

The New York Public Library - Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

August Heckscher printmaking collection

1949-1991 (bulk 1966-1984)

MssCol 5977

Compiled by Lea Jordan, March 2011

Summary

Creator: Heckscher, August, 1913-1997

Title: August Heckscher printmaking collection , 1949-1991 (bulk 1966-1984)

Size: 2.1 linear feet (5 boxes)

Source: Donated by Claude (Mrs. August) Heckscher, 2003

Abstract: August Heckscher (1913-1997) was a writer, printmaker and educator, who was also active in civic institutions. The August Heckscher printmaking collection documents his printmaking endeavors, especially those with the Uphill Press and the Printing Office at High Loft.

Access: Advance notice required. Apply at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

Preferred citation: August Heckscher printmaking collection , Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Related collections

August Heckscher papers, Library of Congress.

Creator history

August Heckscher (1913-1997) was a writer, printmaker and educator, who was also active in civic institutions. After graduating from Harvard, he taught government at Yale before moving on to work as a writer for the *Herald Sun*. During the Kennedy administration he was appointed Special Consultant on the Arts and advised the president on national arts programs. He was the New York City Parks Commissioner from 1967 through 1972, and helped plan the first New York Marathon. He was involved in many civic groups including the Twentieth Century Fund, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Cooper Hewitt Museum, and Civitas. He was also president of the American Council for Nationalities Services. His passion was printmaking, and he founded the Uphill Press and The Printing Office at High Loft.

Scope and content note

The August Heckscher printmaking collection documents his printmaking endeavors, especially those with the Uphill Press and the Printing Office at High Loft. The bulk of the material is related to his publication of limited edition, hand printed booklets. The year noted by each publication reflects the year of his printing, not the year the work was written or created, as he often republished historic documents or books. The files do not always contain the text of the publication, but instead document the publication

process. This includes mock ups, paper samples, correspondence, printing costs, and other materials relating to the day to day business of a small press. The files also do not always specify which press Heckscher was using to complete the job. The correspondence is arranged by name and reflects only the printing business, including conversations with other small independent printers, customers, and suppliers. Press materials consist of advertisements and mailers for his two presses, High Loft and Uphill Press as well as printing orders for both presses. Speeches and writings contains both prints of Heckscher's speeches and poetry as well as rough copies.

Key terms**Subjects**

Printing presses

Prints--Technique

Names

Heckscher, August, 1913-1997

Container list

Publications

- b.1 f.1 *After Reading Thoreau*, 1979
- b.1 f.2 A Letter by T.B. Aldrich, 1978
- b.1 f.3 *Apology for Idlers*, 1976
- b.1 f.4 Ballou, Adin, 1963
- b.1 f.5 *Le Bonheur*, 1964
- b.1 f.6 *City Bus*, 1984 (Also written by Heckscher)
- b.1 f.7 *Christmas in the City*, 1979
- b.1 f.8 *Dampening Papers*, 1978
- b.1 f.9 *Dust of the Road*, 1984
- b.1 f.10-11 *Erasmus*, 1991
- b.1 f.12 *The Gift*, 1978
- b.1 f.13 Goudy Keepsake, 1966
- b.1 f.14 *God's Wanderers - A Country Library*, 1980
- b.1 f.15 *Hearing the Weather*, 1979
- b.2 f.1 *Journal of a Visit to St. Paul's*, 1969-1979
- b.2 f.2-3 *Jubilate Agno*, 1979
- b.2 f.4 Knopf Keepsake, 1965
- b.2 f.5 Labels, 1981
- b.2 f.6 *Letter from a Maine Island*, 1979
- b.2 f.7 *Night Watches*, 1984
- b.2 f.8 *Note on Book Collecting*, 1978
- b.2 f.9 *Notes on a Country Library*, undated
- b.2 f.10 *Notes for a Grandchild*, 1966
- b.2 f.11 *Providence and the Guitar*, 1987
- b.3 f.1 *Regrets*, 1984
- b.3 f.2 *Rhyming Mood*, 1993
- b.3 f.3-4 *Shyp of Fools*, 1990
- b.3 f.5 *The Silence of Christmas*, 1982
- b.3 f.6 *Sonnets to De Bellay*, undated
- b.3 f.7 *Stranger Walking* , 1979
- b.3 f.8-9 *Suite d'Estranges*, 1980
- b.3 f.10-11 *Sutton Island*, 1983
- b.3 f.12 *The Tow Path*, 1966
- b.3 f.13 *White Thoughts*, 1982
- b.3 f.14 *A Winter Scene*, 1978
- b.3 f.15 *The Woods are Large*, 1949
- b.3 f.16 Yourcenar, 1979
- b.3 f.17 Zodiac Club , 1966

Correspondence

- b.4 f.1 Beilenson, Peter and Edna, undated
- b.4 f.2 Bergin, Tom , 1966

Correspondence (cont.)

- b.4 f.3 Blumenthal, Joseph, 1956-1984
- b.4 f.4 Carter, Will and Sebastian , 1965-1984
- b.4 f.5 Engle, Paul , 1966-1976
- b.4 f.6 Lieberman, Ben , 1963-1965
- b.4 f.7-8 Newman, Robert , undated
- b.4 f.9-11 Other private presses, 1977-1983
- b.5 f.1 Parrot, Gray, undated
- b.5 f.2 The Penman Press, 1977
- b.5 f.3 Schniewind, Henry, undated
- b.5 f.4 Shattuck, Virginia , undated
- b.5 f.5 Yourcenar, Marguerite, 1980

Press Materials

- Presses, undated
- b.5 f.6-7 High Loft, undated
- b.5 f.8 Uphill Press, undated
- b.5 f.9 Printing orders, 1979-1982
- b.5 f.10 Speeches and Writings, 1963-1984