



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Boston Art Commission records

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Boston Art Commission records
Date:	1890-1959
Identifier:	AAA.bostart
Creator:	Boston Art Commission Boston Public Library
Extent:	9 Microfilm reels
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming by the City of Boston, Boston Art Commission, 1984.

Other Finding Aids

Lists of Monument, General, and Correspondence files are available in all Archives of American Art offices.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3134 through 3144 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Citation

Boston Art Commission records, 1890-1959. Owned by the City of Boston, Boston Art Commission. Filmed by the Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Art.

Restrictions

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

Biographical / Historical

The Boston Art Commission was founded in 1890.

Scope and Contents

Commission charter, "Act to Create an Art Commission for the City of Boston," 1890; handwritten minutes of staff meetings, 1890-1959; annual reports and related correspondence, 1899-1953; minutes of a joint meeting of the Boston Art Commission, the Park and Recreation Commission, and the City Planning Board, 1914; 3 files maintained by the Boston Art Commission: monument files, 1890-1957, regarding the signing,

erecting, and restoring of monuments, including estimates, proposals, contracts, sketches, printed materials, and photographs; operating and general files, 1890-1957, on statues, tablets, busts, paintings, monuments, and memorials in Boston public schools, Faneuil Hall and others locales; correspondence files, 1895-1953, for Boston Public Art Under the Curatorship of the Boston Public Library; 3 clippings, 1934-1947; and 2 brochures, "Some Statues of Boston," 1946, and "Other Statues of Boston," 1947, by Allan Forbes and Ralph M. Eastman.

Scope and Contents

Correspondents included among the monument, general, correspondence files include members of the Boston Art Commission, mayors of Boston, sculptors, and architects. Among the correspondents are Herbert Adams, Thomas Allen, Paul Bartlett, Robert Bellows, Patrick Collins (mayor), John Templeman Coolidge, James M. Curley (mayor), George Harold Edgell, Daniel Chester French, Henry Hudson Kitson, Alexander W. Longfellow, Charles D. Maginnis, J. Harleston Parker, Josiah Quincy (mayor), Arthur Shurtleff, C. Howard Walker, Samuel D. Warren, and others.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Busts -- Massachusetts -- Boston
Fountains -- Massachusetts -- Boston
Monuments -- Massachusetts -- Boston
statues -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Names:

Adams, Herbert, 1858-1945
Allen, Thomas, 1849-1924
Bartlett, Paul, 1881-1965
Bellows, Robert Peabody, 1877-1957
Collins, Patrick Andrew, 1844-1905
Coolidge, J. Templeman (John Templeman), 1888-1945
Curley, James Michael, 1874-1958
Edgell, George Harold, b. 1887
French, Daniel Chester, 1850-1931
Kitson, Henry Hudson, 1863?-1947
Longfellow, Alexander W., 1854-1934
Maginnis, Charles Donagh, 1867-1955
Parker, J. Harleston, 1873-1930
Quincy, Josiah, 1802-1882
Shurcliff, Arthur A. (Arthur Asahel), 1870-1957
Walker, C. Howard (Charles Howard), 1857-1936
Warren, Samuel Dennis, 1852-1910

Functions:

Art commissions -- Massachusetts