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Maclean Family Illustration Collection 1989-2023

Name: Maclean Family Illustration Collection, 1989-2023 MC0087

Materials: Illustrations

Dates: 1989-2023 (specific years 1989, 2021, 2023)

Volume: Two large document boxes

Donation: From the family of John N. Maclean, 2025

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSLM staff, these records are

open for research without restrictions.

Biographical Note

Norman [Fitzroy] Maclean (1902-1990)

Norman Maclean was an American professor at the University of Chicago who, following his retirement, became a major figure in American literature. Maclean is best known for *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories* (1976).

Maclean was born in Clarinda, Iowa, and was the son of Clara Evelyn née Davidson; 1873-1952) and the Rev. John Norman Maclean (1862-1941). He was homeschooled until 1913. In 1909, his family relocated to Missoula, Montana. This move would considerably influence and inspire Maclean's later writings. When Maclean was 14 years old, he found work with the United States Forest Service in the Bitterroot National Forest of northwestern Montana. His father would build a family cabin near Seeley Lake, Montana.

Maclean attended Dartmouth College, where he assumed the position of editor-in-chief for the College humor magazine, Dartmouth Jack-O-Lantern. There, he had the opportunity to attend creative writing classes by Robert Frost and began admiring and emulating the writing style of Ernest Hemingway. He graduated with his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1924. In 1928, Maclean began graduate studies in English at the University of Chicago, he earned his Ph.D. in 1940.

Maclean obtained a faculty teaching position teaching English literature at the University of Chicago, Maclean eventually became the William Rainey Harper Professor in the Department of English. Maclean retired from teaching in 1973.

In 1976, A River Runs Through It and Other Stories became the first work of fiction published by the University of Chicago Press.

John N. Maclean (b. 1943)

Maclean was born in Chicago, in 1943, a year after his sister, Jean. John attended Shimer College in Mt. Carroll, Illinois, then a satellite school—the rural cousin—of the University of Chicago. He later was a Neiman Fellow in Journalism at Harvard University.

Maclean went to work for the legendary City News Bureau of Chicago as a police reporter in 1964 and was hired by the Tribune the following year. He married Frances McGeachie in 1968—the couple have two children, Dan, chief of the science division at Robert Service High School in Anchorage, AK, and John Fitzroy, a public defender specializing in young adult felonies for the state of Maryland.

Maclean went to Washington as a correspondent for the Tribune in 1970 and remained there for eighteen years, most of that time as diplomatic correspondent. He was a regular on the "Kissinger Shuttle," covering many of the journeys abroad of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Maclean served as Foreign Editor of the Tribune in Chicago before leaving the paper in 1995 after 30 years and beginning a second career as an author.

Over the past 30 years, he has written a series of five books on fatal wildland fires, beginning with Fire on the Mountain: The True Story of the South Canyon Fire, published in 1999. He also has written a family memoir, Home Waters: A Chronicle of Family and a River, and wrote the foreword for The Centennial Edition of Ernest Hemingway's Big Two-Hearted River. He continues with his writing career.

Collection Description

The Maclean Family Illustration Collection, 1989-2023 comprises three series of illustrations, each for a different publication: A River Runs Through It (1989 edition), Home Waters (2021), and Big Two-hearted River: The Centennial Edition by Ernest Hemingway (prologue by John N. Maclean) (2023). Comprised of wood engravings, or its mimic-scratchboard, these sets of prints were in the private collection of John N. Maclean. Also donated with the collection is a copy of John N. Maclean's article, "Fishing into the Twilight."

I. Original Prints, 1989

13 folders

Original set of wood engravings by Barry Moser that were used in the 1989 edition of *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*. Wood engravings are arranged in the order in which they appear in the book. A complete list of all the illustrations is included in the **Appendix**.

II. Original Prints, 2021

13 folders

Original set of wood engravings by Wesley W. Bates used in the 2021 book, Home Waters: A Chronicle of a Family and a River. Wood engravings are arranged in the order in which they appear in the book. A complete list of all the illustrations is included in the Appendix.

III. Original Illustrations, 2023

13 folders

Original set of wood engravings by Chris Wormell that were used in the 2023 Centennial Edition of Ernest Hemingway's Big Two-Hearted River, Foreword by John N. Maclean. Illustrations are arranged in the order in which they appear in the book. A complete list of all the illustrations is included in the Appendix.

IV. Article, 2025

1 folder

A copy of the John N. Maclean article, "Fishing into the Twilight."

Container List MC00__

Box	Folder	Contents	Dates
L110	01-13	Illustrations from A River Runs	1989
L110	14-25	Illustrations from Home Waters	2021
L111	26-33	Illustrations from Big Two-Hearted	2023
J60	01	Copy of Fishing into the Twilight	2025

Appendix

I. Original Prints, 1989

Norman Maclean, A River Runs Through It and Other Stories (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1989). Wood engravings by Barry Moser.

Fold	der Title	Page #
01	Paul's Fishing Hat	p. 5
02	Brown Quill	p. 17

03	Salmon Quill	p.	29
04	Yellow-Green Quill,	p.	41
05	Paul Maclean	p.	53
06	Grey Quill	p.	65
07	Santa Claus Streamer	p.	77
08	Grasshopper	p.	89
09	The Can of Worms	p.	101
10	George's Bobcat Special	p.	113
11	Yellow Quill	p.	125
12	Bunyan Bug Yellow Stone Fly	p.	137
13	Norman Maclean	p.	149

II. Original Prints, 2021

John N. Maclean, Home Waters: A Chronicle of a Family and a River (New York: Custom House, 2021). Wood engravings by Wesley W. Bates.

Folder Title	Page #
14 Prologue, On the Big Blackfoot	p. 1
15 2 Flies*	p. 3 & 11
16 Chapter One, Two Worlds, One Cabin	p. 9
17 Chapter Two, Unseen Power	p. 39
18 Chapter Three, When the Mountains Roared	p. 69
19 Chapter Four, The River of the Road to the Buffalo	p. 93
20 Chapter Five, "They were beautiful in life"	p. 117
21 Chapter Six, "Paul! Paul!"	p. 133
22 Chapter Seven, A Feel for Greatness	p. 159
23 Chapter Eight, Fathers and Sons	p. 183
24 Chapter Nine, Touched by Fire	p. 217
25 Epilogue, Home Waters	p. 237

^{*}These flies alternate throughout the book at the top of where chapters begin.

III. Original Illustrations, 2023

Ernest Hemingway, *Big Two-Hearted River*, Foreword by John N. Maclean, The Centennial Edition (New York: Mariner Classics, 2023). Wood engravings by Chris Wormell.

Fold	er Title	Page #
26	Frontispiece: "A huge trout went high	
	out of the water."(and reversed)	p. ii & 43
27	"Then he saw them at the bottom of the pool,	
	big trout."	p. 5
28	"Nick sat down against the charred stump and smoked	
	a cigarette."	p. 8

29	"It was a good place to camp. He was there, in the		
	good place."	p.	18
30	"The rod bent in jerks, the trout pumping against		
	the current."	p.	37
31	"He sat on the logs, smoking, drying in the sun."	p.	46
32	"Ahead the river narrowed and went into a swamp."	p.	55
33	"He laid them side by side on the log. They were		
	fine trout."	p.	59

Smaller illustrations from this text (not included in Archive)

"Nick looked at the burned-out stretch of hillside." p. 3; "These were just ordinary hoppers, but all a sooty black in color." p. 11; "Sweet fern, growing ankle high." p. 14; "The coffee boiled as he watched." p. 23

This collection was processed by Colleen Yarger, 2025.