

Ernest H. (Ernest Howard) Shepard:

An Inventory of His Art Works at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Shepard, Ernest H. (Ernest Howard), 1879-1976
Title:	Ernest H. (Ernest Howard) Shepard Art Inventory
Dates:	1920-1930
Extent:	1 box (13 items)
Abstract:	The majority of the items are original drawings illustrating verse and stories by A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne, illustrations for works by E. V. (Edward Verrall) Lucas and Georgette Agnew, and for the London weekly journal, <i>Sketch</i> ; also included is one unidentified illustration attributed to Shepard.
Call Number:	Art Collection AR-00250
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research. Please note that a minimum of 24 hours notice is required to pull Art Collection materials to the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Some materials may be restricted from viewing. To make an appointment or to reserve Art Collection materials, please contact the Center's staff at art@hrc.utexas.edu . Researchers must create an online Research Account and agree to the Materials Use Policy before using archival materials.
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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation For item 65.520.1002, use: James F. Drake, Inc. Art Collection (AR-00130). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin. For all other items, use: Ernest H. (Ernest Howard) Shepard Art Collection (AR-00250). Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Acquisition: Internal transfers and purchases, 1950-1993

Processed by: Ransom Center Staff; Jill Morena, 2019

Repository: [Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin](#)

Biographical Sketch

Ernest Shepard (British, 1879-1976) is best known for his illustration work for children's author A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne, and most notably for his representations of characters in the Winne-the-Pooh stories. Shepard was born on December 10, 1879, in London. His father was an architect, and his mother, who died when Shepard was 10 years old, was the daughter of watercolorist William Lee. From an early age, Shepard was encouraged by both parents to pursue a career as an artist. After his mother's death, Shepard, his father, and his siblings lived with his paternal aunts for about a year before moving to a home in Hammersmith where many of their neighbors were artists. He studied drawing at Heatherley's Art School for one year, and he was subsequently accepted to the Royal Academy School on a scholarship in 1897. In 1904, he married Florence Chaplin, a fellow student at the Royal Academy. Before serving in the Royal Artillery in World War I, Shepard designed book jackets and provided illustrations for various journals and magazines. After the armistice, Shepard continued to draw and send illustrations to be considered for publication while stationed abroad in Italy. Beginning in 1921, Shepard would become steadily employed by *Punch*, to which he would contribute for nearly fifty years as an illustrator and cartoonist. Shepard served on the editorial board of *Punch*, and through this capacity he met Milne and E. V. (Edward Verrall) Lucas, a writer, fellow board member, and Meuthen & Co. publishing house chairman. Meuthen would go on to publish many of the over 50 children's and adult books Shepard would illustrate in his lifetime. In addition to fictional stories and verse, Shepard illustrated his two childhood and early adulthood memoirs, *Drawn from Memory* (1957) and *Drawn from Life* (1961). He was named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1972. Shepard died on March 24, 1976, in Midhurst, United Kingdom.

Sources:

Ernest H. Shepard. artnet.com/artists/ernest-h-shepard. (accessed 1 February 2019).

Knox, Rawle. *The Work of E H Shepard*. London: Meuthen, 1980.

Lindhelm, Burton. "Ernest Shepard, 'Pooh' Illustrator, Dies." *The New York Times*, 27 March 1976. <https://www.nytimes.com/1976/03/27/archives/ernest-shepard-pooh-illustrator-dies-a-giddy-kipper.html>.

Shepard, Ernest Howard. *Oxford Art Online*, published 31 October 2011. <https://doi.org/10.1093/benz/9780199773787.article.B00168602>.

Scope and Contents

This inventory lists all art works by Ernest H. Shepard (British, 1879-1976) that are found in both the Ernest H. (Ernest Howard) Shepard Art Collection (AR-00250) and the James F. Drake, Inc. Art Collection (AR-00130). The majority of the items are original drawings illustrating verse and stories by A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne, including illustrations for Winnie-the-Pooh stories and verses appearing in Milne's *When We Were Very Young* (1924). Also present are an illustration for Georgette Agnew's *Let's Pretend* (1927) (69.51); an

illustration with verse for the London journal, *Sketch* (76.58), and four original drawings with handwritten verse about various British counties by E. V. (Edward Verrall) Lucas, which initially appeared in *Punch* and were published together in *Mr. Punch's County Songs* (1928). One of the drawings (65.520.1002) is attributed to Shepard.

The drawings are organized into three series: Series I. Illustrations for Verse and Stories by A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne, circa 1924-1928, of which two items include handwritten verse by Milne on accompanying mats; Series II. Illustrations for Verse by E. V. (Edward Verrall) Lucas, circa 1928, which also includes handwritten verse with the images, possibly in Lucas's hand; and Series III. Other Works, circa 1920-1927.

Related Material

Correspondence to and from Shepard can be found in the Ernest H. (Ernest Howard) Shepard Collection (MS-03814). Items 65.246.1.1-2, 65.246.2.1-2, and 93.7.1.1 listed in this inventory were internally transferred from the A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne Collection (MS-02844).

Index Terms

People

Agnew, Georgette.
Lucas, E. V. (Edward Verrall), 1868-1938.
Milne, A. A. (Alan Alexander), 1882-1956.
Shepard, Ernest H. (Ernest Howard), 1879-1976.

Subjects

Children's literature, English.
Children's Prose Poems.
Winnie-the-Pooh (Fictitious character).

Document Types

Pen and ink drawings.
Pencil drawings.
Watercolors.

Series I. Illustrations for Verse and Stories by A. A. (Alan Alexander) Milne, circa 1924-1928**Location**

Accession Number: 65.246.1.1 Brownie, circa 1924. Pen, ink, and pencil on board, 23.2 x 27 cm.

Shepard,
E.H.,
Box 1

Accession Number: 65.246.1.2 Milne, A. A. (Alan Alexander), 1882-1956. Mat board with handwritten verse for Brownie, circa 1924. Ink and tape on board, 27 x 31.5 cm.

Accession Number: 65.246.2.1 Little Bo-Peep and Little Boy Blue, circa 1924. Pen and ink on board, 38.1 x 26.7 cm.

Accession Number: 65.246.2.2 Milne, A. A. (Alan Alexander), 1882-1956. Mat board with handwritten verse for Little Bo-Peep and Little Boy Blue, circa 1924. Ink on board, 48.3 x 38.1 cm.

Accession Number: 69.48 [Unpublished book jacket design featuring Winne-the-Pooh characters], circa 1928. Pencil, ink, and watercolor on paper, 22 x 23 cm (image) (irregular); 23.6 x 25.4 cm (sheet).

Accession Number: 93.7.1.1 Eeyore has three sticks on the ground, circa 1928. Pen and ink on board, 13.8 cm x 24 cm (irregular).

Series II. Illustrations for Verse by E. V. (Edward Verrall) Lucas, circa 1928

	Location
Accession Number: 68.27.1 Oxfordshire, circa 1928. Pen, ink, and pencil on board, 36.5 x 26.7 cm.	Shepard, E.H., Box 1
Accession Number: 68.27.2 Wiltshire, circa 1928. Pen, ink, and pencil on board, 36.5 x 26.7 cm.	
Accession Number: 68.27.3 Worcestershire, circa 1928. Pen, ink, and pencil on board, 36.5 x 26.7 cm.	
Accession Number: 68.27.4 Monmouthshire, circa 1928. Pen, ink, and pencil on board, 36.5 x 26.7 cm.	

Series III. Other Works, circa 1920-1927

Accession Number: 65.520.1002 Boy holding peacock feather, with sketch of elephant and unidentified animals to his right, circa 1920s. Pencil on paper, 16.2 x 21.3 cm.

Location
Shepard,
E.H.,
Box 1

Accession Number: 69.51 Michael's Evening Song, 1927. Pen and ink on board, 36.5 x 26.7 cm.

Accession Number: 76.58 "En Passant Par La Lorraine" / "This Afternoon in Regent Street," circa 1925. Pen, pencil, and ink wash on board, 36.8 x 54.4 cm.