



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the Florence Millner Arnold Papers, circa 1920-1994 , in the Archives of American Art

Allessandra Liberati

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

2023 August 18

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical / Historical .....	2
Scope and Contents .....	2
Arrangement .....	2
Names and Subjects .....	
Container Listing .....	
Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1920-1994 .....	4
Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1920-1989 .....	5
Series 3: Writings, circa 1930-1985 .....	6
Series 4: Personal Business Records, circa 1920-1987 .....	7
Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1920-1980 .....	8
Series 6: Photographic Material, circa 1923-1989 .....	9
Series 7: Artwork, circa 1947-1970 .....	10

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Florence Millner Arnold papers
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1920-1994
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.arnoflor
<b>Creator:</b>	Arnold, Florence M. (Florence Millner), 1900-1994
<b>Extent:</b>	2.4 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of teacher, painter, and serigrapher Florence Millner Arnold measure 2.4 linear feet and date from circa 1920 to 1994. The papers demonstrate her career through biographical materials, correspondence, writings, personal business records, printed and photographic materials, and artwork.

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The Florence Millner Arnold microfilmed materials on reels 3979-3980 were donated to the Archives of American Art by Florence Arnold in 1975 and 1980. Papers were donated by Arnold's daughter, Adrienne Chakerian, in 1994.

### Available Formats

Portions of the collection are available on 35mm microfilm reels 3979-3980 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that the arrangement of material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

### Processing Information

This collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared, by Alessandra Liberati in 2023.

### Preferred Citation

Florence Millner Arnold papers, circa 1920-1994 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. Researchers interested in accessing born-digital records or audiovisual recordings in this collection must use access copies. Contact Reference Services for more information.

### Conditions Governing Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited

to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the Smithsonian's Terms of Use for additional information.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Florence "Flossie" Maud Arnold (née Millner, 1900-) was a teacher, painter and serigrapher who worked primarily in Orange County, California. She was born in 1900 in Prescott, Arizona. Arnold earned a Bachelor of Arts in music in 1926 from Mills College in Oakland, California, and went on to earn a bachelor's in education in 1937 from Claremont College. After marrying her husband, Archie, and settling in Fullerton, California, Arnold taught music for 42 years at Fullerton Union High School. Once she had retired from teaching, Arnold began to take classes at Fullerton College in painting. Although she speacialized early in landscapes and still life, she soon shifted towards her eventual style of hard-edge abstract paintings, drawing inspiration from John McLaughlin's work and studying under Karl Benjamin.

Arnold was very active in the Orange County art community, organizing the Orange County Art Association and, in 1966, helping to found the "Night In Fullerton" program, a night of performance and visual arts at local museums. Arnold was also a founder of the Art Alliance at California State University and the Muckenthaler Cultural Center and she held events to promote young artists including the recurring *Florence Young Artist Festival Exhibition*. Arnold's work has been exhibited in the U.S., Madrid, Copenhagen, Florence, Rome, Milan, and Venice. California State University continues to grant scholarships in Arnold's name, a practice established in 1990. Arnold died at 93 years old in 1994.

---

## Scope and Contents

The Florence Millner Arnold papers measure 2.4 linear feet and date from circa 1920-1994. Biographical materials include a video interview with Lyn Gamwell and an interview with Helen Chen for the Fullerton College Oral History Program, among others. Also included is a publication for *Who's Who of American Women* and various certificates and awards granted to Arnold throughout her career. Correspondence is between Arnold and others, including letters and postcards regarding her world travels, and with the Archives of American Art regarding her collections.

Writings consist of various essays about Arnold, reviews of her artwork, and lesson plans for her 7th and 8th grade classes at Buena Park Elementary School in Fullerton, California. Personal business records include materials relating to her professional activities including documentation on the "Night in Fullerton" program and records for her various silk screen prints. Printed materials include exhibition catalogs and announcements, as well as materials for "Louise Hutton's Distinguished Delegation" event for USA and USSR women. Photographic material contains photographs of Arnold, her friends and family, and her artwork. Artwork includes sketches and sketchbooks.

---

## Arrangement

This collection consists of seven series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1920-1994 (.1 Linear feet: Box 1)
- Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1920-1989 (.1 Linear feet: Box 1)
- Series 3: Writings, circa 1930-1985 (.1 Linear feet: Box 1)
- Series 4: Personal Business Records, circa 1920-1987 (.4 Linear feet: Box 1)
- Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1920-1980 (1.3 Linear feet: Box 1-2)
- Series 6: Photographic Material, circa 1923-1989 (.3 Linear feet: Box 3)
- Series 7: Artwork, circa 1947-1970 (.1 Linear feet: Box 3)

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women painters
- Women printmakers

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sketchbooks
- Video recordings

Occupations:

- Painters -- California
- Printmakers -- California
- Serigraphers -- California

---

## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1920-1994

#### .1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical material includes Arnold's resume and various interviews with Arnold including a video interview with Lyn Gamwell, the Fullerton College Gallery Director, and with Helen Chen for the Fullerton College Oral History Program. Also included is Arnold's obituary, a publication of *Who's Who of American Women*, birthday materials, and certificates and awards from Arnold's career.

Box 1, Folder 1	Resume, circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 2	"An Interview with Florence Arnold, Southern California Artist", Conducted by Anne Riley, circa 1974
Box 1, Folder 3	"Interview with Lyn Gamwell, Fullerton College Gallery Director", circa 1975 1 Videoreels (1/2 inch)
Box 1, Folder 4	"The Life Story of Florence Arnold", Interview by Helen Chen, 1983, Jan. 18
Box 1, Folder 5	"A Monograph of Florence Arnold" by D. M. Hackbarth and Dona Berkhimer, 1970, Jan. 14
Box 1, Folder 6	Interview, Transcript, circa 1973
Box 1, Folder 7	Obituary, circa 1994
Box 1, Folder 8	Buena Park School District, Diploma of Graduation, 1966, June 16
Box 1, Folder 9	Who's Who of American Women, circa 1977-1978
Box 1, Folder 10	Guestbook, 75th Birthday, circa 1975
Box 1, Folder 11	80th Birthday, circa 1980 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Folder 12	Certificates and Awards, circa 1962-1988
Box 1, Folder 13	Mailing Lists, circa 1920-1990
Box 1, Folder 14	Miscellaneous , circa 1966

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1920-1989

### .1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Correspondence is between Arnold and the Archives of American Art, others, and includes postcards and letters regarding her travel.

Box 1, Folder 15	Correspondence (1920s), circa 1920-1029
Box 1, Folder 16	Correspondence (1930s), circa 1932
Box 1, Folder 17	Correspondence (1950s), circa 1954-1959
Box 1, Folder 18	Correspondence (1960s), circa 1960-1969
Box 1, Folder 19-20	Correspondence (1970s), circa 1970-1979
Box 1, Folder 21	Correspondence (1980s), circa 1980-1986
Box 1, Folder 22	Archives of American Art, circa 1974-1981
Box 1, Folder 23	World Travel, Letters and Postcards, circa 1920-1989

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 3: Writings, circa 1930-1985

### .1 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Writings include essays by others about Arnold, reviews of her artwork, and lesson plans for her 7th and 8th grade classes.

#### By Arnold

Box 1, Folder 24	Buena Park Elementary School, Lesson Plans for Class, circa 1930-1980
------------------	---

#### By Others

Box 1, Folder 25	Artwork Review, circa 1930-1980
------------------	---------------------------------

Box 1, Folder 26	Bicentennial Sculpture Dedication, 1978, Nov. 19
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 27	Essay on Arnold, By Donald Cannon, 1980, May 3
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 28	"Florence Arnold" by Fidel Danieli for Artweek, 1975, Sept. 14
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 29	"Long Beach Art Museum, Florence Arnold Exhibit" by Walt Klemm, circa 1930-1980
------------------	---

Box 1, Folder 30	Review of Paintings by Don Lagerberg, circa 1971
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 31	School of the Arts, California State University, Commencement Speech, 1977, May 28
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 32	Quotes on Arnold and Her Work, circa 1930-1980
------------------	--

Box 1, Folder 33	Miscellaneous Writings by Others, circa 1975-1985
------------------	---

[Return to Table of Contents](#)



## Series 4: Personal Business Records, circa 1920-1987

### .4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Personal business records include materials relating to the "Night in Fullerton" program, a night of performance and visual arts at local museums in Fullerton, California, records regarding Arnold's silk screen prints, artwork inventories, and exhibition entry cards.

Public Service	
Box 1, Folder 34	Bicentennial Committee Executive Board Members, List, 1974, Apr. 16
Box 1, Folder 35	City Council of the City of Fullerton, Resolution Number 4949, circa 1969
Box 1, Folder 36	Cultural and Fine Arts Commission, Board Members, circa 1968-1980
Box 1, Folder 37	Girl Scout Council of Orange County, PAVE-4 Event (1970), circa 1970
Box 1, Folder 38-39	"Night in Fullerton" Program, circa 1965-1987
Art Career	
Box 1, Folder 40	Florence Arnold Retrospective, Meeting Minutes, circa 1973-1985
Box 1, Folder 41	Honor Arts Committee Show (1983), circa 1983-1985
Box 1, Folder 42	Long Beach Museum of Art, Exhibition Blueprints, circa 1961
Box 1, Folder 43	Los Angeles County Museum, Gift From Arnold, circa 1959
Box 1, Folder 44	Newport Arts Commission Exhibition at Robinsons (1978), 1978, May 17
Box 1, Folder 45	Silk Screen Prints, Records, circa 1970-1977
Box 1, Folder 46	Artwork Inventories , circa 1920-1980
Box 1, Folder 47	Bills and Receipts for Artwork Sales, circa 1971-1985
Box 1, Folder 48	Exhibition Entry Cards, circa 1954-1962
Box 1, Folder 49	Miscellaneous Business Records, circa 1975-1981

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 5: Printed Material, circa 1920-1980

### 1.3 Linear feet (Box 1-2)

Scope and Contents: Printed materials include exhibition announcements and catalogs, lists of public and private collections of Arnold's works, various news clippings and publications, and materials regarding "Louise Hutton's Distinguished Delegation".

Box 1, Folder 50-52	Exhibition Announcements, circa 1954-1980
Box 1, Folder 53-54	Exhibition Catalogs, circa 1954-1980
Box 2, Folder 1-6	Exhibition Catalogs, circa 1954-1980
Box 2, Folder 7	"Louise Hutton's Distinguished Delegation", Event Materials, circa 1971
Box 2, Folder 8	Public and Private Collections of Florence Arnold's Artwork, List, circa 1970-1980
Box 2, Folder 9	Trip to Europe, Itinerary, circa 1960
Box 2, Folder 10	Event Programs, circa 1925-1980
Box 2, Folder 11-17	News Clippings, circa 1923-1980
Box 2, Folder 18	Newsletters, circa 1959-1979
Box 2, Folder 19-20	Press Releases, circa 1962-1969
Box 2, Folder 21-23	Quarterlies, circa 1972-1979
Box 2, Folder 24-26	Miscellaneous Publications, circa 1975-1979
Box 2, Folder 27-28	Miscellaneous Printed Material, circa 1920-1980

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 6: Photographic Material, circa 1923-1989

### .3 Linear feet (Box 3)

Scope and Contents: Photographs are of Arnold, her family and friends, and her artwork.

Box 3, Folder 1	Photographs of Florence and Archie , circa 1948-1980
Box 3, Folder 2	Periodical Advertisement Mock-up, Photograph, circa 1974
Box 3, Folder 3	Public Relations, Photographs, circa 1961-1973
Box 3, Folder 4	Show in Rome (1962), Photographs, circa 1962
Box 3, Folder 5-6	Personal Photographs, circa 1923-1989
Box 3, Folder 7-8	Photographs of Artwork, circa 1969-1972
Box 3, Folder 9	Photographs of Artwork, Negatives, circa 1969-1972
Box 3, Folder 10-11	Photographs of Artwork, Slides, circa 1965-1976
Box 3, Folder 12	Miscellaneous Photographs, circa 1966-1973

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series 7: Artwork, circa 1947-1970

*.1 Linear feet (Box 3)*

Scope and Contents: Artwork includes two folders of loose sketches and two sketchbooks.

Contents:

Box 3, Folder 13	Sketches, circa 1947-1970
Box 3, Folder 14	Sketchbooks, circa 1947-1970

[Return to Table of Contents](#)