



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Thomas Cole papers

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Thomas Cole papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.colethom
<b>Date:</b>	1821-1863
<b>Creator:</b>	Cole, Thomas, 1801-1848
<b>Extent:</b>	7 Microfilm reels
<b>Language:</b>	English .

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Material on reels D6, D39, D40 lent for microfilming 1961 by the Detroit Institute of Art. Material on reels ALC 1-ALC 4 lent for microfilming 1964 by the New York State Library. Paintbrushes were discovered 1964 by S.J. Fishburne, Albany Institute restorer, in basement of Cole's house. He turned them over to the Institute's director, Janet MacFarlane, who donated them to AAA, 1965.

### Location of Originals

Reels ALC 1-ALC 4: Originals in New York State Library, Albany, New York.

### Location of Originals

Reels D6, D39, D40: Originals in Detroit Institute of Art.

### Other Finding Aids

List of contents of microfilm reel D39 and list of correspondents on ALC 1-ALC 4 available at Archives of American Art offices.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels D6, D39, D40, and ALC 1- ALC 4 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Painter; Catskill, N.Y. Cole lived most of his life in New York City even though he studied abroad. He was elected member of National Academy in 1826.

---

## Scope and Contents

Notebooks; sketchbooks; drawings; letters; manuscript poems; catalogs; paintbrushes.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL D40: ca. 575 drawings.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL D6: Letters, manuscript poems, catalogs and a sketchbook dated March 10, 1832.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL D39: 2 v. of notebooks; 1825, and 18 v. of sketchbooks, 1827-1847. Cole sketches mainly in New York State, The White Mountains, England, Italy, and Catskill, N.Y.

---

## Scope and Contents

REELS ALC 1- ALC 4: Correspondence with Cole, including letters from friends, family, artists, and others; journals; notes; essays; lectures; poetry; clippings; and financial records.

---

## Scope and Contents

Correspondents include: William Althorpe Adams, Samuel James Ainsley, Francis Alexander, Theodore Allen, Washington Allston, Thomas B. Ashton, Edwin T. Bennet, Simeon D. Bloodgood, William C. Bryant, Edward L. Carey, Cephas G. Childs, Lewis G. Clark, Thomas S. Cummings, Franklin Dexter, William Dunlap, Asher B. Durand, Robert Gilmore, George W. Greene, Charles C. Ingham, Charles R. Leslie, Jonathan Mason, Samuel F. B. Morse, John L. Morton, Henry C. Pratt, Luman Reed, John P. Ridner, Jonathan Sturges, Ithiel Town, Isaiah Townsend, Charles B. Trego, William P. Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Ver Bryck, Daniel Wadsworth, Samuel Ward, Robert W. Weir, Ambrose Wright, and others.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Hudson River school of landscape painting  
Landscape painting -- New York (State)

### Types of Materials:

Sketchbooks

Names:

Adams, William Althorpe, 1797-1878  
Ainsley, Samuel James, 1806-1874  
Alexander, Francis, 1800-1880  
Allen, Theodore, fl. 1800-1850  
Allston, Washington, 1779-1843  
Ashton, Thomas B., fl. 1835-1850  
Bennet, Edwin Thomas  
Bloodgood, S. DeWitt (Simeon DeWitt), 1799-1866  
Bryant, William Cullen, 1794-1878  
Carey, Edward L., 1806-1845  
Childs, Cephas Grier, 1793-1871  
Clark, Lewis Gaylord, 1808-1873  
Cummings, Thomas Seir, 1804-1894  
Dexter, Franklin, 1793-1857  
Dunlap, William, 1766-1839  
Durand, Asher Brown, 1796-1886  
Gilmor, Robert, 1774-1848  
Greene, George Washington, 1811-1883  
Ingham, Charles Cromwell, 1796-1863  
Leslie, Charles Robert, 1794-1859  
Mason, Jonathan, 1795-1884  
Morse, Samuel Finley Breese, 1791-1872  
Morton, John Ludlow, 1792-1871  
Pratt, Henry Cheever, 1803-1880  
Reed, Luman, d. 1836  
Ridner, John P.  
Spencer, Mark  
Sturges, Jonathan, 1802-1874  
Town, Ithiel, 1784-1844  
Townsend, Isaiah  
Trego, Charles B., 1794-1874  
Van Rensselaer, William P.  
Ver Bryck, Cornelius, 1813-1844  
Wadsworth, Daniel, 1771-1848  
Ward, Samuel Gray  
Weir, Robert Walter, 1803-1889  
Wright, Ambrose

Occupations:

Painters -- New York (State)