

Huck and Tom

US : 1918 : dir. : United Artists Silent : ? min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Robert Gordon; Jack Pickford

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	□	€	Z	⌂	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
2679a	1	2	1	373	-	-	-	-	-	No	unseen

Halliwell's Filmgoer's Companion general note on Tom Sawyer:

"Mark Twain's boy hero has been played on film by Jack Pickford in 1917 (also in "**HUCK AND TOM**", 1918), Jackie Coogan in 1920, Tommy Kelly in 1938 (the Selznick production), also in 1938, by Billy Cook (in "**TOM SAWYER, DETECTIVE**") and in 1972 by Johnny Whitaker."

Excerpt from **The Moving Picture Boy** entry on Lewis Sargent (the 1919 "**HUCKLEBERRY FINN**"):

"...At 15 he became the cinema's first convincing Huck Finn. (Robert Gordon in the 1917 "**TOM SAWYER**" and the 1918

"**HUCK AND TOM**" had been far too old, as had Jack Pickford's Tom.)"

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Jack Pickford, brother of the studio's co-owner Mary, strained credulity rather far as a 22-year old Tom Sawyer, reprising his role of the previous year, but then sister Mary was still playing little girl roles (**and** little boy roles) even later than that. I've no information on Robert Gordon, who plays Huck. However it is, to my knowledge, the very first screen version of "**HUCKLEBERRY FINN**" and will still be of interest to Twain collectors. Many more suitably cast productions were to follow, though none of them would wholly satisfy admirers of Twain's prose and wit, since producers invariably feel obliged to tone down the grimmer elements of the book for juvenile audiences.

See also "**TOM SAWYER**" (1917), and subject index under **ORPHANS / ADOPTION, RASCALS & SCALAWAGS, RUNAWAYS / STOWAWAYS, SILENT CINEMA, WESTERNS** and under **MARK TWAIN** for a chronological listing of all known adaptations of his work.