



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the James Daugherty Papers,  
1904-1978, in the Archives of American Art

Hilary Price

2018/10/02

Archives of American Art  
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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>	James Daugherty papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.daugjame
<b>Date:</b>	1904-1978
<b>Extent:</b>	6.5 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Daugherty, James Henry, 1889-1974
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>The papers of painter, muralist, children's book author and illustrator James Daugherty measure 6.5 linear feet and date from 1904-1978. The papers document Daugherty's career and artistic process through a small amount of biographical material, correspondence, writings, printed material, and sketchbooks. The 150 sketchbooks span seven decades and are the bulk and highlight of this collection. They contain preparatory drawings and sketches for artworks, murals, and illustrations, as well mock-ups for books, travel sketches, and a good deal of writing. Daugherty worked in both a non-objective abstract style and in representational illustration. His illustrations depict biblical stories and familiar characters and caricatures from American folklore including Revolutionary War heroes, Native Americans, American explorers and frontiersman.</p>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives of American Art in 1993 by Charles Daugherty, Daugherty's son, and in 2017 by the James Daugherty Foundation, via John Solum, Trustee.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Hilary Price in 2018.

### Preferred Citation

James Daugherty papers, 1904-1978. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

James Daugherty (1889-1974) was a painter, muralist, children's book author and illustrator in Weston, Connecticut. Born in Asheville, North Carolina, the Daugherty family moved first to Ohio, then to Washington D.C. where Daugherty spent his adolescence. He studied art at the Corcoran Art Institute, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, the National Academy of Design in New York City, and with Frank Brangwyn in London. Daugherty was a member of the Society of Independent Artists and was featured in their 1917 exhibition. His artwork has also been featured in exhibitions at the Whitney Museum and the Museum of Modern Art. As part of the Public Works of Art Project, he created murals at the State Theatre in Cleveland, Ohio and at the Ferguson Library in Stamford, Connecticut. Daugherty also wrote and illustrated several children's books including *Andy and the Lion*, and *Daniel Boone* for which he won the Newberry medal in 1940.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of painter, muralist, children's book author and illustrator James Daugherty measure 6.5 linear feet and date from 1904-1978. The papers document Daugherty's career and artistic process through a small amount of biographical material, correspondence, writings, printed material, and sketchbooks. The 150 sketchbooks span seven decades and are the bulk and highlight of this collection. They contain preparatory drawings and sketches for artworks, murals, and illustrations, as well mock-ups for books, travel sketches, and a good deal of writing. Daugherty worked in both a non-objective abstract style and in representational illustration. His illustrations depict biblical stories and familiar characters and caricatures from American folklore including Revolutionary War heroes, Native Americans, American explorers and frontiersman.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged as five series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1911-1965 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1911-1978 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 3: Writings, 1940-1960 (Box 1; 2 folders)
- Series 4: Printed Material, 1917-1975 (Box 1, 1 folder)
- Series 5: Sketchbooks, 1904-1974 (Boxes 1-11, OV's 12-13; 6.3 linear feet)

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks

Occupations:

Illustrators -- Connecticut -- Weston

Muralists -- Connecticut -- Weston

Painters -- Connecticut -- Weston

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1911-1965

#### *1 Folder (Box 1)*

Biographical material includes Daugherty's membership card to the Society of Independent Artists, a partially completed questionnaire from the Museum of Modern Art, a copy of a certificate from the National Academy of Design, and an autobiographical writing.

Box 1, Folder 1

Biographical Material, 1911-1965

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1911-1978

### *0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Correspondence is predominantly professional and contains both incoming letters and copies and drafts of outgoing letters. Correspondents are art collectors, publishers, museums, and libraries, and topics pertain to commissions, writing projects, the exhibition of Daugherty's artworks, and the purchase, sale, and donation of artworks including those by other artists, Jay Van Everen and Arthur B. Frost.

Box 1, Folder 2	Chronological Correspondence, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Chronological Correspondence, 1910s
Box 1, Folder 4	Chronological Correspondence, 1930s
Box 1, Folder 5	Chronological Correspondence, 1940s
Box 1, Folder 6	Chronological Correspondence, 1950s
Box 1, Folder 7	Chronological Correspondence, 1960s
Box 1, Folder 8	Chronological Correspondence, 1970s

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## Series 3: Writings, 1940-1960

### *2 Folders (Box 1)*

Writings include fragments of stories by Daugherty, one titled "A Memoir of Arthur B. Frost Jr.," and another about Normal Rockwell. One writing pertains to art instruction. The series also contains a writing by Thomas Hart Benton about painter William Scott.

Box 1, Folder 9            Writings by James Daugherty, 1940s-1950s

Box 1, Folder 10        Writings by Others, 1940

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## Series 4: Printed Material, 1917-1975

### *1 Folder (Box 1)*

Printed material includes one newspaper clipping, one exhibition catalog, and one press release pertaining to Daugherty's career.

Box 1, Folder 11

Printed Material, 1917-1975

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## Series 5: Sketchbooks, 1904-1974

### 6.3 *Linear feet (Boxes 1-11, OVs 12-13)*

The bulk of the collection is comprised of 150 sketchbooks by Daugherty that span seven decades. Sketchbooks contain preparatory drawings and sketches for abstract and representational artworks, murals, and illustrations, as well mock-ups for books about Daniel Boone and Paul Bunyan, travel sketches and cityscapes, and a good deal of writing including drafts of Daugherty's stories for children. Daugherty worked in both a non-objective abstract style and in representational illustration. His illustrations depict biblical stories and familiar characters and caricatures from American folklore including Revolutionary War heroes, Native Americans, American explorers, and frontiersman. Drawings and sketches are done in charcoal, pastel, pencil, ink, and watercolor.

Box 4, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1904
Box 1, Folder 12	Sketchbook, England Travel Notebook with Sketches, 1905
Box 1, Folder 13	Sketchbook, France, 1905
Box 1, Folder 14	Sketchbooks (2), London; Paris and Rome, 1905
Box 1, Folder 15	Sketchbook, London, 1905
Box 1, Folder 16	Sketchbook, England, 1905-1907
Box 1, Folder 17	Sketchbook, England and the Continent, 1905-1907
Box 7, Folder 1	Sketchbook, London and Leona, New Jersey, 1905-1909
Box 7, Folder 2	Sketchbook, Florence and Venice and Palisades, New Jersey, circa 1905-1909
Box 1, Folder 18	Sketchbook, Washington, D.C., circa 1910
Box 4, Folder 2	Sketchbook, New York City, 1910-1920
Box 1, Folder 19	Sketchbook, circa 1911
Box 4, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1912
Box 1, Folder 20	Sketchbook, circa 1915-1920
Box 1, Folder 21	Sketchbook, circa 1918
Box 1, Folder 22	Sketchbook, circa 1918-1920
Box 1, Folder 23	Sketchbook, Connecticut, circa 1925

Box 4, Folder 4	Sketchbook, Biblical Sketchbook, circa 1925-1940
Box 1, Folder 24	Sketchbook, 1927
Box 7, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1929
Box 7, Folder 4	Sketchbook, circa 1929
Box 1, Folder 25	Sketchbook, Daniel Boone, 1920s
Box 1, Folder 26	Sketchbook, New Yorker Idea, 1920s
Box 1, Folder 27	Sketchbook, Paul Bunyan, Book Mock-up, 1920s
Box 1, Folder 28	Sketchbook (disbound), 1920s
Box 1, Folder 29	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 1, Folder 30	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 1, Folder 31	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 2, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1920s Includes letters from and story by son.
Box 2, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 2, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 4, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1920s
Box 2, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1931
Box 2, Folder 5	Sketchbook, circa 1938
Box 2, Folder 6	Sketchbook, Text for "The Mountain Man", circa 1939
Box 2, Folder 7	Sketchbook (disbound), 1930s
Box 2, Folder 8	Sketchbook, A Note on Early Life in Washington, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 9	Sketchbook, Notes and Sketches for Daniel Boone, 1930s

Box 2, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 12	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 13	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 14	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 15	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 16	Sketchbook, 1930s Includes notes by John Stuart Curry
Box 4, Folder 6	Sketchbook, "The Unfaithful Trousers" (unfinished), 1930s
Box 4, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 4, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 7, Folder 5	Sketchbook (disbound), 1930s
Box 7, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 7, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 8, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 8, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 11, Folder 1	Sketchbook, Breadline and Unemployment, 1930s
Box 11, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1930s
Box 2, Folder 17	Sketchbook, President Abraham Lincoln, circa 1940
Box 2, Folder 18	Sketchbook, circa 1940
Box 4, Folder 9	Sketchbook, President Abraham Lincoln, circa 1940
Box 2, Folder 19	Sketchbook, 1946

Mostly notes.

Box 8, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1946
Box 2, Folder 20	Sketchbook, Southwest Landscape, 1947
Box 2, Folder 21	Sketchbook, Travel Journal with Sketches, 1947
Box 2, Folder 22	Sketchbook, 1947
Box 2, Folder 23	Sketchbook, 1947
Box 2, Folder 24	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 2, Folder 25	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 2, Folder 26	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 4, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 4, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 4, Folder 12	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 4, Folder 13	Sketchbook, 1940s
Box 3, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1956-1964
Box 3, Folder 7	Sketchbook, "Cinders and Aunt Emmaline", 1957
Box 3, Folder 8	Sketchbook, Children's Book, 1959
Box 3, Folder 9	Sketchbook, 1950s

Box 3, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 3, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 3, Folder 12	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 3, Folder 13	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 3, Folder 14	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 4, Folder 14	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 8, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1950s
Oversize 12	Sketchbook, 1950s
Box 3, Folder 15	Sketchbook, circa 1960
Box 3, Folder 16	Sketchbook, 1961
Box 3, Folder 17	Sketchbook, 1963
Box 3, Folder 18	Sketchbook, 1964-1965
Box 3, Folder 19	Sketchbook, 1966
Box 3, Folder 20	Sketchbook, 1966
Box 8, Folder 5	Sketchbook, Thoreau and Other Drawings, 1966
Box 3, Folder 21	Sketchbook, 1967
Box 3, Folder 22	Sketchbook, 1967
Box 8, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1968
Box 8, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1968
Box 3, Folder 23	Sketchbook, 1968-1969
Box 8, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1969

Box 8, Folder 9	Sketchbook, 1969
Box 8, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1969
Box 3, Folder 24	Sketchbook, 1969-1970
Box 3, Folder 25	Sketchbook, 1969-1973
Box 3, Folder 26	Sketchbook, President L.B. Johnson (on T.V.), 1960s
Box 5, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 5, Folder 9	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 6, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1960s

Box 9, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1960s
Box 9, Folder 9	Sketchbook, 1970
Box 9, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1970
Box 9, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1970
Box 10, Folder 1	Sketchbook, 1970
Box 6, Folder 9	Sketchbook, circa 1970
Box 10, Folder 2	Sketchbook, 1971
Box 10, Folder 3	Sketchbook, 1973
Box 6, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 6, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1970s



Box 10, Folder 8	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 9	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 10	Sketchbook, 1970s
Box 10, Folder 11	Sketchbook, 1970s
Oversize 13	Sketchbook, 1970s

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