



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Elfriede Abbe Papers, 1939-1978, in the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from  
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Elfriede Abbe papers
<b>Date:</b>	1939-1978
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.abbeelfr
<b>Creator:</b>	Abbe, Elfriede Martha, 1919-2012
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of printmaker and sculptor Elfriede Abbe measure 0.5 linear feet and date from 1939 to 1978. Found are original prints, biographical material, correspondence, photographs, and printed material.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1978 by Elfriede Abbe.

### Acquisition Information

Elfriede Abbe donated her papers to the Archives of American Art in 1978.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2022 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

### Preferred Citation

Elfriede Abbe papers, 1939-1978. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Elfriede Abbe (1919-2012) was a sculptor, wood-engraver, and illustrator active in Ithaca, New York and Manchester Center, Vermont. She was the illustrator for Cornell University from 1942-1974 and was known for creating botanical prints.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of printmaker and sculptor Elfriede Abbe measure 0.5 linear feet and date from 1939 to 1978. Found are original prints, biographical material, correspondence, photographs, and printed material.

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## Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women engravers
- Women sculptors

Occupations:

- Illustrators -- Vermont
- Sculptors -- Vermont
- Wood-engravers -- Vermont

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Elfriede Abbe Papers, 1939-1978

*0.5 Linear feet (Box 1, OV2)*

Scope and Contents: Found are artworks, biographical sketches and scattered financial material, correspondence, photographs of works of art, and printed material.

Correspondence regards Abbe's career as a printmaker and illustrator for Cornell University, and the exhibition of her work. Photographs are of Abbe's sculpture, in situ and in studio. Printed material consists of clippings, exhibition material, and *Letters of George Waldo Abbe and Charlotte Colgate Abbe*, edited by Elfriede Abbe.

Oversize 2, Folder 1	Artwork, Prints, circa 1950s
Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1953-circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1939-1959
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, 1960-1969
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1970-1978
Box 1, Folder 5	<a href="#">Photographs, circa 1970</a>
Box 1, Folder 6-8	Printed Material, 1956-1978

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