



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Allen Saalburg
Papers, 1924-circa 2003, bulk 1940-1987,
in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Allen Saalburg papers
Identifier:	AAA.saalalle
Date:	1924-circa 2003 (bulk 1940-1987)
Extent:	0.8 Linear feet
Creator:	Saalburg, Allen Russell, 1899-1987
Language:	English The collection is in English.
Summary:	The papers of painter, illustrator, and screenprinter Allen Saalburg, 1924-circa 2003, bulk 1940-1987, measure 0.8 linear feet. Included are professional correspondence, printed material, a scrapbook and photographs. Most photographs are of Saalburg and his artwork. Also found are biographical material and subject files.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Executor Prudence Crowther donated the Allen Saalburg papers in 2004.

Processing Information

The collection was processed to a minimum level and a finding aid prepared by Catherine S. Gaines in 2013. Minimal processing included arrangement to the series, subseries, and folder levels. Generally, items within folders were simply verified with the original folder titles, but not arranged further. The collection was rehoused in archival containers and folders, but not all staples and clips were removed.

Preferred Citation

Allen Saalburg papers, 1924-circa 2003, bulk 1940-1987. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original material requires an appointment.

Restrictions

The Allen Saalburg papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical / Historical

Allen Saalburg (1899-1987) was a painter, illustrator, and innovative screenprinter who spent most of his career working in Frenchtown, New Jersey. From 1917 to 1920 he studied painting at the Pratt Institute and the Art Students League. In the late 1920s, Saalburg worked in Paris and had a solo exhibition at Galerie Bernheim-Jeune before returning to New York in 1930.

Throughout his career, Saalburg illustrated covers for popular magazines. His paintings were shown in group exhibitions at the Art Institute of Chicago and Whitney Museum of American Art. Solo exhibitions included shows at Grand Central Galleries and Kraushaar Galleries in New York, and others in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He produced complex prints based on his paintings and experimented with screenprinting onto non-traditional surfaces. A piece on plastic panels was commissioned for a pavillion at the 1964 New York World's Fair.

Allen Saalburg's marriage to Muriel King, a costume and fashion designer, ended in divorce. His second wife was Mary Faulconer, a painter. Allen Saalburg died in 1987 in Flemington, New Jersey.

Scope and Contents

The papers of painter, illustrator, and screenprinter Allen Saalburg, 1924-circa 2003, bulk 1940-1987, measure 0.8 linear feet. Included are professional correspondence, printed material, and a scrapbook. Most photographs are of Saalburg and his artwork. Also found are biographical material and subject files.

Biographical material consists of a chronology. Correspondence is with New York Graphic Society and Bucks County Historical Society, Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Business conducted by Canal Press and exhibitions at Ink River Gallery are documented in the subject files. Books and World War II posters illustrated by Saalburg are among the printed material. A scrapbook consists mainly of printed material illustrated by Saalburg. Photographs include views of his home in Uhlerstown, Pennsylvania and the studio, Canal Press, in Frenchtown, New Jersey. Also found are photographs of a trip to Albrook Air Force Base, Panama Canal Zone, where he participated in an exhibition featuring paintings of military planes.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as 6 series.

- Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 2003 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1956-1969, 1982-1983 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 3: Subject Files, circa 1950s-1994 (Box 1; 0.1 linear feet)
- Series 4: Printed Material, 1940-circa 1980s (Boxes 1-2, OV 3; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 5: Scrapbook, 1924-1927, 1941-1947 (Box 2; 0.1 linear feet)
- Series 6: Photographs, circa 1930-circa 1980s (Box 1; 0.1 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists' studios -- Photographs
Illustrators -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York
Printers -- New York (State) -- New York
World War, 1939-1945 -- Posters -- United States

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Scrapbooks

Names:

Bucks County Historical Society
Canal Press
Ink River Gallery
New York Graphic Society

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, circa 2003

1 Folder (Box 1)

The chronology, compiled by Joseph Ruzicka, a researcher hired by the donor, is a photocopy.

Box 1, Folder 1

Allen Russell Saalburg Chronology , circa 2003

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1982-1983, circa 1956-1969

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Correspondence concerns arrangements with New York Graphic Society to sell Saalburg prints and gifts of his artwork to the Bucks County Historical Society, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

Box 1, Folder 2 New York Graphic Society, circa 1956-1969

Box 1, Folder 3 Bucks County Historical Society , 1982-1983

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Series 3: Subject Files, circa 1950s-1994

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

The file concerning Saalburg's studio, Canal Press, contains business records and printed material. Correspondence, printed material and sales records document Saalburg's exhibitions at Ink River Gallery.

Box 1, Folder 4	Canal Press, Catalogs and Price Lists, circa 1950s - circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 5	Canal Press, Expenses, 1975-1977
Box 1, Folder 6	Canal Press, Sales , 1967-1987
Box 1, Folder 7	Ink River Gallery, circa 1980s-1994

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Series 4: Printed Material , 1940-circa 1980s

0.3 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2, OV 3)

One folder of printed material is about Saalburg. The remaining folders contain books and other printed materials illustrated or designed by Saalburg. The posters were issued by the U.S. Office of War Information. Miscellaneous items are a periodical, and the program and invitation for a 1979 tribute to Claudius Charles Philipe.

Box 1, Folder 8	Articles About Saalburg (1929-1939), circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 9	<i>Yankee Iron: The Story of the Eastern Malleable Iron Company</i> , 1952
Box 1, Folder 10	<i>Connecticut Enterprise</i> , 1960
Box 1, Folder 11	<i>Frenchtown, NJ, 1867-1967</i> , 1967
Box 1, Folder 12	Miscellaneous Items, 1940, 1979 <i>Oversized material housed in Box 2</i>
Box 1, Folder 13	Posters, 1942-1943 <i>Oversized posters housed in OV 3</i>
Box 2, Folder 1	Oversized Miscellaneous Printed Materials from Box 1, Folder 12, 1940, 1979
Box OV 3	Oversized Posters from Box 1, Folder 13, 1942-1943 <i>Some items are fragile</i>

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Series 5: Scrapbook, 1941 - 1947, 1924 - 1927

0.1 Linear feet (Box 2)

The scrapbook contains many periodical covers and articles illustrated by Saalburg. Also included are a few newspaper clippings mentioning him and "Allen Saalburg: Descriptive Artist," a 1947 article published in *Arts*.

Box 2, Folder 2

Scrapbook, 1941-1947, 1924-1927

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Series 6: Photographs, circa 1930-circa 1980s

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Photographs of Saalburg include studio portraits and informal snapshots. Some portraits are digital copies of earlier images.

This series is arranged by subject. Additional photographs are found among the subject files (series 3).

Box 1, Folder 14	Artwork by Saalburg - Glass Panels Printed by Silkscreen, undated Color transparency
Box 1, Folder 15	Artwork by Saalburg - Paintings, circa 1930-circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 16	Artwork by Saalburg - Laura Harding Collection of Screenpainted Furniture, undated Includes negatives
Box 1, Folder 17	People - Allen Saalburg, circa 1940s-circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 18	People - Allen Saalburg in Studio, 1958-circa 1980s
Box 1, Folder 19	Places - Canal Press Studio, Frenchtown, New Jersey, 1958
Box 1, Folder 20	Places - Saalburg Home, Uhlerstown, Pennsylvania, circa 1970s-circa 1980s Includes 2 negatives and article about the building's history
Box 1, Folder 21	Events - Air Force Trip with John Mooney, circa 1956-circa 1960s

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