



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Dorothy Bridaham Scrapbooks, 1938-1964

Jayna M. Josefson

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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Dorothy Bridaham scrapbooks
Date:	1938-1964
Identifier:	AAA.briddoro
Creator:	Bridaham, Dorothy
Extent:	0.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection consists of two Dorothy Bridaham scrapbooks dating from 1938 to 1964. The scrapbooks contain material concerning Bridaham's career as an art critic.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Archives of American Art in 1987 by Lester B. and Dorothy O. Bridaham.

Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Lester Burbank Bridaham papers, 1912-1986.

Available Formats

The collection is available on 35mm microfilm reels 4190-4191 at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

The collection received preliminary processing and was microfilmed on receipt on reels 4190-4191. 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

Dorothy Bridaham scrapbooks, 1938-1964. 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.

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Biographical / Historical

Dorothy Bridaham (1923-1987) was an art critic and journalist active in Chicago, Illinois.

Dorothy Odenheimer Bridaham was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1923. She studied art at the University of Pittsburgh and later at the University of Chicago. Settling in Chicago, Bridaham joined the staff at the Art Institute of Chicago and wrote a weekly column for the *Chicago Sun* in the 1940s. Later, she wrote for the *Denver Post*. She was married to the art historian Lester Burbank Bridaham.

Bridaham died in 1987 in Tacoma, Washington.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of two Dorothy Bridaham scrapbooks dating from 1938 to 1964. The scrapbooks contain material concerning Bridaham's career as an art critic.

Arrangement

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

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art criticism
- Women art critics

Types of Materials:

- Scrapbooks

Occupations:

- Art critics -- Illinois -- Chicago

Container Listing

Series 1: Dorothy Bridaham Scrapbooks, 1938-1964

0.7 Linear feet (BV 1, Box 2)

Scope and Contents: The first scrapbook volume contains clippings from the *Chicago Sun* and the *Denver Post* dating from 1938 to 1942 of art reviews written by Bridaham under the name Dorothy Odenheimer; 35 letters, 1942-1943, written in response to Bridaham's reviews; and a note outlining amended bibliographic information. A second volume contains clippings dating from 1946 to 1964, of art reviews written by Bridaham.

Volume 1 Mixed Media Scrapbook, 1938-1949

Box 2 Clippings Scrapbook, 1946-1964

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