

**N. C. (Newell Convers) Wyeth  
Artwork, circa 1938-1940  
FLP.CLRC.WYETH**

**Finding aid prepared by Christopher A. Brown**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection

2017 December 12

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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement note</u> .....	5
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Related Materials</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	8
<u>Anthology of Children's Literature</u> .....	8
<u>Bounty Trilogy, The</u> .....	12

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection
<b>Creator - Artist</b>	Wyeth, N.C., (Newell Convers), 1882-1945
<b>Title</b>	N. C. (Newell Convers) Wyeth Artwork, circa 1938-1940
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1938-1940
<b>Extent</b>	36.0 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection consists of final artwork by illustrator N. C. (Newell Convers) Wyeth (1882-1945).

### Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], N. C. (Newell Convers) Wyeth Artwork, circa 1938-1940, Free Library of Philadelphia, Children's Literature Research Collection.

## Biographical/Historical note

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Newell Convers Wyeth was born on October 22, 1882, in Needham, Massachusetts. Wyeth attended Mechanic Arts High School in Boston through May 1899, concentrating on drafting. He transferred to Massachusetts Normal Art School and instructor Richard Andrew urged him toward illustration.

Wyeth joined the Howard Pyle School of Art in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1902. Howard Pyle, one of the country's leading illustrators, began his school after leaving a teaching position at Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry in Philadelphia. Wyeth was an attentive pupil and quickly assimilated Pyle's philosophy, one which combined the dramatic with solid sense of the subject. In less than five months, Wyeth successfully submitted a cover illustration to the Saturday Evening Post. By 1907, Wyeth was heralded in Outing Magazine as "one of our greatest, if not our greatest, painter of American outdoor life." His pictures had appeared in many of the most popular magazines of the period, such as Century, Harper's Monthly, Ladies' Home Journal, McClure's, Outing, and Scribner's.

In 1906, Wyeth married Carolyn Brenneman Bockius of Wilmington and moved to Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania in 1908. In 1911, the Wyeths purchased 18 acres of property in Chadds Ford, and they immediately began to build a home and a studio.

In 1911, the publishing house of Charles Scribner's Sons engaged Wyeth to illustrate Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island, his first commission in Scribner's popular series of classic stories. The book was successful and was the beginning of Wyeth's long career with Scribner's. The titles he illustrated for the publishing house include Kidnapped (1913), The Black Arrow (1916), The Boy's King Arthur (1917), The Mysterious Island (1918), The Last of the Mohicans (1919), The Deerslayer (1925), and The Yearling (1939). He also created illustrations for other publishers, for books such as Robin Hood (David McKay, 1917); Robinson Crusoe (Cosmopolitan, 1920); Rip Van Winkle (David McKay, 1921); Men of Concord (Houghton-Mifflin, 1936); and Trending Into Maine (Little, Brown, 1938).

Throughout his career Wyeth desired to be known as a painter and not an illustrator. At the time, the distinction between painting and illustration was an important one, with illustration carrying a negative connotation among artists. In his lifetime, Wyeth never attained the personal satisfaction or public recognition that he sought. In 1945, Wyeth died at a railroad crossing in Chadds For. An oncoming locomotive hit Wyeth's car, killing the artist and one of his grandchildren. **Bibliography**

N.C. Wyeth Biography, Brandywine River Museum of Art, [www.brandywine.org](http://www.brandywine.org), accessed: 2017 December 27

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## Scope and Contents note

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This collection consists of twelve paintings by artist N. C. Wyeth. The collection comprises one piece from *The Bounty Trilogy* and eleven pieces from the *Anthology of Children's Literature*.

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## Arrangement note

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The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by title.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection 2017 December 12

### Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open to researchers by appointment. Please contact the Curator for information on access.

### Conditions Governing Use note

The right of access to material does not imply the right of publication. Permission for reprinting, reproduction, or extensive quotation from the rare books, manuscripts, prints, or drawings must be obtained through written application, stating the use to be made of the material. The reader bears the responsibility for any possible infringement of copyright laws in the publication of such material. A reproduction fee will be charged if the material is to be reproduced in a commercial publication.

Some of the materials in this collection may be too fragile for use without the Curator's supervision.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

All pieces in this collection were gifted to the Free Library of Philadelphia by an anonymous donor.

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## Related Materials

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## **Related Archival Materials note**

Brandywine River Museum of Art, N. C. Wyeth Collection.

National Museum of American Illustration, N. C. Wyeth Collection.

Free Library of Philadelphia, Rare Book Department.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Genre(s)**

- Folklore
- Illustrations
- Storytelling

### **Occupation(s)**

- Pirates

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Andersen, H. C. (Hans Christian), 1805-1875
- Duncan, Norman, 1871-1916
- Edwardes, Marian
- Grimm, Jacob, 1785-1863
- Grimm, Wilhelm, 1786-1859
- Hall, James Norman, 1887-1951
- James I, King of England, 1566-1625
- Johnson, Edna, 1876-1967
- Lucas, Edgar (Alice), Mrs. , 1855-
- Nordhoff, Charles , 1887-1947
- Noyes, Alfred, 1880-1958
- Olcott, Frances Jenkins, 1872-1963
- Rolleston, T. W. (Thomas William), 1857-1920
- Sandburg, Carl, 1878-1967
- Scott, Carrie Emma, 1874-1943

- Spyri, Johanna, 1827-1901
- Wheeler, William A. (William Adolphus), 1833-1874
- Wyeth, N.C., (Newell Convers), 1882-1945

### **Subject(s)**

- Art
- Artists
- Children's literature--20th century
- Illustrated children's books--20th century

## Collection Inventory

### Anthology of Children's Literature 1940

#### Bibliography

Edna Johnson and Carrie E. Scott, comp. *Anthology of Children's Literature*. (Cambridge: The Riverside Press, 1940)

#### Item

facw00013 *Adventure of the Giant Squid, The*

1

#### Exhibition

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

#### General note

Illustration depicts events in Chapter IV of *The Adventures of Billy Topsail* by Norman Duncan.

facw00003 *Admiral's Ghost, The*

2

#### Exhibition

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia PA, December 21, 2017- February 22, 2018.



Anthology of Children's Literature

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**General note**

"The Admiral's Ghost" from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *Collected Poems* by Alfred Noyes.

facw00001 Arion and the Dolphin

3

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *The Wonder Garden* by Frances Jenkins Olcott.

facw00014 David and Goliath

4

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

Exhibited in "Big and Small, Books for All," in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Rare Book Department, Dietrich Gallery, October 23 2017 - March 24, 2018.

**General note**

Except in the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from I Samuel, Chapters XVI-XX of the King James Version of the Bible (Abridged).

facw00004 Heidi

5

**Exhibition**

Anthology of Children's Literature

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Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from Chapter III of *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri.

facw00005 King's Herald, The

6

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Title page illustration from the *Anthology of Children's Literature*.

facwooooo6 Oisín Rides to the Land of Youth

7

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *High Deeds of Finn* by T. W. Rolleston.

facw00010 Old Woman Tost Up in a Bucket, The

8

**Exhibition**

**Anthology of Children's Literature**

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Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department,  
Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Rhyme found in the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *Mother Goose's  
Melodies*, edited by W. A. Wheeler.

facw00007 Peculiarsome Abe

9

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department,  
Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from Chapter XVIII of *Abe  
Lincoln Grows Up* by Carl Sandburg

facw00008 Snow-Drop

10

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department,  
Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department,  
Philadelphia PA, September 22, 2017 - December 19, 2017

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *Household Tales* by  
Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, translated by Marian Edwardes.

**Bounty Trilogy, The**

facw00009 Thumbelisa

11

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Except from the *Anthology of Children's Literature* taken from *Fairy Tales* by Hans Christian Andersen, translated by Mrs. Edgar (Alice) Lucas.

**Bounty Trilogy, The 1940****Bibliography**

Charles Nordhoff and James Hall, *The Bounty Trilogy* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1940)

**Item**

facw00002 Burning of the Bounty, The

12

**Exhibition**

Exhibited in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Central Children's Department, Philadelphia, PA, 1941- 2016.

**General note**

Image on page 628 of Charles Nordhoff's and James Hall's *The Bounty Trilogy* (1940).