



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Agnes Anne Abbot Papers, 1921-1976, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

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provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art

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Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Agnes Anne Abbot papers
Identifier:	AAA.abboagne
Date:	1921-1976
Creator:	Abbot, Agnes Anne, 1897-1992
Extent:	0.6 Linear feet
Language:	The collection is in English
Summary:	The papers of Agnes Anne Abbot measure 0.6 linear feet and date from 1921 to 1976. The collection consists of biographical information, correspondence, writings and notes, personal business records, printed material, photographs of works of art, and artwork.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Agnes Anne Abbot donated her papers to the Archives of American Art in several installments from 1979 to 1987.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art holds an oral history with Agnes Anne Abbot conducted by Robert Brown on August 25, 1981 to January 15, 1982.

Processing Information

The Agnes Anne Abbot papers were processed by Jayna Josefson in 2013 with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

Preferred Citation

Agnes Anne Abbot papers, 1921-1976. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

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Biographical / Historical

Watercolorist and educator Agnes Anne Abbot (1897-1992) was active in Wellesley and Boston, Massachusetts.

Born in Germany in 1897, Agnes Anne Abbot spent summers in the Boston area. In 1917, her family moved to the United States and settled in Boston where Abbot attended the School of Fine Arts and Crafts. From 1920 to 1963, Abbot taught at Wellesley College. She traveled extensively throughout Africa, Europe, and the United States. Agnes Anne Abbot died in Boston, Massachusetts in 1992.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Agnes Anne Abbot measure 0.6 linear feet and date from 1921 to 1976. The collection consists of biographical information, correspondence, writings and notes, personal business records, printed material, photographs of works of art, sketchbooks and artwork.

Correspondence is from Abbot's family and friends and includes some letters written by Abbot to her mother, sister, and brother. Other correspondents include Alfred Barr, Alice Van Vechten Brown, Bernard Heyl, and Douglas McKee. Artwork includes ten sketchbooks depicting Abbot's travels throughout Europe, Africa, and the United States.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 7 series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1927-1949 (3 folders; Box 1)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1926-1951 (0.1 linear feet; Box 1)
- Series 3: Writings and Notes, circa 1930-circa 1940 (3 folders; Box 1)
- Series 4: Personal Business Records, 1927-1965 (2 folders; Box 1)
- Series 5: Printed Material, 1964-1968 (2 folders; Box 1)
- Series 6: Photographs, 1960-1976 (4 folders; Box 1)
- Series 7: Sketchbooks and Artwork, 1921-1965 (0.3 linear feet; Box 1-2)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women artists
Women educators
Women painters

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Sketchbooks

Names:

Barr, Alfred H., Jr., 1902-1981
Brown, Alice Van Vechten

Heyl, Bernard Chapman, 1905-
McKee, Douglas

Occupations:

Educators -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Watercolorists -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Material, 1927-1949

3 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found are travel materials including airline tickets, vaccination records, and an Italian visa and museum pass.

Box 1, Folder 1	Airline Tickets, 1936-1949
Box 1, Folder 2	Vaccination Records, 1949
Box 1, Folder 3	Italian Visa and Museum Pass, 1927-1933

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1926-1951

0.1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found is correspondence from Agnes Anne Abbot's family and friends. A letter from Alfred Barr advises Abbot on contacts in Paris. Also found are letters from Agnes to her siblings, Mary and Frank, and to her mother. Many of the letters from 1946 are condolence letters to Agnes regarding the death of her mother.

Box 1, Folder 4	Family Correspondence, 1927-1949 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Abbot • Mary Abbot • Mary O. Abbot
Box 1, Folder 5	A, 1944 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Red Cross
Box 1, Folder 6	B, 1926-1946 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfred Barr • Mrs. Henry Beerits • Alice Van Vechten Brown
Box 1, Folder 7	D, 1946-1947 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Deheneman
Box 1, Folder 8	G, 1946 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agnes Olney Gilmore
Box 1, Folder 9	H, 1946 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enid Heidbraden • Bernard C. Heyl • Mildred Horton
Box 1, Folder 10	M, 1942-1946 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Douglas McKee
Box 1, Folder 11	P, 1946 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Pigott
Box 1, Folder 12	R, 1942-1951 Notes: Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adele Robinson
Box 1, Folder 13	S, 1935

	Notes:	Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marielle (?) Solbrig
Box 1, Folder 14	W, circa 1940 Notes:	Missing Title: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ola E. Winslow
Box 1, Folder 15	First Names Only, 1946	

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Series 3: Writings and Notes, circa 1930-circa 1940

3 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found are scattered writings by Agnes Abbot regarding the art department at Wellesley College and notes. Also found are poems written by Adele Robinson.

Box 1, Folder 16	Regarding Art Department, by Agnes Abbot, circa 1940
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Box 1, Folder 17	Notes, circa 1930
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Box 1, Folder 18	Poetry, by Adele Robinson, 1937
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Series 4: Personal Business Records, 1927-1965

2 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents Found are materials regarding travel including financial notes and receipts.

Box 1, Folder 19	Receipts, 1927-1965
Box 1, Folder 20	Financial Notes, circa 1940-circa 1960

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Series 5: Printed Material, 1964-1968

2 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents Found is a magazine clippings and information regarding travel to Jerusalem.

Box 1, Folder 21	Clipping, 1968
Box 1, Folder 22	Jerusalem Information, 1964

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Series 6: Photographs, 1960-1976

4 Folders (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Found are photographs and slides of works of art. Included are five photos of works of art shown at the Jewett Arts Center in Wellesley, MA.

Box 1, Folder 23	Works of Art, Shown at Jewett Arts Center, Wellesley College, 1960
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Box 1, Folder 24-26	Works of Art, 1960-1976
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Series 7: Sketchbooks and Artwork, 1921-1965

0.3 Linear feet (Box 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Found are loose sketches and 10 sketch books by Agnes Abbot. Also found are scattered unsigned sketches. Sketchbooks date from 1921-1965, and illustrate Abbot's travels in the United States and abroad. They contain drawings of street scenes, city and landscapes, sculptural and architectural details, people, and animals. 7 of the 10 sketchbooks are of Italy. Also included are sketches of Germany (including one entitled "Nazis collecting" that depicts Nazi soldiers with donation buckets on a street with pedestrians), Spain, Africa, and within the U.S. rural scenes of Colorado and Iowa.

Box 1, Folder 27	Loose Sketches, 1932-1933
Box 1, Folder 28	Sketchbook, 1921
Box 1, Folder 28	Sketchbook, 1927
Box 1, Folder 29	Sketchbook, 1927 or 1928
Box 1, Folder 30	Sketchbook, 1929
Box 1, Folder 31	Sketchbook, 1932
Box 2, Folder 1-3	Sketchbook, Dismantled , 1932-1933
Box 2, Folder 4	Sketchbook, 1934
Box 2, Folder 5	Sketchbook, 1959
Box 2, Folder 6	Sketchbook, 1959
Box 2, Folder 7	Sketchbook, 1965
Box 2, Folder 8	Loose Sketches, Unsigned, circa 1930

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