Noel Graham Salvesen (1893–1971) came up to University College in 1911. He was one of several members of his family to come up to the College, including his brothers Norman (matr. 1919) and Harold (matr. 1921), as well as his cousin Edward Maxwell (also matr. 1911), who was killed in the First World War.

Noel Salvesen had been educated, like his brothers, at Edinburgh Academy, and came up to Oxford to read Classics. When the First World War broke out in 1914, he therefore still had one year to go on his course, but like most of his contemporaries he chose to join up, and never completed his degree. After the war, Noel joined the family’s shipping and whaling firm, Christian Salvesen & Co., Ltd., serving for a time as its Managing Director. His brother Harold, having been a Fellow at New College, also came to work for the family firm, latterly becoming its Chairman. Harold endowed Junior Research Fellowships at University College and was made an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1967. More information upon these and other members of the Salvesen family may be found at A. E. H. Salvesen and D. D. McNicoll, Sleken Salversen 1550–1995 (East Linton, 1995).

These papers of Noel Salvesen consist of pages from a photograph album kept by him at the College, and a group of dinner menus dating from 1911–15. The photographs were presented to the archives of University College by one of Noel’s granddaughters, Jane Graham Reed, in July 2017 as Accession No. 1280, and are pages from a photograph album which has been disbound; the menus were given by the wife of a grandson, Alison Salvesen, in July 2018 as Accession No. 1331. Noel was a keen rugger player, and several items in this collection relate to the College’s rugby team, including some pictures actually taken during their matches.

Catalogued in July 2018.

UC:P350/P1 - PAGES FROM A PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM

UC:P350/P1/1 c. 1911–14

Pages from a photograph album kept by Noel Salvesen mainly during his time at University College. None of the photographs in this collection bear any captions, but their subjects can sometimes be identified from other photographs in the College’s archives. The pages are as follows (in most cases there is a photograph only on the recto of the folio):

Fol. 1r: Illuminated frontispiece with the coats of arms of University College and Oxford University.

Fol. 2r: Photograph of 39 undergraduates in Radcliffe Quadrangle. This is probably a photograph of the Freshmen of 1911, since 39 men came up that year. Salvesen is seated in the second row from the front, fifth from the left.

Fol. 3r: Photograph of two rugby teams, one being University College, and the other unidentified. However, one of the players has on his blazer a badge which bears the coat of arms of Clare College, Cambridge, and the teams appear to be standing in front of a doorway in Old Court in Clare College. UC:P350/X1/1 & 9 below show that the rugby teams of University College and Clare College did play each other in 1911 and 1913: the position of this photograph in the album pages suggests that this is a photograph of the 1911 match. Salvesen is standing in the back row, third from the right.
Fol. 4r: Photograph of participants at a private dinner party, held (to judge from the surroundings) in a restaurant or hotel, and taken (to judge from the state of the cutlery and glassware) before the meal began. Salvesen is standing fifth from the right.

Fol. 5r: Photograph of what can be identified from the relevant Junior Common Room album (UC:O2/P1/2) as the University College Rugby XV for 1911/12. The names in that album are given as follows:


Third row (l. to r.): Charles Smeathman (matr. 1908; killed 1914), Edward Fenwick Boyd (matr. 1909; killed 1914), Grahame Donald (matr. 1910), Ian Galletly (matr. 1908; killed 1916), William Purdon Geen (matr. 1910; killed 1915), and Walter Power (matr. 1909; killed 1917).

Front row (l. to r.): Walter Reginald Young (matr. 1910), Kenneth Charles Myburgh Hands (matr. 1910), and Graham Robertson Cowie (matr. 1909; killed 1918).

Fol. 6r: Photograph of what can be identified from the relevant Junior Common Room album (UC:O2/P1/2) as a group photograph of members of University College from the summer of 1912.

Fol. 7r: Photograph of attendees at a Ball held at an unnamed College.

Fol. 8r: Photograph of two rugby teams posed in University College. One of the teams is University College, but one of the players for the other team wears a blazer with a badge which has the coat of arms of Trinity College, Cambridge. Salvesen is seated in the second row from the front, right in the centre.

Fol. 9r: Photograph of what can be identified from the relevant Junior Common Room album (UC:O2/P1/2) as the University College Rugby XV for 1912/13. The names in that album are given as follows:

Back row (l. to r.): John Babbitt McNair (matr. 1911), Eric Gordon Loudoun-Shand (matr. 1912), Laurence Pierce Brooke Merriam (matr. 1912), John Humphrey Wise (matr. 1909), and Alexander Frank Philip Christison (matr. 1912).

Middle row (l. to r.): Francis Wishart Thomson (matr. 1910; killed 1915), Stephan Sebastian Lombard Steyn (matr. 1909; killed 1917), Kenneth Charles Myburgh Hands (matr. 1910), Noel. Salvesen, Grahame Donald (matr. 1910), Edward Fenwick Boyd (matr. 1909; killed 1914), A. H. S. Tuke, William Purdon Geen (matr. 1910; killed 1915), and Walter Michael Dickson (matr. 1912; killed 1915).

Front row (l. ro r.): Graham Robertson Cowie (matr. 1909; killed 1918), Gerard Bruce Crole (matr. 1912), Walter Nicholas Cowie (matr. 1912), and Alan James Anderson (matr. 1911; killed 1914).

Fol. 10r: Photograph of what can be identified from the relevant Junior Common Room album (UC:O2/P1/2) as the University College Rugby XV for
1913/14. This team was winner of the Inter-Collegiate Cup. The names in that album are given as follows:

Back row (l. to r.): William Alexander Cainac Wilkinson (matr. 1910), Alexander Frank Philip Christison (matr. 1912), Harry Pringle Ritchie (matr. 1913), Hugh St. Helier Jeune (matr. 1913; killed 1917), Leslie George Durno (matr. 1911), and Maurice James Miskin (matr. 1910; killed 1918).

Second row (l. to r.): John Humphrey Wise (matr. 1909), Grahame Donald (matr. 1910; capt.), and Frederick John Christison (matr. 1913; killed 1915).

Third row (l. to r.): Gerard Bruce Crole (matr. 1912), Francis Wishart Thomson (matr. 1910; killed 1915), Eric Gordon Loudoun-Shand (matr. 1912), Noel Salvesen, Laurence Pierce Brooke Merriam (matr. 1912), and Arthur Harrington Symon Tuke (matr. 1910; killed 1915).

Front row (l. to r.): John Babbitt McNair (matr. 1911), Antony Thornton Walker (matr. 1913; killed 1915), and Alan James Anderson (matr. 1911; killed 1914).

Fol. 11r: Photograph of what can be identified from the relevant Junior Common Room album (UC:O2/P1/2) as the University College Second VIII of 1914 in their boat just about to cast off. The list of places in the formal photograph in the JCR album shows that the crew are as follows: Edward Waring Faber (matr. 1913; Bow), Henry Alleyne Palmer (matr. 1912; 2), Noel Salvesen (3), John Humphrey Wise (matr. 1909; 4), Alexander Frank Philip Christison (matr. 1912; 5), Laurence Pierce Brooke Merriam (matr. 1912; 6) Cecil Leonard Ferard (matr. 1913; 7), Robert Henderson Clapperton (matr. 1912; Stroke), and Henry Cyril Dixon Kimber (matr. 1913; killed 1916; Cox). Conversely this photograph shows that the sitters in the formal photograph in UC:O2/P1/2 can be identified as:

Back row (l. to r.): Faber, Christison, and Palmer
Middle row (l. to r.): Ferard, Merriam, Clapperton, Wise, and Salvesen.
Front Row: Kimber.

Fol. 12r: Photograph of what can be identified from the photograph album of W. B. Todd-Naylor (UC:P208/P1/1) as College members attending the Bump Supper held to celebrate the University College First Eight going Head of the River in 1914.

Fol. 13r: Photograph of two rugby teams, taken just after a match, when the players are still in their muddy uniforms. One team is University College, the other is unidentified. Salvesen is standing in the second row from the back, fourth from the right.

Fol. 14r: Photograph of an Oxford University Rugby Football Club team. Salvesen (who never got a Blue) is not included. Comparison with the lists of University College men who got Rugby Blues in 1911–14, and the photographs in UC:O2/P1/2 suggests that this is the Oxford University Rugby Team of 1912. The four members of University College included on it are Grahame Donald (probably back row, second from left), William Purdon Geen (back row, second from right), Harold Sidney Sharp (middle row, second from left), and Stephan Sebastian Lombard Steyn (back row, to the end on the right).
Fol. 15r: Photograph of a cricket team which, to judge from the age of the sitters, was taken when Salvesen (who is sitting in the middle row on the right-hand end) was still at Edinburgh Academy.

Fol. 15v: Action photograph of a rugby match in progress, between University College and an unnamed side. Perhaps relating to the XV of 1913/14 which won the Intercollegiate cup?

Fol. 16r: Photograph of an unnamed rugby team, possibly from Edinburgh Academy. Salvesen is seated at the left-hand end of the middle row.

Fol. 16v: Section from a larger group photo of various men at a camp (perhaps an OTC camp?). Salvesen is not visible.

Fols. 17r–17v: Two action photographs of a rugby match in progress, between University College and an unnamed side. Perhaps relating to the XV of 1913/14 which won the Intercollegiate cup?

Fols. 18r–18v: Two action photographs of a rugby match in progress, between University College and an unnamed side. Perhaps relating to the XV of 1913/14 which won the Intercollegiate cup?

Fol. 19r: A sixth photograph of a rugby match in progress, between University College and an unnamed side. Perhaps relating to the XV of 1913/14 which won the Intercollegiate cup?

Fol. 19v: Photograph of Noel Salvesen walking alongside someone wearing a rowing blazer who can be identified from fol. 11r above as Robert Clapperton (matr. 1912). This suggests that this photograph was taken during Eights Week 1914. Another rower walking alongside them has his head turned away, and so cannot be identified.

UC:P350/X1 - DINNER MENUS AND PROGRAMMES

UC:P350/X1/1 14 Nov 1911
Menu (signed by many of those attending) for dinner held after a rugby match between University College and Clare College, Cambridge.

UC:P350/X1/2 18 Nov 1911
Menu (signed by many of those attending) for dinner held after a rugby match between University College and the London Scottish “A” Team.

UC:P350/X1/3 22 Nov 1911
Programme (signed by several of those attending) for a Smoking Concert held at University College.

UC:P350/X1/4 12 Feb 1912
Programme for an afternoon of athletic competitions between University College and Exeter College. The events included a “University College Servants’ Race”.

UC:P350/X1/5 21 Nov 1912
Dinner menu (signed by many of those attending) held after a rugby match between University College and Clare College, Cambridge.
UC:P350 Papers of Noel Salvesen (matr. 1911)

UC:P350/X1/6  10 May 1913
Menu (signed by those attending) for a 21st birthday party hosted by “H.A.R.B.” (Harry Atheling Boustead, matr. 1911 [killed 1917]).

UC:P350/X1/7  15 Nov 1913
Termcard for the University College Rugby Union Football Club for Michaelmas Term 1913. Salvesen was Vice-Captain of the team.

UC:P350/X1/8  11 Mar 1914
Menu (signed by many of those attending) for dinner held after a rugby match between University College and the London Scottish “A” Team.

UC:P350/X1/9  28 Nov 1913
Menu (signed by many of those attending) for dinner held after a rugby match between University College and Clare College, Cambridge.

UC:P350/X1/10  29 Jan 1914
Menu (signed by just a few of those attending) for the second annual dinner of the Oxford University French Club. The after-dinner speakers included the French Ambassador, M. Paul Cambon, and Hilaire Belloc.

UC:P350/X1/11  20 Feb 1914
Menu (signed by those attending) for a 21st birthday party hosted by “G.P.R” (George Platt Robinson, matr. 1912).

UC:P350/X1/12  23 Feb 1914
Menu (not signed) for a 21st birthday party hosted by “F.J.B” (Frederick John Bechmann [later Beechman], matr. 1911).

UC:P350/X1/13  11 Mar 1914
Menu (signed by some of those attending) for a dinner held to celebrate both the College’s Torpid getting seven bumps, and the Rugby team (including Salvesen) winning Cuppers.

UC:P350/X1/14–15  27 Mar 1914
Two copies of a menu for a dinner held to celebrate the College’s First Eight going Head of the River. Of the copies, UC:P350/X1/14 has only a few signatures, but UC:P350/X1/15 is covered in them.

UC:P350/X1/16  23 Jun 1914
Menu (signed by some of those attending) for a dinner whose purpose is unspecified.