# **Anne Malcolmson fonds**

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**Anne Malcomson fonds**. -1940 - 1995. -2.5 m of textual records, photographs and original art

**Biographical sketch:** Anne Burnett Malcolmson van Storch, author of a small but distinguished list of children's books, was born in 1910 in St. Louis, Missouri. Educated at Bryn Mawr College, she became a teacher in New Haven and Chicago. In 1936 she married newspaperman Charles Malcolmson and moved to Washington DC where she taught English to Grades 7 to 9 at the Potomac School. Her husband became Special Relations Officer for the War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg, and she was to join him in Germany; however, he died suddenly and Ann Malcolmson joined the US government as an intelligence officer. In 1954 she married Earl von Storch and returned to teaching until 1963. Since then she has been a volunteer remedial reading tutor in the DC Public Schools and a volunteer docent with the National Archives. In 1980 her husband died, and in 1985 she moved to North Carolina where she continued to volunteer at her local library.

Her writing career evolved as a result of needs she perceived as a teacher. Her major publications include:

- 1. *Yankee Doodle's Cousins*. A collection of American folk stories. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1941.
- 2. Song of Robin Hood. A selection of ballads from the Robin Hood cycle, translated by Malcolmson and illustrated by Virginia Lee Burton. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1947.
- 3. *Mister Stormalong*. A pseudo-biography of an American folk hero, written in collaboration with Dell J. McCormick. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1952.
- 4. *Miracle Plays*. A collection of medieval plays translated from Middle English and illustrated by Pauline Baynes. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1959/London: Constable & Co., 1960.
- 5. A Taste of Chaucer. Translation of selections from The Canterbury Tales. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1964/ London: Constable Young Books, 1967.
- 6. *William Blake: an introduction*. New York: Harcourt, Brace World/London: Constable Young Books, 1967.
- 7. Captain Ichabod Paddock. A rewriting of a story from Yankee Doodle Cousins for young children (picture book). New York: Walker & Co., 1970.

Anne Malcolmson and Virginia Lee Burton were nominated for a Caldecott medal in 1947. She has been a member of the Children's Book Guild of Washington DC since 1955.

**Custodial history:** The fonds is the gift of Anne Malcolmson von Storch to the Osborne Collection in 1991, with a further gift of 10 Pauline Baynes drawings in 1997.

**Scope and content:** The fonds contains material relating to each of her major writing projects as well as a several periodical publications, including manuscripts, reviews, correspondence and notes. Her editors included Grace Hogarth and Margaret K. McElderry and the fonds includes correspondence with both. She also maintained a friendly correspondence with illustrator Pauline Baynes. The fonds includes 2 original pen and ink illustrations by Robert McCloskey from *Yankee Doodle's Cousins*, 10 original drawings by Pauline Baynes for *Miracle Plays*, and two textiles from Folly Cove Designers, the cooperative headed by Virginia Lee Burton. One of these textiles is illustrated in the artist's biography as her design, the other is attributed to her.

**Arrangement:** The fonds is arranged in a single series, chronologically by date of publication.

#### Series and Sub-series

## Series 1 – Yankee Doodle's Cousins and Song of Robin Hood

1.1 Yankee Doodle's Cousins – outline, introduction and stories [194-?] - [194-?]

File contains typed stories, including some carbon copies of individual stories, some heavily annotated, with an introduction and brief outline.

1.2 Yankee Doodle's Cousins – printer's copy of typescript

Dates of creation: [1941?] - [1941?]

Physical description: 201-page typed manuscript, with corrections and printer's notations

1.3 Yankee Doodle's Cousins – pre-publication correspondence and background note

Dates of creation: 1940 – 1991

Physical description: File contains a 2-page typed reminiscence of the book's genesis 'written from memory, July, 1991', and the correspondence leading to publication, including letters from Grace Hogarth and Robert McCloskey

1.4 Yankee Doodle's Cousins – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1943 – 1990

Physical description: File contains letters relating to reproduction of stories in other books, a request for membership in "The Pen and Brush" [writers and artists club], and sales and copyright issues.

1.5 Yankee Doodle's Cousins - reviews

Dates of creation: 1941 - 1956

Physical description: File contains clipped reviews from newspapers and magazines, including *McCalls*, *The New York Herald Tribune*, *The New Yorker*, etc.

Art drawer: Yankee Doodle's Cousins – illustrations

Dates of creation: [1941?] - [1941?]

Physical description: 2 original pen and ink illustrations by Robert McCloskey, for pages 116-117 ('The Mississippi Valley') and page 165 ('Jean LaFitte').

### Song of Robin Hood

1.6 Song of Robin Hood – background

Dates of creation: 1991

Physical description: 2 typed sheets, signed by the author, consisting of her reminiscence of the production of the book from its conception through to publication, including information on Virginia Lee Burton's illustrations

1.7 Song of Robin Hood – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1943 - 1978

Physical description: File contains letters relating to copyright for the book and the material in it, and letters from Grace Castagnetta, the musical arranger.

1.8 Song of Robin Hood – illustrations

Dates of creation: [1947?] - [1947?]

Physical description: File contains proof copies of 4 of Virginia Lee Burton's illustrations

1.9 Song of Robin Hood – reviews

Dates of creation: 1947

Physical description: File contains clipped reviews, including a number from the publisher's clipping service.

Map cabinet - Folio drawer: Textiles by Virginia Lee Burton

Dates of creation: [194-] - [194-]

Physical description: Cotton place-mat and dresser-scarf from the Folly Cove studio headed by Virginia Lee Burton, purchased by Anne Malcolmson's sister from the studio, "about the time of the publication of Robin Hood [1947]" according to a note in the Osborne administration file. The design of the dresser scarf is reproduced in *Virginia Lee Burton: a life*.

# Series Two – Mr. Stormalong and Miracle Plays

2.1 Mr. Stormalong – correspondence and author's background notes

Dates of creation: 1949 - 1991

Physical description: File contains the author's reminiscence of the book's history. The book was first written by Dell McCormick and passed to Anne Malcolmson after his sudden death before the final revision. File also contains correspondence from the publisher and from McCormick's widow.

2.2 Mr. Stormalong – research notes

Dates of creation: [194-] - [194-]

Physical description: File contains handwritten and typed research notes by Dell McCormick, given to Anne Malcolmson by his widow, Mabel McCormick.

2.3 Mr. Stormalong – Dell McCormick's first typescript

Dates of creation: [194-] - [194-]

Physical description: File contains carbon copy of 77-page typed manuscript, bound through 3 holes with a cord. Gift to Anne Malcolmson from McCormick's widow. The working title was "Captain Stormalong of the Tuscarora".

2.4 Mr. Stormalong – second manuscript

Dates of creation: [194-] - [194-]

Physical description: File contains 90-page typed manuscript, with the working title "Captain Stormalong", and the name and address of Dell McCormick.

2.5 Mr. Stormalong – final typescript

Dates of creation: [194-] - [194-]

Physical description: File contains Anne Malcolmson's 135-page manuscript, containing edits. The publisher's working copy.

2.6 Mr. Stormalong – reviews

Dates of creation: 1952

Physical description: File contains clipped reviews.

### Miracle Plays

2.7 Miracle Plays – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1958 - 1991

Physical description: File contains letters from Grace Hogarth, and continuing correspondence relating to copyright and performance issues

2.8 *Miracle Plays* – illustrations

Dates of creation: [195-] - [195-]

Physical description: File contains a proof copy of the colour-printed dust jacket, and proofs of 5 illustrations

2.9 Miracle Plays – letters from Pauline Baynes

Dates of creation: 1958 - 1995

Physical description: File contains 2 letters relating to the publication of the book, a number of Christmas cards, and a final letter regarding Anne Malcolmson's gift of Bayne's drawings to the Toronto Public Library.

2.10 *Miracle Plays* – reviews

Dates of creation: 1959 - 1960

Physical description: File contains clipped reviews, including a number from the Houghton Mifflin clipping service.

Art drawer: *Miracle Plays* – original drawings

Dates of creation: [195-] - [195-]

Physical description: 10 original pen and ink drawings by Pauline Baynes, for pages 1, 4, 16, 38, 43, 52, 101, 131, tail pieces for pages 46 and 137, and 1 unused drawing of Noah.

# Series Three – A Taste of Chaucer and William Blake: an introduction

3.1 *A Taste of Chaucer* – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1962 - 1985

Physical description: File contains a draft copy of Anne Malcolmson's letter to Houghton Mifflin and correspondence with editors including Margaret K. McElderry and Grace Hogarth.

3.2 A Taste of Chaucer – final typescript

Dates of creation: [1964?]

Physical description: File contains the printer's copy of the final version of the manuscript, with revisions and notations.

3.3 *A Taste of Chaucer* – proofs

Dates of creation: 1964

Physical description: Spiral bound copy of the advance uncorrected proof, in stiff paper wrappers with corrections by hand.

3.4 *A Taste of Chaucer* – illustrations

Dates of creation: [1964]

Physical description: File contains 2 proof sheets of Enrico Arno's illustrations.

3.5 *A Taste of Chaucer* – reviews

Dates of creation: 1964 - 1965

Physical description: File contains clipped and photocopied reviews

William Blake: an introduction

3.6 William Blake: an introduction – background notes

Dates of creation: 1963 - 1991

Physical description: File contains mimeographed poems by Blake, a typed sheet explaining the circumstances leading to the writing of the book, handwritten notes, and 2 drafts of the introduction.

3.7 William Blake... – research photographs

Dates of creation: [196-] – [196-]

Physical description: File contains 14 photographs of works of art by Blake from the Tate, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the National Gallery of Art (Washington), 9 postcards and 2 colour reproductions.

3.8 William Blake... – correspondence and background

Dates of creation: 1965 - 1975

Physical description: File contains Anne Malcolmson's recollection of the book's publication, and correspondence relating to publication and copyright.

3.9 *William Blake...* – printer's copy of typescript.

Dates of creation: [1967?]

Physical description: File contains 142-page manuscript and 5-page index, with corrections and printer's notations.

3.10 *William Blake...* – proof copy

Dates of creation: 1967

Physical description: File contains proof sheets with handwritten corrections, of text and illustrations.

3.11 *William Blake...* – reviews Dates of creation: 1967 - 1968

Physical description: File contains clipped and photocopied reviews

# Series Four - Captain Ichabod Paddock

4.1 Captain Ichabod Paddock – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1968 - 1983

Physical description: File contains correspondence with editor Beth Walker, accounting

information, etc.

4.2 Captain Ichabod Paddock – proof

Dates of creation: 1970

Physical description: File contains a proof copy of the text, and the case binding.

4.3 Captain Ichabod Paddock – reviews

Dates of creation: 1970

Physical description: File contains clipped and photocopied reviews

4.4 "Davy Crockett and the little mustang"

Dates of creation: 1955 - 1958

Physical description: File contains correspondence and printed copies of the story published in the *American Junior Red Cross News* (November 1955) and *My Weekly Reader* (July 1958)

4.5 "Fifty years of children's books"

Dates of creation: 1966 - 1967

Physical description: File contains correspondence with the American Red Cross, draft of the article, and a copy of the *American Junior Red Cross News*, February 1967

4.6 "Old Jim Bridger and the wonders of the West"

Dates of creation: 1978 - 1979

Physical description: File contains 2 typed manuscripts, with corrections.

4.7 "Old Jim Bridger..." – correspondence

Dates of creation: 1974 - 1979

Physical description: File contains correspondence relating to the publication of this story in *Cricket* magazine, June 1976.

4.8 "Charlie Burnett and the spring flood"

Dates of creation: 1978 - 1979

Physical description: File contains typed manuscript and correspondence relating to the publication of this story in *Cricket* magazine, May 1979.

4.9 Children's Book Guild of Washington DC (1)

Dates of creation: 1975

Physical description: Copy of "It started with the lemon pie, a brief history of the Children's Book Guild of Washington, DC and its members", with an entry on Anne Malcolmson.

4.10 Children's Book Guild of Washington DC (2)

Dates of creation: 1985

Physical description: "The Children's Book Guild of Washingon DC, a history 1945-1985", with an entry on Anne Malcolmson.

#### **Books**:

*Miracle Plays*. London: Constable and Co., reprinted 1961. With illustrations by Pauline Baynes. Signed by the author on the title page.

*Mister Stormalong*. By Anne Malcolmson and Dell J. McCormick. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1952. Inscribed by the author on the front flyleaf.

*Song of Robin Hood.* [Boston]: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1947. Music arranged by Grace Castagnetta; designed and illustrated by Virginia Lee Burton. Inscribed by the author.

A Taste of Chaucer, selections from the Canterbury Tales. Chosen and edited by Anne Malcolmson. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1964. Signed on the title page.

William Blake, an introduction. Edited by Anne Malcolmson. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1967. Signed on the title page.

*Yankee Doodlle's Cousins*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1941. Illustrated by Robert McCloskey. Inscribed on the half-title page.