Finding Aid for the Paul Sawyier (1865–1917) Collection

Title: Paul Sawyier Collection
Date Span: 1902–1999
Extent: 2.0 linear feet; 4 boxes
Language(s): English

Description: Paul Sawyier was one of Kentucky's most renowned artists, an American impressionist painter. The majority of this file is research completed by Dr. Willard Rouse Jillson, noted geologist and historian from Frankfort, Ky. He began collecting this research in 1937 and used it to complete the book *Paul Sawyier: American artist (1865–1917) a brief biographical sketch* published in 1961.

Box I
Folder 1

- Mayme Thomas Bull’s scrapbook of newspaper clippings and writings
- Letter dated 21 August 1939 from Phillip Schaefer to Dr. W.R. Jillson
- Letter dated 28 August 1939 from W.R. Jillson to P. Schaefer
- Letters from Mary Sawyier Niess–Waner to Dr. W.R. Jillson dated
  - 17, 21, 26, 29, 30, August 1939; 6, 7, 8 September 1939; 11, 24, 28 October 1939; 23 April 1940; 8 May 1940; 6 June 1940; 21 October 1940
- Letters from Dr. W.R. Jillson to Mary Sawyier Niess–Waner dated
  - 15, 19, 23, 28 August 1939; 6, 14, 25 September 1939; 3, 26, 30 October 1939; 10 April 1940; 31 May 1940
- Telegram to M. S. Niess–Waner from W.R. Jillson dated 18 August 1938
- Receipt for registered letter addressed to M. S. Niess–Waner
- Return receipt from Post office to W.R. Jillson
- Letter dated 8 June 1971 from Elizabeth Douthitt to Mrs. Nettie Glenn
- Letter dated 25 August 1937 from Tom Wallace to W.R. Jillson
• Postcard dated 30 September 1942 from M. S. Niess-Waner to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 13 September 1939 from Anna Clarke to M. S. Niess–Waner
• Letter dated 5 September 1917 from Paul Sawyier to M.S. Niess–Waner
• Photostat of letter from Paul Sawyier to M.S. Niess–Waner

Folder 2

• Commemorative Exhibition of Paintings by Paul Sawyier. Louisville: The J.B. Speed Memorial Museum, 1940), Exhibition catalogue.
• Exhibitions and Announcements for May 1940. Speed Art Museum, v.1, no.5. (2 copies)
• Preliminary list of owners of paintings by Paul Sawyier, 8 April 1940.
• Letter dated 27 September 1939 from Dr. W.R. Jillson to the Speed Museum director.
• Letter dated 7 October 1939 from Neville Bullitt (Speed Museum) to W.R. Jillson
• Letters dated 10 April; 9, 18 May 1940 from Catherine Grey (Speed) to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 18 April 1940 from Neville Bullitt (Speed Museum) to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 20 April 1940 from W.R. Jillson to the Speed Museum staff
• Loan receipt from the Speed Museum to W.R. Jillson dated 30 April 1940
• Letter dated 15 May 1940 from Hattie B. Speed to W.R. Jillson
• Postcard dated 3 March 1961 from Transylvania Library to W.R. Jillson
• Manuscript of the text from the exhibition catalog from the Speed Museum exhibit on Sawyier, 1940
• Letter dated 23 April 1964 from Headly Shouse to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 30 April 1964 from Jillson to Shouse
• Attendance counts from Speed for Sawyier exhibit
• Bill for prints from Jillson to the Speed Museum dated 18 June 1940
• Letter dated 29 May 1940 from Catherine Grey to Jillson
• Letter dated 31 May 1941 from Jillson to Grey
• “Paul Sawyier Pictures Will Be Exhibited During May.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort KY], 31 March 1940, p.1.
• “All-Sawyier Exhibition Paintings Will Be Shown in Louisville.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort KY], 18 April 1940, p.1.
• Unidentified newspaper cartoon
• Photocopy of a card with the name Natalie Sawyier.

Folder 3
• Postcard from St. Regis Hotel, Fleishmanns, NY.
• Letters dated 8 July 1933; 4, 5, 14 April 1935; 10, 19 October 1935: 22 November 1935 from Natalie Sawyier to Cordelia Lindsey.
• Letter dated 22 May 1935 from Natalie Sawyier to Lilian Lindsey.
• Letter dated 25 September 1931 from Natalie Sawyier to Lillian and Cordelia Lindsey
• Letter dated 24 March [n.d.] from Natalie Sawyier to Lillian and Cordelia Lindsey

Folder 4
• Letters dated 9, September 1939; 5, 30 November 1939 from Lillian Sawyier-Hill to Dr. W.R. Jillson
• Letters dated 25 September 1939; 15 November 1939 from W.R. Jillson to Lillian Sawyier-Hill

Folder 5

Folder 6
• Letter dated 17 October 1939 from W.R. Jillson to Anna Clarke
• Letter dated 30 November 1939 from Anna Clarke to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 2 April 1961 from W.R. Jillson to Art Students League of N.Y.
• Letter dated 5 April 1961 from Emily V. Smith to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 13 April 1961 from W.R. Jillson to Emily V. Smith

Folder 7
• Letter dated 22 April 1951 from W.R. Jillson to Johnnie
• Typewritten copies of letters dated 25 March 1910; 4, 18, 19 April; 1, 16, 20, 30 May 1910; 4 April 1911; 15 November 1913; 3 February 1916; from Paul Sawyier to Townsend
• Letter dated 8 March 1917 from Sawyier to Leo (original and typewritten copy)
• Typewritten copy and photostat copy of a letter dated 17 April 1915 from Sawyier to Mrs. Alfred Zembrod
• Typewritten copies of letters dated 20 April 1910; 24 June 1910; 4 April 1911 from Sawyier to John Wilson Townsend

Folder 8
• Letter dated 25 September 1939 from W.R. Jillson to Walter Sipple
• Letter dated 25 September 1939 from Cynthia Griffin to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 27 September 1939 from Sipple to Jillson
• Letter dated 28 September 1939 from Jillson to Sipple
• Letter dated 2 October 1939 from Sipple to Jillson
• Letter dated 7 October 1939 from Jillson to Sipple
• Letter dated 30 October 1939 from Sipple to Jillson
• Letter dated 3 November 1939 from Jillson to Sipple

Folder 9
• Letter dated 16 May 1961 from Ethel Hutchins to W.R. Jillson

Folder 10
• Letter dated 24 August 1939 from W.R. Jillson to George Gray (2 copies)
• Two undated letters from George Gray to W.R. Jillson

Folder 11
• Letter dated 27 August 1937 from Mrs. C.W. Saffell to W.R. Jillson
• Letter dated 21 October 1939 from Saffell to Jillson
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Jillson to Saffell (copy)
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. Emma Saffell (copy)
• Letter dated 11 August 1939 from Jillson to Cincinnati Children’s Hospital (copy)
• Letter dated 15 August 1939 from Rose Stoddard Grimes to Jillson (copy)
• Letter dated 16 August 1939 from Jillson to Grimes (copy)
• Letter dated 25 August 1939 from Jillson to Grimes (copy)
• Letter dated 3 November 1939 from Jillson to Grimes (copy)
• Letter dated 10 November 1939 from Grimes to Jillson
• Letter dated 21 May 1940 from Grimes to Jillson
• Letter dated 31 May 1940 from Jillson to Grimes (copy)
• Letter dated 6 October 1939 from Jillson to Florence Hildenbrand (copy)
• Letter dated 6 October 1939 from Jillson to Lucy Blackburn (copy)
• Letter dated 26 September 1939 from Jillson to Norbert Heerman (copy)
• Letter dated 26 September 1939 from Heerman to Jillson
• Letter dated 9 October 1939 from Heerman to Jillson
• Letter dated 6 October 1939 from Jillson to Heerman (copy)
• Letter dated 15 October 1939 from Ray Trautman to Jillson
• Letter dated 17 October 1939 from Jillson to Trautman (copy)
• Letter dated 27 September 1939 from Jillson to Trautman (copy)
• Letter dated 24 August 1939 from Jillson to Mary Danby Fitzhugh (copy)
• Letter dated 31 August 1939 from Fitzhugh to Jillson
• Letter dated 27 September 1939 from Jillson to Mary Danby Fitzhugh (copy)
• Letter dated 5 October 1939 from Fitzhugh to Jillson
• Letter dated 7 October 1939 from Jillson to Fitzhugh (copy)
• Letter dated 30 October 1939 from Jillson to Fitzhugh (copy)
• Postcard dated 31 August 1939 from Fitzhugh to Jillson
• Undated postcard from Fitzhugh to Jillson
• Letter dated 4 October 1939 from Martin Rettig to Jillson
• Photostat copy of letter dated 4 October from Rettig to Jillson
• Letter dated 3 October 1939 from Jillson to Rettig (copy)
• Letter dated 5 October 1939 from Jillson to Polk Lafoon (copy)
• Letter dated 11 October 1939 from Lafoon to Jillson
• Letter dated 5 September 1939 from Rev. F.W. Eberhardt to Jillson
• Letter dated 26 September 1939 from Jillson to Eberhardt (copy)
• Letter dated 29 September 1939 from Eberhardt to Jillson
• Letter dated 28 August 1939 from Jillson to Dr. Warren B. Davis (copy)
• Letter dated 29 August 1939 from office of Davis to Jillson
• Letter dated 25 September 1939 from Davis to Jillson
• Letter dated 6 October 1939 from Jillson to Davis (copy)
• Letter dated 13 October 1939 from Davis to Jillson
• Letter dated 20 October 1939 from Jillson to Davis (copy)
• Letter dated 23 October 1939 from Davis to Jillson
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Jillson to Davis (copy)
• Letter dated 28 September 1939 from Jillson to William H. Vogel (copy)
• Letter dated 18 October 1939 from Vogel to Jillson
• Letter dated 31 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. A.K. Lawrie (copy)
• Letter dated 7 November 1939 from Lawrie to Jillson
• Letter dated 21 August 1939 from Jillson to N.P. and L.M. Smith (copy)
• Letter dated 28 October 1939 from Jillson to Mary G. Sheerer (copy)
• Letter dated 30 October 1939 from Sheerer to Jillson
• Letter dated 18 October 1939 from Jillson to Tom Wallace (copy)
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Wallace to Jillson
• Letter dated 28 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. A.W. Dingleman (copy)
• Letter dated 20 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. Frances Farra Zembrod (copy)
• Letter dated 19 October 1939 from Zembrod to Jillson
• Letter dated 21 October 1939 from Jillson to Zembrod (copy)
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Jillson to Zembrod (copy)
• Undated letter from Zembrod to Jillson
• Letter dated 31 October 1939 from Jillson to Zembrod (copy)
• Postcard dated 8 April 1940 from Zembrod to Jillson
• Postcard dated 15 May 1940 from Zembrod to Jillson
• Letter dated 30 October 1939 from Jillson to Raymond F McLain
• Letter dated 3 November 1939 from Jillson to Curtis Dougherty (copy)
• Letter dated 17 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. Robert Hamilton (copy)
• Letter dated 18 October 1939 from Hamilton to Jillson
• Letter dated 25 October 1939 from Jillson to Hamilton (copy)
• Letter [n.d] from Hamilton to Jillson
• Letter dated 28 October 1939 from Jillson to Mrs. A.W. Dingleman (copy)
• Letter dated 8 November 1939 from Dingleman to Jillson
• Letter dated 6 October 1939 from Jillson to Miss Willie Kennedy (copy)
• Letter dated 10 October 1939 from Kennedy to Jillson
• Letter dated 28 October 1939 from Jillson to Kennedy (copy)
• Letter dated 7 May 1940 from Lewis A. Walter to Jillson
• Letter dated 1 June 1940 from Jillson to Walter (copy)
• Letter dated 11 April 1940 from Walter to Jillson
• Postcard dated 22 April 1940 from Harold Brigman to Jillson
• Letter dated 10 May 1940 from McCaughen & Burr to Jillson
• Letter dated 1 June 1940 from Jillson to McCaughen & Burr
• Letter dated 31 March 1941 from Mrs. J.D. Williams to Jillson
• Letter dated 8 April 1941 from Homer Jensen to Jillson (copy)
• Letter from Jillson to Jenson [n.d.]
• Letter dated 13 April 1961 from Jillson to Dorothy W. Phillips to Jillson
• Letter dated 18 April 1961 from Phillips to Jillson
• Letter dated 27 May 1961 from Mrs. Knox Brown to Jillson
• Letter dated 14 April 1961 from Mrs. Robert H. Coleman to Jillson
• Letter dated 13 April 1961 from Jillson to Mrs. Joseph Rogers (copy)
• Postcard dated 14 April 1961 from Rogers to Jillson
• Letter dated 17 June 1964 from F.C. Walton to Jillson
• Letter dated 23 June 1964 from Jillson to Walton (copy)
• Letter from John W. Townsend to Jillson [n.d.]
• Letter from Townsend to Jillson [n.d.]
• Letter dated 8 November 1940 from Townsend to Jillson
• Letter dated April 17 from Townsend to Jillson

Box 2

Folder 1

• 18 photographs of his paintings
• 6 photographs of scenery, buildings and his gravestone
• 5 proof sheets, negatives and collages of copies photographs
• 9 portraits of his family and friends
• 2 tintypes, one with Sawyier and the other with Mayme Bull
• 13 photographs and copies of photographs of Sawyier

Folder 2

• Nine notebooks of notes relating to interviews and research collected by Jillson
Folder 3
- 43 photographs and copies of photographs of paintings by Sawyier
- 1 Postcard reproduction of Sawyier’s painting “Wapping Street”

Folder 4
- Biographical notes compiled by Jillson

Folder 5
- Bibliography of Paul Sawyier from Jillson

Folder 6
- Chronology of Paul Sawyier’s life and family

Folder 7
- Letter dated 2 June 1970 from Margaret Bridwell to Jillson

Folder 8
- Contract dated 10 June 1908 signed by Sawyier to sell a painting
- Correspondence dated 2 September 1937 – 3 December 1938 between W.B. Hunt and Jillson
- Two bank notes signed by Sawyier dated 1903
- Eulogy written by Tom Wallace with a tribute from Edwin P. Morrow, Governor of Kentucky
- Undated letter from Claude B. Daniel to Mr. King concerning loan of a painting for exhibition

Folder 9
Box 3

Folder 1

- Letter dated 23 August 1939 from Ada May [?] to John W. Townsend about Mayme Bell
- Letter dated 11 March 1939 from [?] B. Williams to Jillson
- Death announcement of Mr. Western Thomas [n.d.]
- Miscellaneous handwritten notes

Folder 2

- Two postcards from N.Y. un-sent
- Miscellaneous notes

Folder 3

- Ad concerning reproductions of artist’s work by the Kentucky Historical Society, 1964

Folder 4

- Alexander, Mary L. “Rare Collection of Old Masters Displayed by Mr. and Mrs. C.F. Williams at Museum.” Cincinnatti Enquirer, 13 October 1939.
- Notes on Frank Duveneck dated 22 September 1939
- Notes on William Merritt Chase dated September 1939
- Biographical sketch of Benjamin West dated 1934.
- Various citations on artists.

Folder 5

- Correspondence dated 2 February 1965 through 6 March 1965 between, Jillson, Franklin A. Page (Speed Museum) and Richard H. Hill (Filson Club) concerning exhibition of Sawyier work and a lecture by Jillson.
Folder 6

- Letters acknowledging receipt of gift copy of Jillson work about Sawyier
  - University of Chicago, Libraries, 14 November 1939
  - Warren B. Davis, 30 October 1939
  - Metropolitan Museum of Art, Library, 1 November 1939
  - Western Kentucky State Teachers College, Library, 1 November 1939
  - Yale University Library, 3 November 1939
  - New York Public Library, 3 November 1939
  - Harvard College Library, 1 November 1939
  - C.H. Hastings, 30 October 1939
  - Syracuse University Library, 9 November 1939

Folder 7

- Owners list of Sawyier paintings
- Two pages of notes

Folder 8

- Pencil drawings by Sawyier, undated

Folder 9

- List of Sawyier’s students

Folder 10

- “Secretaries Group Holds May Meeting.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 7 May 1946.
- “Mr. Sawyier’s Grave.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 14 July 1918.
• Fitzhugh, Mary Darby. “Paul Sawyier and His Work.” *The Kentuckian*, May/June 1914. (photostat copy)
• “Renowned Kentucky Artist, Paul Sawyier, 1865–1917.” *Kentucky Advocate* [Danville, Ky.], 28 June 1964.
• Fitzhugh, Mary Darby. “Paul Sawyier and His Work.” *The Kentuckian*, May/June 1914. (typed copy)
• Zembrod, Francis Farra. “Paul Sawyier.” *Kentucky Women’s Journal*, February 1918. (typed copy)
• Fitzhugh, Mary Darby. “High Bridge and Vicinity”. Unpublished?

Folder 11

• Correspondence dated 27 June 1961 between Jillson and Headley Shouse Jr.
• Letter dated 8 June 1961 from Paul Harris to Jillson
• Letter dated 30 June 1961 from James C. Van Meter to Jillson
• Telegram dated 10 July 1961 from Van Meter to Jillson
• Letter dated 30 June 1961 from Van Meter to Jillson
• Correspondence dated August 1961 between Shouse and Jillson
• Letter dated 5 May 1961 from Jillson to Mrs. Knox Brown (copy)
• Letter dated 24 April 1961 from Jillson to Shouse, containing contract memoranda (copy)
• Letter dated 5 May 1961 from Jillson to Dr. J. Winston Coleman (copy)
- Correspondence dated July 1961 between Jillson and Shouse
- Letter dated 25 July 1961 from Van Meter to Jillson
- Letter dated 1 August 1961 from Jillson to Shouse and Van Meter (copy)
- Correspondence dated May 1961 between Jillson and Van Meter
- Letter dated 22 March 1961 from Shouse to Jillson
- Letter dated 11 May 1961 from Jillson to Shouse and Van Meter (copy)
- Note dated 9 May 1961 from Van Meter and Shouse
- Letter dated 17 April 1961 from Shouse to Jillson
- Letter dated 22 April 1961 from Shouse to Jillson
- Contract dated 21 April 1961 re: Jillson manuscript
- Correspondence dated May 1961 between Jillson, Shouse and Van Meter
- Letter dated 4 March 1961 from Shouse to Jillson
- Letter [n.d.] from Shouse to Jillson
- Correspondence dated June 1961 between Shouse and Jillson
- Correspondence dated April 1961 between Shouse and Jillson
- Letters dated September 1961 from Van Meter to Jillson
- Letter dated 14 September 1961 from Shouse and Van Meter to Jillson with copy of beginning of manuscript
- Return receipt for letter dated 25 April 1961 to Shouse

Folder 12
- Jillson manuscript of Sawyier biography, 1 handwritten, two typed

Folder 13
- Two Bob Rowe drawings

Folder 14
- Jillson Dr., Willard Rouse. “Paul Sawyier and his Paintings.” 1 March 1965, Louisville, Ky. Address to the Filson Club and the Speed Museum (2 copies)
- Bibliography of Paul Sawyier [unknown source and date] (2 copies)
- Price list for photographs

Folder 15
• “University Displays Sawyier.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 10 January 1965.
• Simcox, Alice. “Sawyier Put Our City On Canvas.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 10 May 1964, p. 11.

Folder 16

• “Sawyier Exhibit Closing.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 11 June 1964.
• Shakertown business card
• Shakertown Contributors Pass for Paul Sawyier Exhibition, June 1964.
• “Exhibit of Paintings by Paul Sawyier To Be Held At Shakertown June 1-14.” *The Lexington Herald-Leader*, 31 May 1964.

Folder 17

• “Library Given New Name.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 18 February 1965, p. 5. (2 copies)
• Note dated 11 February 1965 from Emily Peel to Jillson.

Box 4

Folder 1

• Correspondence dated 1907 between Paul Sawyier and J.J. King (copy)
• Letter dated 17 April 1915 from Sawyier to Mrs. Alfred Zembrod
• Letter dated 3 February 1916 between Sawyier and John Wilson Townsend (copy)
• Letter dated 8 March 1917 between Sawyier and Leo [?] (copy)
• Correspondence dated August 1939 between Sawyier and P.F. Schaefer (copy)
• Letter [n.d.] from Sawyier to Townsend
• Correspondence dated 1939 between Jillson and Lillian Sawyier Hill (copies)
• Correspondence dated 1939 between Jillson and Mary Sawyier Niess–Waner (copies)
• Letter dated 27 September 1939 from Walter Siple to Jillson (copy)
• Letter dated 7 October 1939 from Jillson to Siple (copy)
• Survey dated 24 August 1939 from Otto Rothert to Jillson (copy)
• Letter dated 30 November 1939 from Anna Clarke to Jillson (copy)
• Niess-Waner, Mary C. Sawyier. “Paul Sawyier Ranks Great Kentucky Artists.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.], 27 August 1939. (2 copies)

• “Biography of Paul Sawyier.” *The State Journal* [Frankfort, Ky.].

• Letter [n.d.] from Gail Gilbert to Mary Hamel concerning gift of above papers.

Folder 2

• Paul Sawyier biography sheets (3 copies)

• Program from Paul Sawyier Public Library Centennial Event. 2 November 2008.

• Kentucky Historical Society. *Artisan’s Apprentice: Waterways an Watercolors!* Frankfort, Ky., 2002. –pamphlet


Prints and negatives of Paul Sawyier, his work and family.


CD–Rom of images used in the Paul Sawyier Gallery website.
Box 5  *(Donations from Bill Coffey, 6.29.2018.)*