



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the John Steuart Curry
and Curry Family Papers, 1848-1999, bulk
1916-1946, in the Archives of American Art

Megan McShea

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection
was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art

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Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	John Steuart Curry and Curry family papers
Identifier:	AAA.currjohn
Date:	1848-1999
Extent:	9.2 Linear feet
Creator:	Curry, John Steuart, 1897-1946
Language:	English
Summary:	The papers of painter, muralist, and illustrator John Steuart Curry, and Curry family papers, measure 9.2 linear feet and date from 1848 to 1999. Papers document his career and family history through certificates, correspondence, photographs, clippings, contracts, receipts, inventories, writings, notes, and other materials. The papers contain particularly rich documentation of Curry's period as artist-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin, from 1936 to 1946. Mural projects in Kansas, Washington, DC, and Wisconsin are also documented.

Administrative Information

Provenance

John Steuart Curry's widow, Kathleen Curry, lent materials on reels 164-168 for microfilming in 1971. In 1979, she subsequently donated portions of the material lent, along with additional items, some of which were transferred to Spencer Museum of Art. In 1972, Mildred Curry Fike, John Steuart Curry's sister, gave material and R. Eugene Curry, a brother, donated more material in 1975 and 1993. Ellen Schuster, John Steuart Curry's daughter, donated the home movies in 1973 and Daniel Schuster, John Steuart Curry's son-in-law, gave additional papers in 1991 in 1992, 1995, and 1999. In 1992, 1999 and 2000, additions were received from Kathleen Curry that may contain material previously filmed as a loan on reels 164-168.

Separated Material

The Archives of American Art also holds material lent for microfilming (reels 164-168 and 4574-4576) including 98 sketchbooks, 1919-1942; a ledger, 1938-1946, of expenses with four loose letters to John Steuart Curry in Italian and Spanish; a notebook, 1932-1938, titled "Account and records of works, etc."; a journal, undated, of drafts of poems, and approximately 50 sketches. Loaned materials were returned to the lender some of which were subsequently donated to the Worcester Museum of Art in Worcester, Massachusetts. This material is not described in the collection container inventory.

John Steuart Curry memorabilia received with the Kathleen Curry's donation in 1979 (baby cup, baby dress, overalls, medals, paint box, watercolor box, 2 photographs) were transferred to the Spencer Museum of Art in 1985.

Location of Originals

Materials loaned by Mrs. Curry in 1971 for microfilming were returned to the donor, who later donated the sketchbooks to the Worcester Museum of Art in 1999.

Related Material

The Archives of American Art holds an oral history interview with Kathleen Curry regarding John Steuart Curry conducted in 1990 and 1992.

Alternative Forms Available

The papers of **John Steuart Curry** and the Curry Family in the Archives of American Art were digitized in 2007, and total 10,872 images.

Types of materials not digitized or partially digitized include published books and pamphlets, personal financial records unrelated to artwork, photographs of works of art, estate files related to projects and exhibitions dated after 1985, duplicate items, and copies.

Materials lent for microfilming are available on 35mm microfilm reels 164-168 and 4574-4576 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Processing Information

Portions of the collection received a preliminary level of processing at some point after donation. The collection was typically microfilmed in the order in which it was received on reels 164-168, 2714, 2743, and 2746-2748, except for donations made after 1992, which were not microfilmed. The entire collection was fully processed, arranged, and described by Megan McShea in 2007 and digitized in 2008-2009 with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

Preferred Citation

John Steuart Curry and Curry family papers, 1900-1999. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

The bulk of the collection has been digitized and is available online via AAA's website. Access to undigitized portions requires an appointment.

Ownership and Literary Rights

The John Steuart Curry papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical Note

Painter, muralist, and illustrator John Steuart Curry is considered one of the three important painters of the American Regionalist movement, along with Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri and Grant Wood of Iowa. Curry was born in north-eastern Kansas in 1897, and grew up on his family's farm. Curry left high school to attend the Kansas City Art Institute briefly, and then studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1916 with

Edward J. Timmons and John Norton. Curry later spent a year in Paris studying with Basil Schoukhaieff in 1926 and 1927.

Curry began his career as a freelance illustrator in Leonia, New Jersey, under the influence of Harvey Dunn. Curry's illustrations were widely published in illustrated magazines such as *Boy's Life*, *Country Gentleman*, and *Saturday Evening Post* in the early 1920s. He married Clara Derrick in 1923 and lived in Greenwich Village, and then Westport, Connecticut, from 1924 to 1936. Derrick died in 1932, and in 1934 Curry married Kathleen Gould.

Curry's career shifted from illustration to painting during the 1920s and 1930s, bolstered by success in exhibitions and sales. Exhibits included the National Academy of Design (1924), the Corcoran Gallery (1927-1928), a solo exhibition at the Whitney Studio Club (1930), and the Carnegie International Exhibition (1933). Early sales include *Baptism in Kansas*, purchased by the Whitney in 1930, and *Spring Shower*, purchased by the Metropolitan Museum in 1932. Curry taught at Cooper Union (1932-1934) and the Art Student's League (1932-1934), and painted his first murals in Westport under the Federal Art Project in 1934.

In 1936, he was appointed artist-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture as part of a rural art program developed by rural sociologist John Burton. The purpose of his residency was to serve as an educational resource for rural people of the state. Curry stayed in this position until his death in 1946, carrying out the program's mission through lectures and visits with dozens of art and civic groups around the state, and by making himself available to rural artists through correspondence and guidance in his studio. He also helped to organize annual rural art exhibitions for UW's Farm and Home Week beginning in 1940. In return for his work, he was given a salary and a studio on campus and the freedom to execute his own work as he chose.

Under the Federal Art Program's Section of Painting and Sculpture, Curry completed two murals in the Justice Department building in Washington in 1936, *Westward Migration* and *Justice Defeating Mob Violence*, and two murals in the Department of the Interior building in 1938, *The Homestead* and *The Oklahoma Land Rush*. A design that was rejected by the government for the Justice building, a mural entitled *Freeing of the Slaves*, was later executed at the University of Wisconsin in their law library. From 1938 to 1940, Curry worked on murals for the state house rotunda in Topeka, Kansas amidst a stormy, public controversy over his dramatic depiction of Kansas history. The legislature effectively blocked Curry's completion of the project through a formal resolution not to remove marble that was blocking areas that were part of Curry's design. Infuriated, Curry left the unfinished murals unsigned, and later derided the state frequently for the treatment he received. The Kansas State legislature issued a formal apology and appreciation of the completed murals in the 1990s.

Despite the lack of appreciation of his home state, Curry did receive recognition elsewhere during his lifetime as an artist of national importance. He continued to paint and exhibit in the art centers of the East Coast. In 1941, he won the Gold Medal Award at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts exhibition, and in the 1942 Artists For Victory exhibition, he won the top prize for *Wisconsin Landscape*. Curry's book illustrations were in high demand, and he contributed to books such as *My Friend Flicka*, editions of Lincoln's and Emerson's writings, and Wisconsin writer August Derleth's *The Wisconsin*. A biography of Curry written by Laurence Schmeckebier was published in 1942.

Curry died in 1946 of heart failure. A retrospective that had been planned for the living artist opened less than a month after his death at the Milwaukee Art Institute. His wife, Kathleen Curry, maintained his estate until her death, in 2001, at the age of 102. Additional retrospective exhibitions were held at Syracuse University in 1956 and in the Kansas State Capitol in 1970. In 1998, the exhibition "John Steuart Curry: Inventing the Middle West" was organized at the University of Wisconsin and traveled to the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum and the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of painter, muralist, and illustrator John Steuart Curry, and Curry family papers, measure 9.2 linear feet and date from 1848 to 1999. Papers document his career and family history through certificates, correspondence, photographs, clippings, contracts, receipts, inventories, writings, notes, and other materials. The papers contain particularly rich documentation of Curry's period as artist-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin, from 1936 to 1946. Mural projects in Kansas, Washington, DC, and Wisconsin are also documented.

Biographical Materials include chronologies, biographical narratives, genealogical notes, certificates and awards, and other ephemera related to Curry and his family. Family Correspondence includes the earliest records created by Curry himself, including letters home from art school and from the East Coast during his early career.

Correspondence and Project files document mural projects, appearances, gallery relationships, and other activities from the early 1930s until his death in 1946 with correspondence, photographs, clippings, contracts, writings, and other miscellany. Subject files include pictorial reference and research files created by Curry for subjects depicted in his murals and paintings. Curry's writings include essays, lectures, interviews, and notes related to his technical and philosophical approach to art, as well as notes from his various travels, and essays by others about Curry. Personal Business Records contain records of artwork, business transactions, and personal finances.

Print Materials include print copies of published artwork by Curry, including magazine illustrations from Curry's early career. Extensive clippings, exhibition catalogs, and a scrapbook created by Curry as a youth are also found. Photographs depict Curry throughout his life in formal portraits, candid snapshots, and publicity photographs, with a significant number of photographs depicting Curry creating and posing with his artwork. The Artwork series contains a few sketches by Curry and seven canvases used for testing art materials. Additional sketches are found in Subject Files and scrapbooks.

Estate Papers contain materials dated after Curry's death in 1946 and mainly document the activities of Kathleen Curry in managing her husband's estate from 1946 until her death in 2001. Estate papers contain writings about Curry, correspondence, inventories of artwork, and alphabetical files documenting sales, exhibitions, and other projects.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into ten series:

- Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1911-1993 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 2: Family Correspondence, 1916-1946 (Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 3: Correspondence and Project Files, 1928-1946 (Boxes 1-3, OV 11; 2.3 linear feet)
- Series 4: Subject Files, 1848-1946 (Boxes 3-4, OV 11-12; 0.7 linear feet)
- Series 5: Notes and Writings, circa 1911-1946 (Box 4; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 6: Personal Business Records, 1916-1952 (Box 4, OV 13; 0.3 linear feet)
- Series 7: Print Materials, 1918-1985 (Boxes 4-5, 10; OV 12-13; 1.6 linear feet)
- Series 8: Photographs, circa 1900-1998 (Boxes 5-6, OV 14; 1.1 linear feet)
- Series 9: Artwork, 1941, undated (Box 7, OV 12, 14, 15; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 10: Estate Papers, circa 1946-1999 (Boxes 7-9 and rolled document; 2.3 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Study and teaching
- Art -- Technique
- Illustrators -- Wisconsin
- Muralists -- Wisconsin
- Painters -- Wisconsin
- Regionalism in art
- Works of art

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks
- Sketches
- Video recordings

Names:

- Curry, Kathleen, 1899-

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1911-1993

(Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)

This series contains certificates, a chronology of Curry's life, biographical narratives for encyclopedias, family history research and genealogical charts, school records, a video copy of home movies, and documents related to family members of John Steuart Curry.

Genealogical information appears to have been compiled by Curry's brother, R. Eugene Curry. The home movies are approximately eight minutes long and include footage of Curry around 1938 on horseback with a group of unidentified people in the mountains, and his daughter, wife, and pets playing in the yard.

Additional writings about John Steuart Curry are found in Notes and Writings and Estate Papers.

Box 1, Folder 1	Awards and Membership Certificates, 1933-1942 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 2	Chronology, 1937 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 3	Encyclopedia Entries, circa 1936-1946 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 4	Genealogy and Family History, circa 1943-1993 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 5	High School Report Card and Grammar School Graduation Card, 1911, 1915 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 6	Home Movies (circa 1938), 1991 <i>(8 minutes; VHS copy of 8mm film original; not digitized)</i>
Box 1, Folder 7	Obituary for Paul Curry, circa 1927 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8	Ellen Curry Print Material, circa 1941 Image(s)

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Series 2: Family Correspondence, 1916-1946

(Box 1; 0.2 linear feet)

This series contains correspondence between John Steuart Curry and members of his family, as well as letters among family members, written before his death in 1946. Curry's letters include detailed, early letters from Chicago during his first years of art school, and letters from Leonia, NJ and Greenwich Village during his early career. Scattered illustrations by Curry are found in these early letters. Two folders also contain notes about Curry's letters written by the family members who donated them to the Archives. Similar notes are found in Estate Papers.

Letters written by Kathleen Curry are to Margery Curry, Curry's sister. Letters from Margaret Curry are mainly addressed to John. Letters among family members after Curry's death in 1946 are found in the Estate Papers.

Letters are filed by author.

Box 1, Folder 9-16	John Steuart Curry, 1916-1923, 1926, 1942 <i>(8 folders)</i> Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) (includes one letter from Curry's first wife, Clara, to his parents following their marriage in 1923; last letter dated 1922 is a photocopy, location of original is unknown)
Box 1, Folder 17	Kathleen Curry, 1937, 1940 Image(s) (Includes letters to Margery Curry, JSC's sister)
Box 1, Folder 18	Margaret Curry (mother), 1938-1946, undated Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 19	R. Eugene Curry (brother), 1938, 1942, undated Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 20	Derrick Family, circa 1932, 1938 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 21	Miscellaneous Family Correspondence, circa 1928-1944 Image(s)

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Series 3: Correspondence and Project Files, 1928-1946

(Boxes 1-3, OV 11; 2.3 linear feet)

This series contains correspondence and other materials related to Curry's position as Artist in Residence at the University of Wisconsin (1936-1946), other professional projects during that period, and scattered earlier correspondence and print material. Other types of documents found include receipts, invoices, lists of artwork, clippings, photographs, blueprints, and other miscellany. Documents are arranged alphabetically by personal name, corporate name, subject, or project. Substantial files are found for galleries that represented Curry, including Maynard Walker's Ferargil Gallery, Walker Galleries, and Associated American Artists. Curry's major mural projects are documented under the headings "Kansas State House Murals," "Treasury Department, Section of Painting and Sculpture," and University of Wisconsin. Illustration jobs are filed by title or publisher under the heading Book Illustration.

Background documentation for Curry's appointment as artist-in-residence in the agricultural college at the University of Wisconsin is found in the University of Wisconsin files, including writings and research materials related to the "Rural Art" program he served there. Throughout the series, correspondence with art students, art teachers, aspiring artists, art clubs, and other civic clubs in Wisconsin and throughout the midwest reflect his role in this initiative.

Arrangement is idiosyncratic. In general, letters are filed alphabetically by organization or corporate name, if applicable. Place names for schools and civic clubs are common access points. Names with five or more letters are filed in their own folders, and the remainder of correspondence is filed in miscellaneous files. Selected correspondents whose names do not appear in headings are indicated in a note following the folder heading. Materials other than correspondence are also noted in the folder listing.

Box 1, Folder 22	Miscellaneous A, 1938-1946 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 23	Abbott Laboratories, 1945 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 24	Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Henry J., 1931, 1946, undated Image(s) (See also Kansas State House Murals)
Box 1, Folder 25	American Academy in Rome, 1941-1944 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 26-27	American Artists Group, 1936-1946, 1950 (2 folders) Image(s) Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 28	American Association of University Women -- Green Bay, 1943 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 29	American Association of University Women -- Superior, WI, 1944-1945 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 30	Army Medical Department Art Project, 1944-1945

- Box 1, Folder 56 Ball, David, 1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 57 Barloga, Viola, 1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 58 Beggs, Thomas M. (Pamona College), 1944-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 59 Beloit College, 1942-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 1, Folder 60 Benton, Thomas Hart, 1937-1945, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains technical notes and recipes, draft of Benton's review of JSC Pageant of America, a 1937 catalog, and an illustrated pamphlet by Benton entitled "The Year of Peril"; see also Estate Papers for correspondence between Benton and Kathleen Curry)
- Box 1 Book Illustration Projects
- Box 1, Folder 61 Book of the Month Club, 1942-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Harry Abrams, *The Complete Essays and Other Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, My Friend Flicka, Thunderhead*; also contains promotional pamphlet for *Flicka* and *Thunderhead*)
- Box 1, Folder 62 *Divine Comedy*, 1943-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(A. Tedesco and Doubleday, Doran, and Co.)
- Box 1, Folder 63 J.F. Cooper's "The Prairie", 1937-1941, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(George Macy, William Kitteridge; also contains contract)
- Box 1, Folder 64 *John Brown's Body*, circa 1944-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(George Macy, Limited Editions Club; also contains contract)
- Box 1, Folder 65 *Leaves of Grass*, 1942-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Peter Bailenson, Peter Pauper Press)
- Box 1, Folder 66-68 *The Literary Works of Abraham Lincoln*, circa 1938-1942
(3 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

- [Image\(s\)](#)
(George Macy, Limited Editions Club; also contains contract, research material, clippings, fan mail, typescripts draft and table of contents)
- Box 1, Folder 69 *The Red Badge of Courage*, 1943-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
(George Macy, Limited Editions Club; also contains contract)
- Box 1, Folder 70 *Tall Book of Bible Stories* , 1944-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Lucille Ogle, Artists and Writers Guild; cotains typescript list of illustrations)
- Box 1, Folder 71 *The Wisconsin*, 1940-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
(August Derleth, Farrar and Rinehart; contains photographs)
- Box 2, Folder 1 Brittingham, Thomas E., 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains press release regarding Brittingham donation to fund Curry's mural in the Biochemistry Building, U. Wisconsin; see also University of Wisconsin)
- Box 2 Bruce, Edward (see Treasury Department)
- Box 2, Folder 2 Butler Art Institute, 1941-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 3 Miscellaneous C, 1931-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Senator Arthur Capper, CBS, Cincinnati Art Museum (Walter Siple), Wilford Conrow, Cooper Union School of Art)
- Box 2, Folder 4 Carnegie Institute, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(John O'Connor, Homer Saint Gaudens)
- Box 2, Folder 5 Chappell, Warren, 1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 6 Christensen, Chris L., 1945-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(see also University of Wisconsin)
- Box 2, Folder 7 Christ-Janer, Albert, 1942-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 8 Corcoran Gallery of Art/Corcoran School of Art, 1937-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(C. Powell Minnigerode, Dick Lahey)
- Box 2, Folder 9 Craven, Thomas, circa 1935-1946

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 10 Miscellaneous D-E, 1928, 1939-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Dayton Art Institute, James Daugherty)
- Box 2, Folder 11 Dance Players, Inc., 1941-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Eugene Loring, Winthrop B. Palmer; concerning decorations for a ballet of Carl Sandburg's "The Prairie")
- Box 2, Folder 12-13 Davis, Vachel, 1940-1945
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 14 Dodd, Lamar, circa 1939-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 15 Educational Policies Commission, 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 16 Encyclopedia Britannica, 1943-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(also contains receipts)
- Box 2, Folder 17 *Esquire* Magazine, 1938-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Eric Lundgren and Arnold Gingrich)
- Box 2, Folder 18 Miscellaneous F, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Hulda Reiter Fischer)
- Box 2, Folder 19-20 F.W. Weber Co., 1929-1946
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(also contains technical bulletins about art materials and receipts)
- Box 2, Folder 21 Farr, Helen "Pete" (later Sloan), 1935, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains technical notes)
- Box 2, Folder 22-24 Ferargil Galleries, circa 1930-1935
(3 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

- [Image\(s\)](#)
(Maynard Walker, W. H. White, Mateel Howe Farnham; contains article by Farnham about Curry)
- Box 2, Folder 25 Ferargil Galleries, Financial Statements, 1931-1935
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 26 First National Bank (Madison, Wisconsin) Murals, 1940-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
(also contains contract)
- Box 2, Folder 27 Fortney, Vivian, 1939-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 28 Fults, Louise C., 1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 29 Miscellaneous G, 1938-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(McLeod M. Pearce of Geneva College regarding Curry's honorary degree; Henry Allen Moe of the Guggenheim Foundation)
- Box 2, Folder 30 Garrison, Lloyd, 1940-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(See also Estate Papers)
- Box 2, Folder 31 Gilbertson, Boris, 1941-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 32 Miscellaneous H, 1936-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Oskar Hagen, Sidney Howard, Marion Humfield)
- Box 2, Folder 33 Hibbs, Ben (*Country Gentleman*), 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 34 Hodgell Family, 1941-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Ray, Robert, and Murlin Hodgell)
- Box 2, Folder 35 Miscellaneous I-J, 1937-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Fritz Jochem, Wilbur Peat of John Herron Art Institute)
- Box 2, Folder 36 Janesville Art League (Wisconsin), 1942-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 37 Miscellenous K, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 38 Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 1945

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 39-46 Kansas State House Murals, circa 1937-1943
(8 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Jack Harris, Beth Dickerson, Roy Stookey, Reeves Lewenthal, Henry Allen, Fred Crittenden (see also Misc. C), Henry Carey, Ted Wear and article by Wear, Walter Jones, Olle Nordmark, W.A. White, H.G. Lull, Senator Arthur Capper, Paul Jones, Ray Hodgell, Raymond Eastwood, Tulsa Tribune, Albert Cole, Maynard Walker; contains receipts and 1941 state resolution blocking further work on the murals; see also Henry J. Allen, John Helm, Jr., and Sam Nock)
- Box 2, Folder 47 Kansas State House Murals, Narrative Description and Contract
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 48 Kansas State Federation of Art, 1935-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
(John Helm, Jr.)
- Box 2, Folder 49 Kappa Pi, Honorary Art Fraternity, circa 1942-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 50 Katona, Verna Wendelin and Arthur, 1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 51 Kittredge, William A., 1938-1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
(See also book Illustrations)
- Box 2, Folder 52 Knickerbocker, Laura, 1941-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Topeka Community Art Center; see also Kansas State House Murals)
- Box 2, Folder 53 Kuniyoshi, Yasuo, circa 1941, 1944
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 54 Miscellaenous L, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Clare Leighton, Starker Leopold, F. Jochem of Louisiana State)
- Box 2, Folder 55 Layton School of Art, 1938-1941

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 56 Lea, Tom, 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 57 *Life* Magazine, 1942-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Margit Varga)
- Box 2, Folder 58-59 Miscellaneous M, 1938-1946
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Russell Plumpton of Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Glen Mitchell, Frederick Robinson of Museum of Fine Arts Springfield)
- Box 2, Folder 60 M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, 1942-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Walter Heil; see also Estate Papers)
- Box 2, Folder 61 Marsh, Reginald, 1938, 1940-1942, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(first postcard in folder is a photocopy, location of the original is not known; file also contains technical notes and illustrated letters; see also Estate Papers)
- Box 2, Folder 62 Mathiesen, John, 1941-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(see also University of Wisconsin Rural Art Program)
- Box 2, Folder 63 McCloy, William, 1941-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 64 Meier, Norman C., 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 65 Men's Sketch Club of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, 1939
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 66 Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1941, 1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Francis Henry Taylor)
- Box 2, Folder 67 Milwaukee Art Institute, 1943-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 2, Folder 68 Miscellaneous N-O, circa 1931-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(National Institute of Arts and Letters, Edward Alden Jewell and Howard De Vree of the New York *Times*, *Newsweek*)
- Box 2, Folder 69 National Academy of Design, 1937-1944

	Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 70	Neville Public Museum (Green Bay, Wisconsin), 1943 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 71	Nock, Sam, 1940-1946 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 72	Miscellaneous P-Q, 1938-1945 Image(s) (Lorene Payne with print reproductions enclosed, Lydia Bond Powel)
Box 2, Folder 73	Pick, Stephen, 1941 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 74	Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1941-1942 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 75	Permanent Pigments, 1944 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 1	Miscellaneous R, 1938-1946 Image(s) (Helen Appleton Read, Carroll Russell)
Box 3, Folder 2	Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan, 1940-1945 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 3	Ringling Brothers, 1933-1945-1946 Image(s) (Beverly Kelley)
Box 3, Folder 4	River Falls State Teachers College, 1945 Image(s) (Alberta Greene)
Box 3, Folder 5-6	Miscellaneous S, 1938-1945 (2 folders) Image(s) Image(s) (Paul Sample, Mrs. Millard Smith)
Box 3, Folder 7-8	Schmeckebier, Laurence, 1939-1944 (2 folders) Image(s) Image(s) (see also Estate Papers)
Box 3, Folder 9	Simon and Schuster, 1940-1941

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 10 State Teachers College (Eau Claire, WI), 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 11-12 Miscellaneous T, 1931, 1939-1946
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Ann Elgin and Arthur Northwood of Time, Inc., C.B. Porter of the Washington *Times Herald*, Margaret Treadwell)
- Box 3, Folder 13-15 Treasury Department, Section of Painting and Sculpture, circa 1934-1943
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Ed Rowan, Edward Bruce, Forbes Watson, Maria K. Ealand; also contains pamphlet "New Forces in American Art" by Watson)
- Box 3, Folder 16 Treasury Department, Section of Painting and Sculpture, Blueprints, 1935, 1939
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 17 Treasury Department, Section of Painting and Sculpture, Contracts and Vouchers, 1935-1939
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 18 Miscellaneous U-V, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Robert Von Neumann)
- Box 3, Folder 19 University of California, Berkeley, 1941-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 20 University of Minnesota Farm and Home Week, 1944-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 21 University of Wisconsin, 1936-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Chris Christensen; contains a photograph, postcards, employment documents, documents related to law library mural, and article announcing Curry's appointment)
- Box 3, Folder 22-25 University of Wisconsin, Rural Art Program, circa 1934-1945
(4 folders; see also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

- [Image\(s\)](#)
(contains articles, clippings, catalogs, lists, and items related to exhibitions of rural artists in Wisconsin; clippings related to the appointment of Curry as artist-in-residence; poetry by Earl Sudgen; review of Curry's biography)
- Box 3, Folder 26 Upital, Frank, 1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Mrs. H.L. Burnham, Federated Women's Groups)
- Box 3, Folder 27-28 Miscellaneous W, 1937-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Wisconsin State Fair, Frank Lloyd Wright)
- Box 3, Folder 29-34 Walker Galleries, 1930-1941
(6 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains inventories and price lists, an essay by Maynard Walker, documents related to transfer of inventory from Ferargil Galleries, consignment records, financial statements, Maynard Walker letters and third-party correspondence)
- Box 3, Folder 35 Washburn, Helen (Mrs. Kenneth), 1944-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains excerpt of article on Curry by Washburn)
- Box 3, Folder 36 Webster, Bethuel, circa 1938-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(legal correspondence)
- Box 3, Folder 37 Western Playing Card Company, 1941-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 38 White, W.A., 1930-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains letters between Maynard Walker, W.A. White, and Mrs. H.J. Allen; see also Kansas State House Murals)
- Box 3, Folder 39 Whitney Museum, circa 1937-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Juliana Force)
- Box 3, Folder 40 Whyte, Malcolm K., 1939-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 41 Wickey, Harry, 1931-1942

- [Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 3, Folder 42-43 Wisconsin Loan Exhibition, 1937-1938
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains catalog typescript, receipts, insurance records, clipping)
- Box 3, Folder 44 Wood, Grant, 1936-1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains essay about Wood by Curry)
- Box 3, Folder 45 Worcester Art Museum, 1937, 1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Francis Henry Taylor)
- Box 3, Folder 46 Miscellaneous Y-Z, 1945-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Stanley Young, Anita Zentner)
- Box 3, Folder 47 First Names Only and Unsigned, 1936-1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 11 (OV) Oversized Materials from Correspondence and Project Files (see Box 3, folder 24)

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Series 4: Subject Files, 1848-1946

(Boxes 3-4, OV 11-12; 0.7 linear feet)

This series contains clippings, photographs, prints, letters responding to research queries, a bibliography, notes, sketches, and other ephemera gathered by Curry. Many of the files consist entirely of images clipped from illustrated magazines and newspapers. Sketches are found in the Kansas history, Russell/Remington, and circus files. A series of snapshots in the circus files appear to have been taken by Curry. Other types of material found are noted in the folder listing.

Subjects that are particularly well-developed in this series include American Indians, the circus, John Brown, and Kansas history. Many of the subjects are recognizable as subjects of Curry's artwork.

Arrangement is alphabetical by subject. Headings added to subject files during reprocessing are indicated in brackets. Dates in the folder listing refer to dates of file contents; files appear to have been created between 1920 and 1946. Additional research and pictorial references gathered by Curry can be found in Correspondence and Project Files, Print Materials, and Photographs.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 3, Folder 48-52 | American Indians, circa 1848-1943
(5 folders; partially scanned; see also OV 11)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s) |
| Box 3 | Circus |
| Box 3, Folder 53 | Photographs and Postcard, circa 1932, 1933
Image(s)
(Contains a photograph of Curry) |
| Box 3, Folder 54 | Negatives, circa 1932
(partially scanned)
Image(s)
(Contains one unprinted image; other images exist in prints in previous folder) |
| Box 3, Folder 55 | Sketch, circa 1939
Image(s) |
| Box 3, Folder 56 | Programs, circa 1930-1939
(partially scanned)
Image(s) |
| Box 3, Folder 57 | Clippings, circa 1920-1946
(see also OV 12)
Image(s) |
| Box 3, Folder 58 | John Brown, circa 1928-1940 |

- [Image\(s\)](#)
(contains copy photographs, correspondence, and pamphlets)
- Box 3, Folder 59 [Chardin], undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains print)
- Box 3, Folder 60 [Daumier], circa 1854-1857
(See OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains satirical drawings printed in the illustrated French newspaper, *le Charivari*)
- Box 4, Folder 1 Delacroix, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains print)
- Box 4, Folder 2 Eskimos, circa 1920-1929, 1936
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 3 Flags, 1932, 1941
(see OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 4 Flowers, 1937
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 5 [Fourain, Jean-Louis], 1933, undated
(partially scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains a catalog and annotated photographs of sketches)
- Box 4, Folder 6 Harvesting, 1920-1938
(See also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 7 Interiors, circa 1927-1933
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 8 Kansas History, circa 1924-1938
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Contains sketches; correspondence with Henry Carey; snapshots including photographs of a tornado, floods, and animals; postcards; pamphlets; and clippings including a 1930 *Saturday Evening Post* series on Kansas.)
- Box 4, Folder 9 [Lynchings], 1933
(see OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 10 Modern Painters, circa 1933-1943

- (partially scanned; see also OV 11)*
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains print materials related to Grant Wood, reproductions of works of art by various artists, and postcards, including one sent from Maynard Walker in 1936, and another unsigned postcard sent in 1933)
- Box 4, Folder 11 [Old Masters], undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 12 Religious, 1934, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains a pamphlet from a Canadian Christian wax museum)
- Box 4, Folder 13 Rubens, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 14 Russell/Remington, circa 1907-1923
(See also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Contains pen and pencil sketches, postcards)
- Box 4, Folder 15 Ships, circa 1929-1937
[Image\(s\)](#)
(contains a photograph)
- Box 4, Folder 16 Soldiers, circa 1918-1942
(See also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 17 [Sports], circa 1918-1932
(See also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 18 [Miscellaneous Subjects], circa 1928-1937
(See also OV 11)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box OV 11 Oversized Items from Subject Files (Box 3, folders 48 and 60; Box 4, folders 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 18)
- Box OV 12 Oversized Items from Subject Files (Box 3, folder 57)

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Series 5: Notes and Writings, circa 1911-1946

(Box 4; 0.3 linear feet)

This series contains essays, notes, transcripts of lectures and interviews, and other miscellaneous writings written primarily by John Steuart Curry. Other authors, where known, are noted in the folder listing, along with details about subject content. Subjects of writings include art technique, art history, Curry's artworks, early school essays, and one brief essay on Grant Wood. Also found are an annotated address book and mailing list dating from Curry's years in Westport, Connecticut, and travel notes from his trip to Europe in 1926-1927.

When multiple drafts are present, drafts are filed in the order in which they appear to have been written. Additional notes and writings are scattered throughout the collection.

Box 4	Art Materials and Techniques
Box 4, Folder 19	Maroger Medium, circa 1941 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 20	"Sizing and Mounting of Linen Canvas for Mauroflased Wallpainting", circa 1940 Image(s) (by Olle Nordmark)
Box 4, Folder 21	"Some Methods and Materials to Prepare for Oil Painting", circa 1930-1939 Image(s) (multiple drafts by Curry)
Box 4, Folder 22	Miscellaneous Materials and Techniques, circa 1931-1939 Image(s) (Includes correspondence with Martin Fischer; Beck, Koller and Co.; Benajmin Moore and Co.; Masonite Corporation; See also Correspondence and Project Files for Reginald Marsh and Helen "Pete" Farr)
Box 4, Folder 23	Description of Murals for Kansas State House, circa 1937-1942 Image(s) (multiple drafts)
Box 4, Folder 24	Descriptions of Other Artworks by Curry, circa 1930-1939 Image(s)
Box 4	Essays
Box 4, Folder 25	Essays by Curry, circa 1924-1942 Image(s) (includes an autobiographical essay; essays on the creative process, art technique, and Grant Wood; see also Correspondence and Project Files)
Box 4, Folder 26	Essays by Others about Curry, circa 1936-1946 Image(s) (includes an essay by Chris L. Christensen; see also Estate Papers)

- Box 4, Folder 27 School Essays, circa 1911
[Image\(s\)](#)
(includes one illustrated essay by Curry)
- Box 4, Folder 28 Lectures on American Painting, 1937
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 29-30 Notes from Slide Lecture on Art History, circa 1936-1946
(2 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 31 Radio Interview Transcript, 1938
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 32 Works Progress Administration Recreation Project Questionnaire, 1940
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 33 Annotated Address Book, circa 1924-1936
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 34 Mailing Lists, circa 1924-1936, 1939
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 35 Travel Notes from Europe, 1926-1927
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 36 Miscellaneous Notes, circa 1923-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 37 Poems, 1937, undated
[Image\(s\)](#)

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Series 6: Personal Business Records, 1916-1952

(Box 4, OV 13; 0.3 linear feet)

This series contains documents related to John Steuart Curry's business transactions and personal finances. Records include contracts, account books, receipts, notes, correspondence, bills, bank statements, tax forms, stock certificates, deeds, copyright certificates, photographs, and lists of artwork. Curry's expenses in Chicago as a student are in a small, handwritten notebook. Later trips to Europe, Cuba, Panama, Kansas, and elsewhere are documented in notes, bills, statements, and receipts. Records of artwork include a small card file, photographs of artwork, copyright certificates, and lists of artwork, most of which appear to be related to exhibitions. Lists and inventories made after Curry's death are found in Estate Papers.

Additional business records from Curry's lifetime are found in Correspondence and Project Files, and Estate Papers contain business records from after Curry's death. See also Notes and Writings for additional documentation of Curry's travels.

Box 4, Folder 38	Contracts and Agreements, 1936, 1941, 1945 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 39	Engagement Calendar, 1937-1938, 1942-1944 Image(s) (annotated)
Box 4	Expense Accounts
Box 4, Folder 40	Chicago, circa 1916 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 41	Cuba and Panama, 1946 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 42	Europe, 1938 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 43	Miscellaneous Accounts and Receipts, circa 1937-1945 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 44	Insurance, 1935-1952 Image(s)
Box 4	Personal Financial Records
Box 4, Folder 45	Bank Records, 1940-1946 (not scanned)
Box 4, Folder 46	Consumers' Cooperative of Wisconsin, circa 1941-1951 (not scanned)
Box 4, Folder 47	Legal Documents, 1939-1942 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 48-49	Taxes, 1938-1951

(not scanned)

Box 4	Records of Artwork
Box 4, Folder 50	Card File, circa 1923-1945 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 51-53	Copyright Certificates and Card File, 1937-1946 Image(s) Image(s) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 54	Lists of Artwork, circa 1930-1939, 1946 (See also OV 13) Image(s) (See also Inventories in Estate Papers for lists compiled after 1946)
Box OV 13	Oversized List of Artwork (from Box 4, f54)

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Series 7: Print Materials, 1918-1985

(Boxes 4-5, 10; OV 12-13; 1.6 linear feet)

This series contains exhibition catalogs, clippings, periodicals, book illustrations, magazine illustrations, printed reproductions of artwork, monographs about Curry, scrapbooks created by Curry and his relatives, and other miscellany. This series includes print materials gathered during Curry's lifetime and after his death.

Magazine illustrations include some of Curry's early commercial artwork from illustrated magazines such as *Country Gentleman*, *Boy's Life*, and *Western Weekly*. The first magazine illustration in the series is annotated indicating that it was Curry's first illustration. Clippings are mostly related to Curry's artwork, his residency at the University of Wisconsin, and his death in 1946.

Exhibition catalogs are from Curry's solo and group exhibitions. Early catalogs contain some annotations. Reproductions of Curry's paintings and drawings are found in a variety of media including book and magazine covers, pamphlets, and advertisements.

John Steuart Curry's childhood scrapbook contains clippings from pictorial magazines, photographs of livestock, and a couple of sketches. Later scrapbooks kept by his wife, sister, and brother are also found, and contain mostly clippings.

Articles about Curry found in the periodicals are duplicated in clippings. Additional print materials are found throughout the collection. See series descriptions for further details.

Box 4, Folder 55	Book Illustrations, circa 1940-1946 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 56-58	Magazine Illustrations, circa 1921-1926 (3 folders; see also OV 13) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 59	Clippings, circa 1918-1919, 1929-1931 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 60	Clippings, 1933-1936 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 61	Clippings, 1937-1938 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 62	Clippings, 1939 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 63	Clippings, 1940

	(See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 64	Clippings, 1941 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 65	Clippings, 1942 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 66	Clippings, 1943 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 67	Clippings, 1944-1945 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 68	Clippings, 1946 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 69	Clippings, 1947-1949 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 70	Clippings, 1950-1952 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 71	Clippings, 1953-59 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 72	Clippings, 1960-1969 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 73	Clippings, 1970-1975 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 74	Clippings, 1976-1978 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 75	Clippings, 1981-1988 (See also OV 13) Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 76-77	Clippings, undated

- (2 folders; See also OV 13)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4, Folder 78 Exhibition Catalogs, 1930-1939
 (partially scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
 (Contains some annotations)
- Box 5, Folder 1-9 Exhibition Catalogs, 1940-1992, undated
 (9 folders; partially scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5 Monographs about Curry
- Box 5, Folder 10 *Scribner's Examines: John Steuart Curry* by Thomas Craven, 1938
 (partially scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
 (production copy; also contains production copy of related pamphlet)
- Box 5, Folder 11 List of Illustrations for *John Steuart Curry: Pageant of America*, circa 1943
 (not scanned)
- Box 5, Folder 12 American Artists Group Monograph, 1945
 (not scanned)
- Box 5, Folder 13 Pamphlets Related to Art Materials and Techniques, 1928, undated
 (partially scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 14 Pamphlets Related to Kansas, circa 1950-1980
 (not scanned)
- Box 5 Periodicals
 (not scanned; see *Clippings*)
- Box 5, Folder 15 *America 200*, 1976
- Box 5, Folder 16 *American Artist*, 1976
- Box 5, Folder 17 *Art In America*, 1976

- Box 5, Folder 18 *Demcourier*, 1941
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 19 *Kansas Directory*, 1961
- Box 5, Folder 20 *Kansas Magazine*, 1941, 1966
- Box 5, Folder 21 *Kansas Quarterly*, 1970
- Box 5, Folder 22 *Life*, 1936, 1946
(See Box 10, sol)
- Box 5, Folder 23 *The Register of the Museum of Art (University of Kansas)*, 1959
- Box 5, Folder 24 *Scribner's Magazine*, 1938
- Box 5, Folder 25 *Time*, 1934
- Box 5, Folder 26 *Wisconsin Alumnus*, 1949, 1985
- Box 5 Reproductions of Artwork
- Box 5, Folder 27 Covers, circa 1938-1975
(partially scanned; see also OV 12)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 28 Lucky Strike Advertisements, circa 1942
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 29 War Bonds Advertisements, circa 1941-1945
(See also OV 12)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 30 Pamphlets, circa 1935-1964
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 5, Folder 31 Proofs and Prints, undated
(not scanned; see also OV 12)
- Box 5, Folder 32 Miscellaneous Reproductions, crica 1930-1985
(not scanned; see also OV 12)
- Box 5 Scrapbooks
- Box 5, Folder 33 John Steuart Curry, circa 1905-1907
[Image\(s\)](#)
(Contains clippings, childhood sketches, and photographs of livestock)
- Box 5, Folder 34 Margery Curry Fike (sister), 1937-1936

	<p>(See Box 10, sol) Image(s) (Contains clippings)</p>
Box 5, Folder 35	<p>Kathleen Curry (wife), 1935-1940 (See Box 10, sol) Image(s)</p>
Box 5, Folder 36-37	<p>R. Eugene Curry (brother), 1936-1939, 1946 (2 folders; not scanned)</p>
Box 5, Folder 38	<p>Miscellaneous Print Materials, circa 1939-1986 (partially scanned) Image(s)</p>
Box 10	<p>Oversized Periodicals (from Box 5, folder 22)</p>
Box 10	<p>Oversized Scrapbooks (from Box 5, folders 34-36)</p>
Box OV 12	<p>Oversized Reproductions of Artwork (from Box 5, folders 27, 28, 31, 32)</p>
Box OV 13	<p>Oversized Magazine Illustrations (from Box 4, folder 58)</p>
Box OV 13	<p>Oversized Clippings (from Box 4, folders 59-77)</p>

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Series 8: Photographs, circa 1900-1998

(Boxes 5-6, OV 14; 1.1 linear feet)

This series includes photographs of John Steuart Curry and his family, friends, colleagues, homes, and artwork. Photographs of Curry include formal portraits, publicity photographs, candid photographs, and snapshots. Notable subjects include a significant number of photographs showing Curry working on and posing with artwork, and many early photographs of Curry as a young athlete. Additional information about the subject matter of photographs is included in the folder listing.

Many of the photographs of works of art appear to have been made and maintained by Kathleen Curry, who owned the reproduction rights of her husband's artwork, and handled copyright permissions for the estate for many decades. Some of the earlier photographs of paintings are annotated with names of owners and information about their subjects which appears to be in Curry's handwriting.

Additional records related to Kathleen Curry's work with her husband's estate are found in Estate Papers. Additional information about copyright is also found in Personal Business Records.

Additional photographs are found throughout the collection. In particular, photographs of the circus, which appear to have been taken by Curry and include a photograph of Curry, are found in the Subject Files.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 5, Folder 39-40 | Formal Portraits of John Steuart Curry, circa 1918-1943
<i>(2 folders; copies not scanned; see also OV 14)</i>
Image(s) |
| Box 5, Folder 41 | Candid Photographs of JSC, circa 1930-1946
Image(s) |
| Box 5, Folder 42 | JSC in the Studio, Drawing, and Painting, circa 1918-1944
<i>(see also OV 14)</i>
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 1-3 | JSC Posing with Artwork, circa 1930-1946
<i>(3 folders; copies not scanned)</i>
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 4-5 | JSC with Grant Wood and Thomas Hart Benton, circa 1932-1938
<i>(2 folders; copies not scanned)</i>
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 6 | JSC with Other Artists, circa 1918-1945
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 7 | JSC Sitting on Juries, circa 1932-1938
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 8 | JSC during Army Medical Department Art Project, 1944-1945
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 9 | JSC's Wisconsin Radio Appearance, circa 1936-1946
Image(s) |
| Box 6, Folder 10 | Family Photographs, circa 1900-1950 |

- [Image\(s\)](#)
(Includes group photograph of Curry as baby with sisters; For images of Curry painting with his step-daughter present, see JSC in Studio, Drawing, and Painting)
- Box 6, Folder 11 Class Photograph, circa 1913-1919
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 12 Curry Homes in Madison and Westport, circa 1939, 1992
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 13-14 JSC and Kathleen Curry, circa 1939, 1941
(2 folders; copies not scanned)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6 Athletics
- Box 6, Folder 15 Team Portraits, circa 1913-1919
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 16 Action Shots, circa 1915-1919, 1945
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 17 Hunting, Riding, Camping, Fishing, circa 1918-1942
(See also OV 14)
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 18 Miscellaneous Snapshots, circa 1913-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 19 Miscellaneous Groups, circa 1930-1946
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6, Folder 20 Miscellaneous Places, circa 1929-1930
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 6 Photographs of Works of Art
- Box 6 Drawings, Paintings, and Prints
(not scanned)
- Box 6, Folder 21 Animals, undated
- Box 6, Folder 22 Army Medical Art Project, circa 1944-1945
- Box 6, Folder 23-26 Figures, undated
(4 folders)
- Box 6, Folder 27 Illustrations, undated
- Box 6, Folder 28 Landscapes, undated

Box 6, Folder 29	Portraits, undated (<i>See also OV 14</i>)
Box 6, Folder 30	Still Life, undated
Box 6, Folder 31	Exhibition Views, circa 1943-1990, undated Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 32	Hand-Painted Wedding Chest (circa 1934), undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6	Murals
Box 6, Folder 33	Connecticut Murals (1934), undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 34	Department of the Interior Building (1938), undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 35	Department of Justice Building (1936-1937), undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 36-38	Kansas Murals (1938-1940), undated (<i>3 folders; not scanned; see also OV 14</i>)
Box 6, Folder 39	Kansas Murals, Models and Source Material (1938-1940), undated Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 40	University of Wisconsin Biochemistry Building (1940-1942), undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 41	University of Wisconsin Law Library (1940-1942), undated (<i>not scanned</i>) (for a sketch of the site of this mural, see Artwork)
Box 6, Folder 42	Unidentified Murals, undated (<i>not scanned</i>) (possibly First National Bank murals in Madison, Wisconsin)
Box 6, Folder 43-46	Negatives, undated (<i>4 folders; not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 47	Restoration Before and After Photographs, 1994, 1996, undated Image(s)
Box 6, Folder 48	Photostats, undated (<i>not scanned</i>)
Box 6, Folder 49	Works of Art by Other Artists, undated (<i>not scanned</i>)

Box OV 14

Oversized Photographs (from Box 5, folders 39 and 42; and Box 6, folders 17 and 38)

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Series 9: Artwork, 1941, undated

(Box 7, OV 12, 14, 15; 0.2 linear feet)

This series includes sketches, a cartoon of Curry, and test canvases. Four sketches are found by John Steuart Curry, including one small watercolor sketch of corn, and a sketch of what appears to be the site of his mural in the Wisconsin Law Library.

Seven test canvases, two of them dated 1941, are annotated with notes regarding the materials used for the various colors and grounds represented.

Additional sketches are found in Subject Files, and in Curry's childhood scrapbook in Print Materials. Scattered illustrated letters from Curry can also be found in Family Correspondence.

Box 7, Folder 1	Sketches by Curry, undated <i>(See also OV 14)</i> Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 2	Cartoon Depicting Curry, undated <i>(See OV 14)</i> Image(s)
Box 7, Folder 3	Test Canvases, undated <i>(See also OV 12 and 15)</i> Image(s)
Box OV 12	Oversized Test Canvases (from Box 7, folder 3)
Box OV 14	Oversized Sketches and Cartoon (from Box 7, folders 1 and 2)
Box OV 15	Oversized Test Canvas (from Box 7, folder 3)

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Series 10: Estate Papers, circa 1946-1999

(Boxes 7-9 and rolled document; 2.3 linear feet)

This series contains papers created and gathered by Kathleen Curry and other family members after John Steuart Curry's death 1946. Types of materials include writings, published articles, correspondence, inventories of artwork and papers, and various business records kept by Kathleen Curry. Also found are alphabetical files dating roughly 1983 to 1999, which contain correspondence, clippings, catalogs, receipts, photographs, and other records related to museums, galleries, and other parties who dealt with the estate.

Articles about Curry include writings by family, friends, and scholars, both published and unpublished. Among the family writings are several articles written by Curry siblings, and notes written by R. Eugene Curry which refer to the papers themselves, especially to letters in Family Correspondence. Other articles include journal publications and writings related to exhibitions. Journal articles are accompanied by critical responses written to their authors from Kathleen Curry.

Chronological files of correspondence contain letters primarily from 1946 through 1980, although some later correspondence is found here. Alphabetical files contain most of the correspondence and other documents of the estate from about 1983 to 1999. Both the chronological correspondence and alphabetical files document publications, exhibitions, appearances, sales, disposition of papers, Curry-related events, and financial matters, with scattered personal correspondence. The estate's relationships with galleries representing Curry's artwork are heavily documented in this series. These include Associated American Artists, Robert Graham Galleries, and Kennedy Galleries in the chronological correspondence, and Mongerson Wunderlich, and Vivian Kiechel Fine Art in the alphabetical files. Correspondence between Kathleen Curry and many of her husband's colleagues is found, primarily in the chronological correspondence, including Thomas Hart Benton (1946), Thomas Craven, George Macy, Laurence Schmeckebier, Bob Hodgell, Don Anderson, Lloyd Garrison, Burton Cumming, William McCloy, and Maynard Walker. Letters between Laurence Schmeckebier and various family members (1981-1984), written for research on a revised edition of his biography of Curry (not published) includes letters with reminiscences of Curry's early life. A placard created to commemorate Curry's mural in the Law Library of the University of Wisconsin is found with a letter from Lloyd Garrison of 1948.

Inventories include lists of artwork, slides, papers, and reproductions. Most of the signed inventories were created by either Kathleen Curry or galleries representing Curry's artwork. Many are unsigned and unidentified.

Additional papers dated after Curry's death can be found in Print Materials, Personal Business Records, and Photographs. Additional information about Curry's family can be found in Biographical Materials and Family Correspondence.

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| Box 7, Folder 4-6 | <p>Articles about Curry, circa 1946-1993
<i>(3 folders)</i></p> <p>Image(s)</p> <p>Image(s)</p> <p>Image(s)</p> <p>(includes manuscript and published articles by Stephen C. Behrendt, Patricia S. Leddy, William McCloy, and John F. Helm, Jr., as well as Kathleen Curry's responses to articles)</p> |
| Box 7, Folder 7-9 | <p>Articles about Curry, Writings by Family Members, circa 1940, 1972-1988
<i>(3 folders)</i></p> <p>Image(s)</p> <p>Image(s)</p> |

[Image\(s\)](#)

(includes articles by Margaret Curry Fike, Margery Curry Yeakley, Ellen Curry Schuster, and notes and essays by R. Eugene Curry)

- Box 7, Folder 10 Articles about Curry, Photocopies of Articles Gathered by Family Members (1936-1981), undated
(not scanned)
- Box 7, Folder 11-13 Copyright Permissions, circa 1959-1997
(3 folders)
- Box 7 Correspondence
- Box 7, Folder 14-20 Condolence Letters, 1946
(7 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
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- Box 7, Folder 21-27 General Correspondence, 1946-1950
(7 folders; see also rolled document)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
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- Box 7, Folder 28-41 General Correspondence, circa 1951-1959
(14 folders)
[Image\(s\)](#)
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Box 7, Folder 42-51	General Correspondence, 1960-1969 (10 folders) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 1-6	General Correspondence, 1970-1979 (6 folders) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s) Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 7	General Correspondence, circa 1981-1998 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 8	Undated Correspondence, Kathleen Curry, circa 1946-1998 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 9	Undated Correspondence, Miscellaneous Authors, circa 1946-1977 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 10	Greeting Cards, circa 1946-1985 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 11	Legal Correspondence, 1946, circa 1976-1989 Image(s) (Lloyd Garrison, Kathleen Curry, John Silberman)
Box 8	Inventories
Box 8, Folder 12	Artwork in the Home of Kathleen Curry, West Newbury, CT, circa 1946-1952 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 13	Artwork Owned by Family Members, undated

	Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 14	Kennedy Galleries, circa 1975-1984 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 15	Mongerson Wunderlich, 1997 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 16	Miscellaneous Inventories and Lists, circa 1947-1988 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 17	John Steuart Curry Papers in the Possession of Kathleen Curry, circa 1971 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 18	Slide Collection and Photographs of Artwork, undated Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 19	Index to Reproductions of Artwork, 1951 Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 20	Miscellaneous Notes, circa 1952-1992 <i>(Not scanned)</i>
Box 8, Folder 21	Personal Finances, Kathleen Curry, circa 1948-1974 <i>(Not scanned)</i>
Box 8, Folder 22	Royalty Statements, 1951-1974 <i>(not scanned)</i>
Box 8, Folder 23	Shipping Receipts and Loan Agreements, 1949-1973, 1991 <i>(not scanned)</i>
Box 8	Alphabetical Files (not scanned)
Box 8, Folder 24	100th Birthday Celebration (Kansas), 1997
Box 8, Folder 25-28	Archives of American Art and Other Smithsonian Offices, circa 1966-1998 <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 8, Folder 29	Beach Museum, Kansas State University, circa 1996-1997
Box 8, Folder 30	Czestochowski, Joseph, 1981-1986
Box 8, Folder 31	Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1990
Box 8, Folder 32-34	Elvehjem Museum, University of Wisconsin Madison, circa 1984-1999 <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 8, Folder 35	John Steuart Curry Art Guild (Oskaloosa, Kansas), 1992-1994
Box 8, Folder 36	John Steuart Curry Boyhood Home and Memorial (Oskaloosa, Kansas), circa 1987-1998

Box 8, Folder 37	Kansas Publicity, circa 1986=1997
Box 8, Folder 38	Kansas State Historical Society, 1993, 1998
Box 8, Folder 39	Lambert, Don, circa 1992-1999
Box 8, Folder 40-43	M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, circa 1992-1998 (4 folders) (includes material related to exhibition "John Steuart Curry: Inventing the Middle West")
Box 8, Folder 44	Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1997-1999
Box 8, Folder 45-47	Mongerson Wunderlich, 1983-1990 (3 of 10 folders)
Box 9, Folder 1-7	Mongerson Wunderlich, 1991-1998 (7 of 10 folders)
Box 9, Folder 8-9	Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, 1996-1999 (2 folders) (includes slides of exhibition "John Steuart Curry: Inventing the Middle West")
Box 9, Folder 10	Sotheby's, 1996-1997
Box 9, Folder 11	Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas (Lawrence), 1983-1997
Box 9, Folder 12	Westport Arts Council Award (Connecticut), 1994
Box 9, Folder 13-14	Westport Weston Arts Council Exhibition, circa 1983-1984 (2 folders)
Box 9, Folder 15	Westport Fresco Restoration, 1996-1998
Box 9, Folder 16	Whitehead, Fred, University of Kansas Medical Center, 1985
Box 9, Folder 17	Vivian Kiechel Fine Art (Lincoln, Nebraska), 1997-1999
Box 16	Oversized Enclosure from Estate Correspondence (rolled Document from Box 7, folder 25; not scanned)

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