



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Suzanne E. Chapman Papers, 1934-1991, in the Archives of American Art

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:	Suzanne E. Chapman papers
Date:	1934-1991
Identifier:	AAA.chapsuza
Creator:	Chapman, Suzanne E.
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The scattered papers of watercolorist Suzanne Chapman measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1934 to 1991. Found are biographical material, correspondence, three photographs, printed material, and a project file.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lucille H. Chapman, Suzanne Chapman's sister, donated the papers to the Archives of American Art in 1992 and 1993.

Processing Information

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

Suzanne Chapman papers, 1934-1991. 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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Suzanne Chapman (1903-1990) was a watercolorist, draftsman, illustrator, and educator active in Boston, Massachusetts. Chapman helped to develop a method of rendering art objects in watercolor with great

accuracy of color, texture, and form that was adopted by the Index of American Design in the 1930s for use by field artists. For most of her career, she was the principal illustrator of the voluminous excavation publications of the Egyptian Department of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Scope and Contents

The scattered papers of watercolorist Suzanne Chapman measure 0.2 linear feet and date from 1934 to 1991. Found are biographical material, correspondence, three photographs, printed material, and a project file.

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:

- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women illustrators
- Women painters

Names:

- Index of American Design
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Egyptian Art Dept

Occupations:

- Draftsmen (artists) -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Educators -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Illustrators -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Watercolorists -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Container Listing

Series 1: Suzanne E. Chapman Papers, 1934-1991

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Biographical material includes an artist statement, a resume, bibliography, and a Master Craftsman award certificate from the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society. Correspondence dates from 1948 to 1991. Letters regard Chapman's catalog drawings, an exhibition at the Library of the Boston Athenaeum, and her promotion to associate curator in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Egyptian Department. Three photographs of Suzanne Chapman include portraits and a vacation photo taken in Athens, Greece. Printed material consists of exhibition announcements, a catalog, *In Tribute to Suzanne E. Chapman* (1970), and clippings. A project file concerns the publication *The Index of American Design*, and includes a typed excerpt from the book and advertisements.

Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, 1976-1977
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1948-1991
Box 1, Folder 3	Photographs, 1934-1964
Box 1, Folder 4	Printed Material, 1936-1983
Box 1, Folder 5	Project File, <i>The Index of American Design</i> by Edwin Christensen, 1950

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