Gayle Porter Hoskins Manuscript Collection

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum

**Acquisition Information**
Gift of Alene Rollo Hoskins, 1972; some material collected by the Library; some material gift of Gayle Crosby Smith, 2015

**Extent**
28 linear feet

**Access Restrictions**
Some restrictions apply

**Contact Information**
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**Preferred Citation**
Gayle Porter Hoskins Manuscript Collection, Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum

**Related Materials**
Hoskins Family Scrapbook
Howard Pyle Manuscript Collection
Students of Howard Pyle Files
Biography of Gayle Porter Hoskins

Gayle Porter Hoskins was born in Brazil, Indiana, on July 20, 1887, but moved with his family to Denver, Colorado, when he was five. He developed his intimate knowledge of horses, reflected later in his paintings, during his years in Colorado. At the age of fourteen, he became a cartoonist for the Denver Post. After his mother's death in 1904, the family moved to Chicago, and Hoskins enrolled in the Chicago Art Institute, where he studies under Charles Francis Browne, Frank Phoenix, Thomas Wood Stevens, and John Vanderpoel. In 1907 he became a mural designer for Marshall Field and Company. In this same year his first illustrations were published in Red Book.

Howard Pyle visited Hoskins’ studio in Chicago in 1907 and invited the young illustrator to study with him in Wilmington. Hoskins moved to Wilmington and established a studio there. He studied with Pyle until Pyle's departure for Italy in 1910. Within a short time, Hoskins’ illustrations were being published in major magazines in America. In addition to magazine illustrations, Hoskins illustrated magazine covers, book jackets, and calendar subjects. By 1918, Hoskins had become a prominent illustrator.

Hoskins taught throughout his life and maintained a genuine interest in the efforts of young artists. He was a founding member of the Wilmington Society of the Fine Arts and frequently exhibited his works there. Hoskins was a co-founder, with Frank Schoonover, of the Wilmington Sketch Club and, in 1928, a founding member of the Wilmington Academy of Art where he taught illustration, life drawing, costume sketch, composition, and antique classes. As magazine illustration began to wane in the late 1930s, Hoskins began painting portraits and historical subjects.

Hoskins was a versatile and prolific illustrator. He was an excellent draftsman and vibrant colorist. His subject matter ranged from portrayals of dramatic, emotional interludes to thrilling cowboy scenes and powerful historical depictions as well as formal portraits.

Hoskins died January 14, 1962, at the age of seventy-four.


Scope and Contents Notes
The Gayle Porter Hoskins Manuscript Collection contains personal and biographical material and memorabilia, correspondence, family photographs, newspaper clippings, illustration tear sheets, exhibition catalogs, prints, original artwork, Hoskins’ palette and paint brushes, and scrapbooks compiled by the artist. The bulk of the collection was donated by Hoskins' widow, Alene Rollo Hoskins, in 1972. The illustration tear sheets were largely collected by the Library. In 2015 Gayle Crosby Smith, grandson of Gayle Porter Hoskins’ half-sister, Viretta Hoskins Smith, donated 29 family photographs, a preliminary sketch for an illustration, and miscellaneous printed materials.
Organization of the Collection

Series I: Biographical Information
Series II: Correspondence
Series III: Miscellaneous Objects
Series IV: Oversize Material
Series V: Photographs
Series VI: Illustrations and Tear Sheets
Series VII: Print Collection
Series VIII: Gayle Hoskins Scrapbooks
Series IX: Art Media
Series X: Original Artwork
Description of the Collection

Series I: Biographical Information

Box 1A
Folder
1 Biography
2 Personal papers, etc.
3 Death notices, cemetery, etc., taxes, Social Security card
4 “Campaign Against Quebec” (typescript)
5 Drama League
6 Eleutherian Mills, Hagley Foundation
7 Exhibition catalogs
8 History, genealogy
9 Gulf States Paper Publication
10 Library record collection

Box 1B
Folder
1 Allen Russell Neville, Chronology—Restricted
2 Gayle Porter Hoskins: Artist-Illustrator, 1887-1962 by Allen Russell Neville

Box 2
Folder
1 Miscellaneous
2 Magazine articles
3 Manuscripts
4 Newspaper clippings, 1900-1959
5 Newspaper clippings, 1960-1969
6 Newspaper clippings, 1970-
7 Phoenix Art Institute
8 Photos & negatives - works
9 Portraits
10 Reproductions
11 Students
12 Paintings – description and background information
13 Wilmington Academy of Art
14 World War I
# Series II: Correspondence

**Box 3**

**Folder**

| 1  | Regarding purchase of paintings before death |
| 2  | Regarding purchase of paintings after death |
| 3  | From and to owners of paintings |
| 4  | N.C. Wyeth to Hoskins |
| 5  | Allen Neville |
| 6  | Paintings |
| 7  | Personal |
| 8  | Prints |
| 9  | Pyle students |
| 10 | Alene Hoskins – personal |
| 11 | Regarding Grace Hoskins Stevenson and estate |
Series III: Miscellaneous Objects

Box 4
Item 1: Gayle Hoskins' funeral book

Items 2, 3: Alene Hoskins' bridal book (2)

Item 4: Alene Hoskins' autograph book

Items 5, 6: Two (2) journals (possible psychic writing)

Items 7-10: Two (2) ambrotypes (7 and 8) and two (2) daguerreotypes (9 and 10)

Item 11: Calendar/appointment book
Series IV: Oversize Material

Box 5
Two (2) metal plates – Mrs. Gayle Porter Hoskins; address
Illustrations
  * American Sunday Monthly Magazine
  * Chicago Sunday Tribune – Grafic Magazine (“Rifle Frolic”)
  * Collier’s
  * Delineator
  * Esquire
  * Harper’s
  * Ladies’ Home Journal
  * Public Ledger
  * Youth’s Companion
Photograph – Models
  * Du Pont Safety Calendar, 1942 (complete)
  * Wilmington Sash & Door Co. calendar (illustration only)

Drawer 7, Rare Books Room
Poster – “Round-Up Romance” (2 copies)

Calendars – “Changing Horses” and “A Friendly Welcome” (illustrations only)
Series V: Photographs

Box 6
People – Gayle Porter Hoskins

Box 7
People – Group portraits with Hoskins

Box 8
People – Group portraits without Hoskins
People – Unidentified baby portraits
People – Comet Band

Box 9
People – Female portraits
People – Male Portraits

Box 10A/B
People – Models

Box 11
Architecture
Studios
Hoskins family homes

Box 12
Landscape
Western scenes

Box 13
Artwork

Box 14
Animals
Vehicles
Miscellaneous

Box 15
Oversize

Box 16
Glass plate negatives

Box 17
Two (2) albums
Series VI: Illustrations and Tear Sheets (4 boxes)

Box 18
Folder
1  All-American Fiction, 1938
2  American Heritage, Summer 1950
3  American History Illustrated, 1966
4  American Magazine, 1909-1913 and undated
5  American Magazine, 1922-1928
6  American Sunday Monthly Magazine, 1910-1916 (see also Series V: Oversize Materials)
7  Book illustrations – dust jackets
8  Book illustrations – interior illustrations
9  Boys Life, 1930
10 Card – “The Convoy Watchdog”
11 Colliers, 1906-1925 (see also Series IV: Oversize Materials)
12 Complete Stories, 1932-1934
13 Cosmopolitan, 1911-1921
14 Country Gentleman, 1913, 1919
15 Cowboy Stories, 1937
16 Delineator, 1915-1919 (see also Series IV: Oversize Materials)
17 Everybody’s, 1909-1926
Box 19
Folder
1  Good Housekeeping, 1913-1915
2  Good Housekeeping, 1917-1924
3  Harpers Monthly, 1910-1917 (see also Series V: Oversize Materials)
4  Harpers Weekly, 1908, 1912
5  Hearst’s Magazine, 1913
6  Hercules Powder Co.
7  Ladies’ Home Journal, 1908-1915 (see also Series V: Oversize Materials)
8  Ladies’ Home Journal, 1917-1924 (see also Series V: Oversize Materials)
9  Liberty, 1924

Box 20
Folder
1  Metropolitan
2  New Story Magazine, 1912
3  Outers’ Recreation/Outdoor Recreation, 1923-1925
4  Pictorial Review, 1919-1922
5  Popular Magazine, 1910-1924
6  Recruiters Review, June 1949
7  Red Book, 1907-1913
8  Red Book, 1913-1916
9  Red Book, 1917-1923
10  St. Nicholas 1908
11  Saturday Evening Post, 1908-June 1910
12 Saturday Evening Post, July 1910-June 1911
13 Saturday Evening Post, August 1911-May 1912
14 Saturday Evening Post, July 1912-November 1917

Box 21
Folder
1 The Shooter’s Guide, 1925
2 Top Notch Magazine, 1930-1933
3 Western Story Magazine, 1924-1934
4 Western Story Magazine, “A Cowboy’s Day” (photocopy of book published by Street & Smith, based on cover illustrations from Western Story Magazine)
5 Western Story Magazine, “A Cowboy’s Day” (plates)
6 Woman’s Home Companion, 1923-1925
7 Youth’s Companion, 1926-1928 (see also Series V: Oversize Materials)
Series VII: Print Collection
The prints from the negatives are divided into twenty subject categories, each of which is assigned a number.

Each print is identified by an accession number consisting of four parts: 72 (the year the Hoskins Collection was acquired by the Delaware Art Museum); 78 (which indicates that the Hoskins Collection was the 78th item acquired by the Museum in 1972); a whole number that corresponds to the number of the subject category; and a decimal number that locates the print in its category.

For example: 72-78-20.4 = the fourth print in the Models, Western category

The prints were originally boxed according to the number of the subject category. Each box contained up to twenty-five prints. If there were more than twenty-five prints per category, a second box was used and assigned the same number plus a capital letter A, B, etc. The prints were rehoused in 2014 to conserve shelf space, but they are still organized in the same order and are separated according to their original box numbers.

There is a one-to-one correspondence between the data sheets in the binders and the prints in the boxes. The binders are divided in to subject categories that are the same as the subject categories of the prints. The accession number, identification of subject, location of print, description of print, additional information, and developing information are recorded on each sheet. Thus, by reading the data sheets, you should be able to select and locate the prints are wish to examine.

Box 22
1 – Architecture
2 – Animals
3 – Circus
4 – City Scenes

Box 23
5 – Dancing Couple
6 – Genre
7 – Farming
8 – Soldiers

Box 24
9 – Landscape/Seascape

Box 25
10 – Miscellaneous
11 – World of Work
12 – Boats
13 – Transportation
Box 26
14 – Woman in Woods
15 – Portraits, Male
16 – Portraits, Female

Box 27
17 – Portraits, Group
18 – Models, Miscellaneous

Box 28
19 – Models in Costume
20 – Models, Western
Series VIII. Gayle Hoskins Scrapbooks

Box 29
Book I. Illustrations, Portraits, Calendar Subjects, Photographs

Folder

1 Rifles/hunting scenes (several used for book jackets)
   Photograph: Man with rifle in woods, 1950
   Photograph: Two hunters behind stone fence, 1947
   Glossy cover of Wallack Rifles – dedication to G. Hoskins on back
   Small image cut from book jacket (?) – Sitting man with rifle
   The Chuck Hunter painted by Gayle Hoskins, 1950

2 Miscellaneous
   “The Convoy Watchdog” – in color on a Season’s Greeting card, 1943
   Photograph (black and white) of the DE99 Ship – same painting used to illustrate
   above greeting card
   Photograph (glossy, B&W) of “The Burning of the Portrait of King George III, 1776”,
   1961
   Photograph (matte, B&W) of The First Day of the Season, 1946
   Photograph (glossy, B&W) of Lehigh County Gunshop, 1840, 1949
   Photograph (glossy, B&W) of Pronghorns, 1951
   Photograph (low gloss, B&W) of Hoskins with model Carlton Searles
   Magazine-type paper image of “Philip Lefevre’s Gunshop”, 1945
   Photograph (matte, B&W) of “The Battle of the Little Big Horn”
   Photograph (glossy, B&W) of “The Siege of Boonesboro”, 1951
   History on the Brandywine, 1957
   Glossy, black & white photographs of a series of drawings
      “Making Paper”
      “Textile Manufacturing”
      “Fishing on the Brandywine”
      “Powder Makers”
      “Lea Mills – Flour”
      “Birmingham Meeting”
   Photograph (glossy, B&W) of “Dover Green, 1833”, 1961

3 Paintings used to illustrate in the book Your Country’s Story – Pioneers, Builders, Leaders by
   Margaret G. Mackey – 1953 (titles taken from captions):
      The battle of Bunker Hill
      DeSoto and his men
      Fur traders with Indians
      Pennsylvania riflemen hold a shooting match
      A country peddler
      Traffic on the National Road. Stagecoaches and wagons
      Trade along the Monongahela River. Rifleman’s shop
Eli Whitney demonstrates his cotton gin
New York State customs officer and farmer Van Vorst
Passengers descend from mail coach
Crowds cheering Southern troops leaving for war
On the Oregon Trail
Along the Santa Fe Trail
Building the Erie Canal
Mormons building their church in Salt Lake City
One of the first steam locomotives
“Bandits’ Roost,” New York, 1887-1888. Drawing from a photograph by Danish immigrant Jacob Riis
Indians attacking a wagon train
Harvesting on a great wheat farm on the plains
Northerners and Southerners move into Kansas
Union forces meet a Confederate attack at the battle of Gettysburg

4 Photographs
  Gayle Hoskins, 1940
  Photo of Gayle Hoskins from *The National Cyclopedia of American Biography* (Volume 48, page 577)

5 Illustrations
  7 illustrations by Gayle Hoskins used to illustrate a chapter in the book *The American Wild Turkey* by Henry E. Davis – images cut out from the book, 1949
  Matte photograph of the Main Office Building, Wilmington, Delaware – Dupont building, 1944
  Specimen copy of a Certificate of Merit from E.J. Du Pont de Nemours & Company featuring drawings of Dupont buildings

6 Portraits
  Photograph (glossy, B&W) of copy of portrait by Nagal for Patterson family, 1948
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Harold C. Haskell of Wilmington, 1950
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Emelia Pusey Warner of Wilmington, 1950
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Mrs. Kolb of Wilmington, 1951
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of James Guthrie, 1952
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Clarence A. Hume of Wilmington, 1952
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Mrs. Hugh Morris of Wilmington, 1952
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Judge Paul Leahey of Wilmington, 1953
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Louis Caldwell of Washington, D.C., 1954
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Stanley Abrams of Wilmington, 1954

7 Portraits
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Robert Kemp of Wilmington, 1954
  Photograph (low gloss, color) of Miss Mabel Pierce of Wilmington, 1954
  Photograph (matte, B&W) of Mrs. David Katz of Wilmington, 1955
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Mary Etta Rudolph of Wilmington, Delaware, 1956
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Thomas Tatnall of Wilmington, Delaware, 1956
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Rev. Thomas A. Lawless, O.S.F.S. of Wilmington, Delaware, 1956
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Dr. James Spackman of Wilmington, 1959
Photograph (matte, B&W) of New York Woman, 1952
Photograph (matte, B&W) – unlabeled: shared page in scrapbook with Mrs. Hugh Morris, no date
Photograph (low gloss, color) – unlabeled: shared page in scrapbook with Mabel Pierce, no date

8 Portraits
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Helen M. Griffith of Wilmington, 1930
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Charles A. Ryan of Wilmington, 1932
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Mrs. Mary Virginia Ryan of Wilmington, 1932
Photograph (matte, B&W) of Judge John P. Laffey of Wilmington, 1934
Photograph (glossy, color) of Miss Norma Rollo of Salt Lake City, Utah, 1934
Photograph (glossy, color) of Miss Winnifred Rollo of Salt Lake City, Utah, 1934
Photograph (glossy, color) of Alene R. Hoskins of Wilmington, 1935
Photograph (glossy, color) of Alene R. Hoskins, 1940
Photograph (glossy, B&W) of Clare R. Mudge of Wilmington, 1940
Photograph (glossy, B&W) of Mrs. Margaret Moss of Annapolis, Maryland, 1941

Book II. Magazine Covers (1931-1938), Illustrations, Photographs, Calendars

Folder
9 Magazine Covers

All American Fiction
1938 – January (553)

Argosy
1937 – Dec. 4 (550), Dec. 25 (551)
1938 – Jan. 29 (554)

Complete Stories (Street & Smith’s)
1931 – Oct. 1st (496), Dec. 15th (498)
1932 – June 1st (501), Sept. 1 (504), Nov. 1 (505)
1933 – April 1 (507), Sept. 15 (510)
1935 – April 22 (524)

Cowboy Stories (Street & Smith’s)
No date – 536 (May 1936)
1933 – Nov. (511), Dec. (513)
1934 – Jan. (514)
1935 – February (522), April (523), June (526), August (527), Dec. (530)
1936 – April (535), Nov. (540), Dec. (541)
1937 – Jan. (542), March (544), Nov. (549)

10 Magazine Covers

*Romance / Romantic Range*

1935 – Nov. (529), Dec. (531)
1936 – Jan. (532), March (534), June (537), Aug. (538), Oct. (539)

*Top Notch Magazine* (Street & Smith’s)

No date – 517 (May 1934)
1931 – May 1st (486), Sept. 1st (495)
1932 – March 1st (499)
1933 – February (506), July (509), Nov. (512)
1935 – May (525)

ACE magazines with “Western” in the title

From the year 1938:

*Western Trails* – Jan. (556), March (559), April (561), Sept. (562)
*Sure-Fire Western* – January (555)
*Western Aces* – February (557)
*Super Western* – March (558)
*Red Seal Western* – April (560)

*Western Story Magazine* (Street & Smith’s)

No date – 330 (Jan. 26, 1924)
1931 – April 4 (438), April 11 (484), April 25 (485)
    May 2 (487), May 9 (488), May 16 (489), May 23 (490), May 30 (491)
    June 6 (492), June 13 (493), June 20 (494)
    July 4 (571s)
    Oct. 3 (497)
1932 – July 23 (502)
1933 – June 17 (508)
1937 – December 25 (552)

*Wild West Weekly* (Street & Smith’s)

1932 – April 23 (500), August 13 (503)

11 “A Cowboy’s Day” from *Western Story Magazine*

12 Original caricature of Gayle Hoskins by James Craik Morris
13 Photograph of Gayle Hoskins, 1950

14 Calendar/Pamphlet: “The Open Range”

**Box 30**

**Book III. Magazine Covers (1910-1930), Photographs, Illustrations**

Folder

1 Photograph of Gayle Hoskins, 1930

2 Small size reproductions – calendar subjects
   - Anxious Moment – 1939
   - Round-up Romance – 1939
   - Pioneers of Americanism – 1944

3 Covers – *Western Story Magazine* (Street & Smoth’s)
   1928 – Jan. 14 (396), Jan. 21 (397), Feb. 11 (398), March 3 (400),
   June 23 (405), Aug. 4 (406), Oct. 27 (412), Nov. 3 (414),
   Dec. 1 (416), Dec. 15 (417)
   1929 – Jan. 5 (418), Mar. 9 (420), Mar. 30 (421), May 18 (423),
   May 25 (424), June 8 (426), June 22 (427), August 3 (430),
   Aug. 24 (431), Sept. 28 (432), Oct. 12 (434), Nov. 9 (436), Nov. 16 (437),
   Nov. 30 (438), Dec. 21 (439) [2 copies one with newspaper clipping]
   1930 – Jan. 4 (440), Jan. 18 (441), Feb. 8 (442), Feb. 15 (443), Feb. 22 (444),
   March 1 (445), April 19 (447), May 10 (448), June 7 (450), July 12 (453),
   Oct. 4 (462), Nov. 8 (463), Dec. 6 (465)
   1931 – Jan. 3 (467), Jan. 10 (468), Jan. 17 (470), Jan. 24 (471), Jan. 31 (472),
   Feb. 7 (473), Feb. 21 (568 S), Feb. 28 (475), March 7 (477), March 14 (478), March 21
   (480), March 28 (481), April 18 (569 S) [S = supplement]
   Cover with no month or date [#419 (Feb. 2, 1929)???] shared page with #420 (March
   9, 1929)

4 Covers – various
   - *Gunter’s The New Magazine*
     Oct. 1910 (58)
   - *The Blue Book Magazine*
     February 1919 (262)
   - *Air Trails*
     Aug. 1929 (429)
   - *Top Notch Magazine* (Street & Smith’s)
     1923 – July 15 (318)
1926 – April 1 (358)
1928 – May 1 (403), May 15 (404), Sept. 15 (409)
1930 – second June (451), first July (452), second July (455), first August (456),
second August (457), second Sept. (459), first Oct. (461), second Nov. (464),
second Dec. (466)
1931 – second Feb. (474), first March (476), second March (479), first April
(482), 3 covers (not numbered) probably cut from the Top Notch Magazine

5 Covers – various

*Complete Stories* (Street & Smith)
1929 – second May (422), second July (428)
1930 – first April (446), second July (454), first Sept. (458)
1931 – second January (469)
no date – second May (449) [probably 1930]

*Far West Stories*
1926 – September (368)
1929 – June (425), October (433)

*New Story Magazine*
1912 – January (89)
1915 – May (179), June (181)

*Outer's Recreation*
#319 – August (1923)
#337 – July (1924)

*Outdoor Recreation*
#339 – September (1924); #340 – October (1924);
#343 – January 1925; #345 – February (1925);
#367 – Aug. 1926

*The Popular Magazine*
#112 – Jan. month end edition (out Dec. 23, 1912);
#335 – May 7, 1924

*The Popular Weekly*
#402 – Apr. 21, 1928

*Vacation Manual*
#311 – 1923
#311 – 1923 second copy without blank insert
Book IV. Illustrations and Advertisements, 1907-1930

Folder
6 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 1-199
7 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 200-299
8 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 300-336
9 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 338-413
10 Illustrations for magazine articles, no reference numbers
11 Photograph of Gayle Hoskins in National Guard uniform, 1917
12 Advertisements for Hercules Powder Co., 7x9¾ in
13 Advertisements for Hercules Powder Co., various sizes
14 Miscellaneous advertisements

Box 31
Book V. Illustrations and Frontispieces 1907 – 1930

Folder
1 Illustrations with no reference numbers
2 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 1-80
3 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 81-170
4 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 171-314
5 Illustrations for magazine articles, reference numbers 315-528
6 Photograph of Gayle Hoskins, 1910 (courtesy of Paul Strayer)
7 Book jackets
Book VI. Illustrations and Miscellaneous, 1907-1930

Folder
8 No images remaining in scrapbook except for one:
   Magazine illustration – A man sitting on a chair, leaning on his knee by one elbow
   Caption: “He had Sat Drinking in Every Word as if…”
   (5 illustrations total) [#11 of the Illustration Index]

Box 32
Oversize materials from scrapbooks
Series IX. Art Media

Box 34
Gayle Hoskins’ palette and brushes
Series X: Original Artwork

Box 5
Item 1: Sketch of Revolutionary War soldiers (graphite on paper)

Item 2: Sketch of house (graphite on illustration board)

Item 3: Sketch of male torso in checked shirt (graphite on illustration board)

Item 4: Sketch of train, horses, and cattle (graphite on illustration board)

Item 5: “Hand of Alice Jane Hoskins, drawn by Gayle Porter Hoskins” (ink on paper)

Item 6: Sketch of cowboy playing guitar with woman and horses (paint on illustration board)