 1904-2004
Box 17	Bernarda Bryson Shahn Unprocessed Papers, circa 1904-2004
Box 18	Oversized Bernarda Bryson Shahn Unprocessed Papers, circa 1904-2004
Box 19	Oversized Bernarda Bryson Shahn Unprocessed Papers, circa 1904-2004
Oversize 20	Oversized Bernarda Bryson Shahn Unprocessed Papers, circa 1904-2004

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