



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Norman Bassett papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Norman Bassett papers
Identifier:	AAA.bassnorm
Date:	1936-1954
Extent:	356 Items (microfilm frames)
Creator:	Bassett, Norman, 1891-
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Norman Bassett papers were presented to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin by him in 1954 and 1974. Only a small portion of the papers were microfilmed by the Archives of American Art in 1985. A complete bound set of DEMCOURIER can be found in the Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin.

Location of Originals

Originals in: State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 3684 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Citation

Norman Bassett papers. Owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Microfilmed by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to quote or reproduce for the purposes of publication must be obtained from State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Biographical / Historical

Norman Bassett studied literature and art at the University of Wisconsin, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1914. In 1931 he bought the Democrat Printing Company and incorporated it as Demco Library Supplies, Inc. In 1932 Demco began publishing DEMCOURIER, primarily an advertising journal, but one which also published a variety of articles, including a special series "American Authors as Printers." In 1935 DEMCOURIER featured a Mark Twain centennial edition which proved popular, prompting Bassett to run regular issues featuring notable Americans. The first of these (1937) featured Rockwell Kent. DEMCOURIER was discontinued in 1943.

Biographical / Historical

Bassett retired from Demco in 1972, and the company was sold to George Banta Company of Menasha, Wisconsin. Bassett became a director of Banta at that time.

Scope and Contents

Files on Thomas Hart Benton, John Steuart Curry, Rockwell Kent and Reginald Marsh containing correspondence and drafts of articles for special issues of DEMCOURIER.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Benton, Thomas Hart, 1889-1975

Curry, John Steuart, 1897-1946

Kent, Rockwell, 1882-1971

Marsh, Reginald, 1898-1954

Occupations:

Painters