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# Guide to the Arnold Lobel Papers

GEN MSS 2054



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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 2054

**CREATOR:** Lobel, Arnold , artist

**TITLE:** Arnold Lobel papers

**DATES:** circa 1963-1987

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 49.27 linear feet (31 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains original artwork, drafts, notes, proofs, dummies, mockups, mechanicals, and other material for books by children's author and illustrator Arnold Lobel, and works of others illustrated by Lobel.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lobel>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lobel>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Adrienne Lobel, Adam Lobel, and the Estate of Arnold Lobel, 2017.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Arnold Lobel Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Arnold Lobel Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Arnold Lobel (1933-1987)

Arnold Lobel was an American author and illustrator who worked on nearly 100 children's books. He was born on May 22, 1933, in Los Angeles, California, and raised in Schenectady, New York. In 1955, Lobel graduated with a BFA from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. After graduation, he supported himself as an illustrator for advertising agencies and trade magazines. Lobel began his career in children's literature illustrating Harper & Row's early reader books. His first book as an author and illustrator was *A Zoo for Mister Muster* (1962).

Among his most recognized works is a series of four books about a frog and a toad: *Frog and Toad Are Friends* (1970); *Frog and Toad Together* (1972); *Frog and Toad all Year* (1976); and *Days with Frog and Toad* (1979). *Frog and Toad are Friends* was chosen as a 1971 Caldecott Honor Book by the American Library Association, and *Frog and Toad Together* was recognized as a Newbery Honor Book in 1973. He was awarded the Caldecott Medal in 1981 for *Fables*. Other works by Lobel include *The Man Who Took the Indoors Out* (1974), *Mouse Soup* (1977), *Ming Lo Moves the Mountain* (1982), *On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed Into Town* (1971), *Prince Bertram the Bad* (1963), and *The Turnaround Wind* (1987). Lobel also illustrated children's books for authors such as Laura Geringer, Valerie Scho Carey, Cheli Durán, Burr Tillstrom, Harriet Ziefert, Doris Orgel, Maxine Kumin, Jean Van Leeuwen, Peggy Parish, and Edward Lear. Other works as illustrator include *Gregory Griggs and Other Nursery Rhyme People* (1978), *Random House Book of Mother Goose* (1986), and *Random House Book of Poetry for Children* (1983).

In 1955, Lobel married children's author and illustrator Anita Kempler. They collaborated on books such as *How the Rooster Saved the Day* (1977), *A Treeful of Pigs* (1979), and *On Market Street* (1981). The couple had two children, Adrienne and Adam. In 1974, Lobel came out to his family as gay. He died of cardiac arrest in New York in 1987.

## Scope and Contents

The collection contains original artwork, drafts, notes, proofs, dummies, mechanicals, mockups, and other materials for books by children's author and illustrator Arnold Lobel, and works of others illustrated by Lobel. Included are materials related to one of Lobel's earliest works, *Prince Bertram the Bad*, as well as *Mouse Soup* and *The Turnaround Wind*, and his illustrations for children's authors such as Laura Geringer, Valerie Scho Carey, Cheli Durán, Maxine Kumin, Edward Lear, Doris Orgel, Peggy Parish, Burr Tillstrom, Jean Van Leeuwen, and Harriet Ziefert. Artwork consists of sketches and watercolor, pencil, pen and ink, and pen and wash drawings.

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## Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Written and Illustrated by Lobel, 1963-1987. II. Writings of Others Illustrated by Lobel, 1968-1987.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Written and Illustrated by Lobel, 1963–1987

19.88 linear feet (12 boxes)

This series consists of drafts, notes, watercolors, ink and pencil sketches, dummies, mockups, mechanicals, and proofs for books written and illustrated by Arnold Lobel. Works include *The Bug Book*, *The Man Who Took the Indoors Out*, *Ming Lo Moves the Mountain*, *Mouse Soup*, *On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed Into Town*, *Prince Bertram the Bad*, and *The Turnaround Wind*.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

<i>The Bug Book</i>		
b. 1, f. 1	Color proof	1979
b. 5, f. 50	Mechanicals	1979
<i>The Man Who Took the Indoors Out</i>		
b. 2, f. 13-16	Dummy	1974
b. 3, f. 22-31	Mechanicals	1974
b. 2, f. 17	Mechanicals, photo proofs, artwork	1974
b. 2, f. 18-21	Pencil sketches	1974
b. 9, f. 136	Photocopied proof with autograph manuscript annotations	1974
<i>Ming Lo Moves the Mountain</i>		
b. 5, f. 51	Ephemera: posters	1982
b. 5, f. 52-65	Mockups	1982
b. 6, f. 66-71	Mockups	1982
b. 1, f. 2	Pencil sketches	1982
b. 4, f. 32-37	Pencil sketches	1982
b. 9, f. 137	Photo proofs	1982
b. 9, f. 138	Photocopy of dummy	1982
b. 6, f. 72	Proof sheet, uncut	1982
b. 6, f. 73	Proof sheet, uncut, for library binding cover	1982
<i>Mouse Soup</i>		
b. 4, f. 38-43	Dummy	1977
b. 6, f. 74-76	Galley proofs	1976
b. 7, f. 77-109	Mechanicals: artwork	1977

## Mouse Soup (continued)

b. 4, f. 44	Mechanicals for cover: artwork	1977
b. 4, f. 45-49	Pencil sketches	1977
b. 10, f. 145-150	Pencil sketches	1977
b. 9, f. 139-140	Photocopy of dummy, setting copy, proofs	1977
<i>On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed Into Town</i>		
b. 9, f. 141	Autograph manuscript and typescript drafts, setting copies	1971
b. 11, f. 157-160	Dummy	1971
b. 11, f. 161-181	Mechanicals: artwork	1971
b. 11, f. 182	Sample artwork	1971
<i>Prince Bertram the Bad</i>		
b. 12, f. 183-200	Mechanicals: artwork	1963
<i>The Turnaround Wind</i>		
b. 9, f. 142	Autograph manuscript draft	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 110-111	Cover: artwork, mechanicals, proofs	1987-1988
b. 1, f. 3-6	Dummy	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 112	Galley proofs	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 113-129	Mechanicals	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 130	Mockups	1987-1988
b. 1, f. 7-10	Mockups	1987-1988
b. 10, f. 151-156	Mockups	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 131-134	Pencil sketches	1987-1988
b. 9, f. 143	Photocopy of correspondence with Books of Wonder	1987-1988
b. 8, f. 135	Photocopy of page proof	1987-1988
b. 1, f. 11	Portfolio presentation cover, manuscript sign with title	1987-1988
b. 1, f. 12	Proofs	1987-1988
b. 9, f. 144	Setting proof	1987-1988

## Series II: Writings of Others Illustrated by Lobel, 1968–1987

29.39 linear feet (19 boxes)

This series consists of watercolors, ink and pencil sketches, dummies, mockups, mechanicals, and proofs for works illustrated by Arnold Lobel, including Cheli Durán's *Hildilid's Night*, Laura Geringer's *A Three Hat Day*, Harriet Ziefert's *Bear* series, and Edward Lear's *Four Little Children Who Went Around the World*, along with children's literature collections, including *Gregory Griggs and Other Nursery Rhyme People*, *The Random House Book of Mother Goose*, and *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children*.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

### *Bear* series by Harriet Ziefert

Titles include *Bear All Year*, *Bear Gets Dressed*, *Bear Goes Shopping*, and *Bear's Busy Morning*.

b. 13, f. 201	Drawings and sketches	1986
b. 17, f. 268-270	Dummies	1986
b. 17, f. 271-275	Dummies with movable flaps	1986
b. 18, f. 277-278	Mockups	1986
b. 17, f. 276	Proofs	1986
<i>The Devil and Mother Crump</i> by Valerie Scho Carey		
b. 13, f. 202-208	Mockups	1987
b. 18, f. 279-286	Mockups	1987
<i>Dinosaur Time</i> by Peggy Parish		
b. 18, f. 287-292	Dummy	1974
b. 13, f. 209-213	Mechanicals	1974
b. 18, f. 293-308	Mechanicals	1974
b. 15, f. 225-230	Pencil sketches	1974
b. 31, f. 538	Proofs: uncut pages	1974
<i>The Dragon Who Lived Downstairs</i> by Burr Tillstrom		
b. 31, f. 539-543	Dummy	1970–1979
b. 15, f. 231-235	Pencil sketches	1970–1979
<i>The Four Little Children Who Went Around the World</i> by Edward Lear		
b. 15, f. 236-238	Dummy	1968
b. 15, f. 239-246	Mechanicals	1968
b. 15, f. 247-248	Pencil sketches	1968

### *Gregory Griggs and Other Nursery Rhyme People*



## Gregory Griggs and Other Nursery Rhyme People (continued)

b. 22, f. 370-375	Dummy	1978
b. 14, f. 222	Ephemera: notecards	1978
b. 21, f. 348	Ephemera: posters	1978
b. 21, f. 349-362	Mechanicals: artwork	1978
b. 31, f. 544	Mechanicals: cover	1978
b. 20, f. 336	Mechanicals: notecard	1978
b. 22, f. 376-399	Mechanicals: pasteups	1978
b. 19, f. 309-335	Pencil sketches and drawings	1978
b. 20, f. 337-347	Photo proofs	1978
b. 21, f. 363-365	Photo proofs	1978
b. 14, f. 223	Setting proof	1978
b. 14, f. 224	Unbound page proof	1978
<i>Hildilid's Night</i> by Cheli Durán		
b. 16, f. 261-265	Dummy, accompanying materials	1971
b. 23, f. 400-406	Mechanicals: artwork, pasteups	1971
b. 16, f. 266	Mechanicals for jacket and pages 4-5: artwork, pasteups	1971
b. 21, f. 366-369	Pencil sketches	1971
b. 31, f. 545	Pencil sketches	1971
<i>Merry, Merry FIBruary</i> by Doris Orgel		
b. 24, f. 407	Drawing, pencil	1977
b. 24, f. 408-436	Mechanicals: artwork	1977
b. 24, f. 437	Mechanicals: artwork for jacket	1977
b. 25, f. 448-462	Pencil sketches	1977
<i>Microscope</i> by Maxine Kumin		
b. 24, f. 438-440	Dummy	1984
b. 24, f. 441	Dummy: cover drawing and presentation portfolio	1984
b. 24, f. 442-446	Mechanicals: artwork	1984
b. 24, f. 447	Pencil sketches	1984
<i>More Tales of Oliver Pig</i> by Jean Van Leeuwen		
b. 26, f. 464-480	Mechanicals: artwork	1981

*The Random House Book of Mother Goose*

b. 27, f. 484	Cover: artwork, photo proofs	1986
b. 26, f. 481-482	Drawings: watercolor, pen and ink	1986
b. 27, f. 485-489	Drawings: watercolor, pen and ink	1986
b. 29, f. 517-526	Drawings: watercolor, pen and ink	1986
b. 30, f. 527-537	Drawings: watercolor, pen and ink	1986
b. 27, f. 490-505	Dummy	1986

*The Random House Book of Poetry for Children*

b. 26, f. 483	Cover artwork: pencil drawings	1983
b. 25, f. 463	Cover artwork: drawing in pencil, watercolor, pen and ink	1983
b. 28, f. 506-516	Dummy	1983

*A Three Hat Day* by Laura Geringer

b. 15, f. 249-260	Mockups	1985
b. 16, f. 267	Pencil drawings	1985
b. 13, f. 214-217	Pencil sketches	1985
b. 13, f. 218-221	Photo proofs	1985

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Authors, American -- 20th Century  
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives  
Children's literature, American -- 20th Century  
Children's literature -- Illustrations

### **Genres / Formats**

Illustrated works (documents)  
Pen and ink drawings  
Pen and wash drawings  
Pencil drawings  
Sketches  
Watercolors (paintings)

### **Names**

Durán, Cheli  
Geringer, Laura  
Kumin, Maxine, 1925-2014  
Lear, Edward, 1812-1888  
Lobel, Arnold  
Tillstrom, Burr