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Henry Scholey Saunders papers 4079300

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Saunders, Henry Scholey, 1864-1951
Title:	Henry Scholey Saunders papers
ID:	4079300
ID:	MS#1111
Date [inclusive]:	1884-1951
Date [bulk]:	1911-1947
Physical Description:	.21 linear feet 1/2 document box
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Henry Scholey Saunders' collection is comprised of letters, photographs, newspaper clippings, and hand painted watercolor greeting cards. In addition, the collection contains family files, bibliographies of Walt Whitman's works, and typewritten excerpts of Walt Whitman's published poems.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Henry Scholey Saunders papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Henry Scholey Saunders was born in 1864 in London, Canada. He married Georgina Helen Taylor on October 10, 1887 and they settled in Toronto for the rest of their lives. They had two children, a son, Harry Ernest, and a daughter, Ruth Mercer, who died at the age of two.

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Biographical / Historical

Saunders was a Toronto cellist, collector, bibliographer, and independent Walt Whitman enthusiast. He was a self-taught bookbinder, painter and typesetter, skills he used to write and produce his own books on Whitman's poems in limited quantities, which he gave to friends and kept for his own Whitman collection. His method of publishing was unique: he typed, bound, and carefully catalogued these books by hand. He ultimately sold his collection to Brown University in 1932. His only published work was Parodies on Whitman (1923).

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Biographical / Historical

Saunders died on October 25, 1951 at the age of eighty-eight.

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Summary

The Saunders collection consists primarily of correspondence (letters and greeting cards) to friends and business clients, and materials related to Whitman - handwritten bibliographies, reprints of poems on greeting cards, notes, articles, photographs and programs.

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Summary

There are also family files consisting of newspaper clippings and personal papers.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in four series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. XML document instance created by Catherine C. Ricciardi EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2011-03-11 2011-03-17 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Sprague, Mrs. Frank J. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1952. Accession number--M-52.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 09/--/89.

Processing Information

Papers processed by Marilyn Chin (Queens College, 2011).

Processing Information

Finding aid written by Marilyn Chin (Queens College, 2011) March 2011.

Accrual

No additions are expected

Processing Information

Collection is processed to folder level.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Henry Scholey Saunders' Collection of Walt Whitman, 1877-1950](#), John Hay Library, Brown University.

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Henry Scholey Saunders' Collection of Walt Whitman Papers, 1887-1923](#), Library of Congress.

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

Henry Scholey Saunders Vertical File Manuscript, 1945-, Morris Library, Southern Illinois University.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Drawings (visual works)
- Greeting cards
- Saunders, Henry Scholey, 1864-1951
- Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892
- Brown University. Library. Special Collections
- Sprague, Harriet Chapman Jones, 1876-1969

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, 1921-1947

Scope and Contents

This series consists primarily of letters written to Mrs. Frank J. Sprague, a close friend of Saunders and to whom he gave copies of his Whitman books. Other letters were to business clients.

Title/Description	Instances	
Letter to Mr. F.C. Thwing, 1930 April	box 1	folder 1
Letters to Harriet Chapman Sprague (Mrs. Frank J. Sprague), 1944-1947	box 1	folder 2
Letters with Mr. Jefferson Winter, 1921 April-October	box 1	folder 3

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Series II: Family Files, 1923-1951

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include newspaper clippings such as an obituary written by Mrs. Frank J. Sprague in the Long-Islander newspaper in 1951, a typed document about the Saunders' Reunion Fund and family photographs.

Title/Description	Instances	
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Photographs, 1930-1948	box 1	folder 4
Newspaper Clippings, 1937-1951	box 1	folder 5
Letter from Charles Saunders, 1923 May	box 1	folder 6
Genealogy Chart, undated	box 1	folder 7

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Series III: Collection on Walt Whitman, 1884-1951

Scope and Contents

Much of the items in this series are typed Whitman's poems (excerpts and complete) by other people, bibliographies, notes and articles about Whitman. There are also photographs of Whitman, his home, and Saunders' personal bound book collection.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs of Whitman and Other Subjects, undated	box 1	folder 8
Printed Materials, 1884-1948	box 1	folder 9
Notes and Articles, 1912-1951	box 1	folder 10
Walt Whitman Fellowship Programs, Canadian Branch, 1916-1927	box 1	folder 11
Printed Walt Whitman's Poems on Cards, 1911-1920	box 1	

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Series IV: Greeting Cards, 1940-1947

Scope and Contents

This series contains hand painted watercolor greeting cards from Saunders to Mrs. Frank J. Sprague.

Title/Description	Instances	
Hand-painted Watercolor Greeting Cards, 1940-1947	box 1	folder 12

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