



# **Guide to the Durham Savoyards (Durham, N.C.) Records, 1898-1989 and undated**

---

This collection guide was produced in .  
This PDF version was created on **April 2, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University

Durham 27708-0185

919-660-5822

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

<a href="#">Summary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Background</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Administrative Information</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Names and Subjects</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Collection Inventory</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Printed Material Series</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Productions Series (Acc. 1-22-87), 1973-1982</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Oversize Material</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Addition (12/12/87), 1981-1983</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Addition (90-001)</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Addition (92-015)</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Addition (98-312), 1967-1985</a> .....	8

## Summary

---

**Collection Title:**

Durham Savoyards (Durham, N.C.) records, 1898-1989 and undated

**Creator:**

Durham Savoyards, Ltd.

**Abstract:**

The Durham Savoyards is a Durham (Durham Co.), N.C., production company for Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, founded in 1963 and incorporated in 1964. Collection comprises the archives of this organization and consist of minutes, reports, correspondence, programs, financial records, posters, director's notes, stage design, black-and-white and color photographs, music videocassettes, color slides, and clippings. Includes "The Savoyards, Durham Savoyards Limited, 1989" and "Mindful of the Whys and Wherefores; a Savoyard Producer's Journal" by James L. Parmentier. There are a few photographs that pre-date the founding of the Savoyards in 1963; they feature images of comic operas performed at the Southern Conservatory of Music in Durham.

**Extent:**

9.5 Linear Feet

Approximately 6050 Items

**Physical Location:**

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

**Language:**

English

**Language:**

Material in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.00346

**Permalink:**

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/durhamsavoyards/>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Durham Savoyards (Durham, N.C.) Records, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Background

---

### Scope and Content

Collection comprises the archives of this organization and consist of minutes, reports, correspondence, programs, financial records, posters, director's notes, stage design, black-and-white and color photographs, music videocassettes, color slides, and clippings. Includes "The Savoyards, Durham Savoyards Limited, 1989" and "Mindful of the Whys and Wherefores; a Savoyard Producer's Journal" by James L. Parmentier. There are a few photographs that pre-date the founding of the Savoyards in 1963; they feature images of comic operas performed at the Southern Conservatory of Music in Durham.

### Biographical/Historical

The Durham Savoyards is a Durham (Durham Co.), N.C., production company for Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, founded in 1963 and incorporated in 1964.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University

Durham 27708-0185

919-660-5822

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection.

Original audiovisual materials are closed to patron use. Use copies must be made before contents can be accessed.

All or portions of this collection may be housed off-site in Duke University's Library Service Center. The library may require up to 48 hours to retrieve these materials for research use.

Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

### **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

### **Acquisition Information**

The Durham Savoyards (Durham, N.C.) Records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library between 1976 and 1998.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff

Encoded by Ted Holt, November 2009

Updated to reflect unidentified addition by Alice Poffinberger, May 2014.

Materials may not have been ordered and described beyond their original condition.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Names and Subjects**

---

- Opera -- United States -- North Carolina -- 20th century
- Musicals -- Production and direction
- Operetta -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Music -- North Carolina -- Durham -- Societies, etc.
- Sullivan, Arthur, 1842-1900. Operas
- Gilbert, W. S. (William Schwenck), 1836-1911
- Parmentier, James L.

- Durham Savoyards, Ltd.
- Durham Savoyards, Ltd.

---

## Collection Inventory

---

### Printed Material Series

Physical Description: 5 boxes

Pictures [photographs]	Box 1
Membership cards	Box 1
A-G	Box 2
H-L	Box 3
M-Pa	Box 4
Pi-Y	Box 5

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Productions Series (Acc. 1-22-87), 1973-1982

Physical Description: 5 boxes

Yeoman of the Guard, 1973	Box 1
Gondolier, 1974	Box 1
Trial by Jury, 1975	Box 1
Princess Ida, 1975	Box 2
Iolanthe, 1976	Box 2
Pirates of Penzance, 1978	Box 3
The Mikado, 1982	Box 3
H.M.S. Pinafore, 1980	Box 4
Miscellaneous	Box 5

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Oversize Material**

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Scope and Contents note**

Oversize publicity posters and clippings relating to various Savoyards productions

Set Design for Sorcerer, 1979

set Design for Iolanthe, 1976

Check in poster for Ruddigore, 1979

Drawings for set of Ruddigore[?], undated

Oversize files

Box 6

**Physical Description:** 5 folders

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Addition (12/12/87), 1981-1983**

**Physical Description:** 2 boxes

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains correspondence, notes, programs, printed material, clippings and other material related to Utopia, The Mikado and the Durham Savoyards 20th reunion.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Addition (90-001)**

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Scope and Contents note**

Videocassettes of performances, mainly Pirates of Penzance.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

### **Addition (92-015)**

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Scope and Contents note**

Notebook for the production *The Sorcerer*, 1989. Contains notes, reviews, calendars, correspondence, libretto, and other materials. Also contains "Mindful of the Whys and Wherefores" ; a Savoyard producer's journal by James L. Parmentier.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

**Addition (98-312), 1967-1985**

**Physical Description:** 2 boxes

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains correspondence, financial papers, director's notes for shows, publicity, minutes for board of director's meetings, and production information, including casting and budget details.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)