A Finding Aid to the Chester Dale Papers,
circa 1883-2003, bulk 1920-1970,
in the Archives of American Art

Stephanie Ashley

Funding for the processing and digitization of the Chester Dale papers is provided by The Walton Family Foundation. Funding for the reformatting of the 16mm film reel was provided by the Smithsonian Institution Women’s Committee.

2017
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Chester Dale papers
Identifier: AAA.daleches
Date: circa 1883-2003
(bulk 1920-1970)
Extent: 8.4 Linear feet
Creator: Dale, Chester, b. 1883
Language: English

The collection is in English.

Summary: The papers of New York art collector Chester Dale measure 8.4 linear feet and date from circa 1883-2003. Dale amassed one of the world's most complete collections of nineteenth and twentieth century French art, was a collector of eighteenth century American portraitists, and a patron and collector of twentieth American artists including George Bellows and Mary Cassatt. The bulk of the collection dates from 1920 to 1970 and documents Dale's activities through biographical material, correspondence, memoirs and other writings, purchase, sales and estate records, printed material, scrapbooks, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1972 by Mary Dale, Chester Dale's second wife, and in 1985 by Mary Dale's estate.

Related Materials

Holdings at the Archives of American Art also include the Chester Dale papers concerning George Bellows, 1919-1956, comprising correspondence, a photograph, and invoices relating to Chester Dale's relationship with George Bellows and Dale's interest in artwork by Bellows; and the Chester Dale eulogy, consisting of one 35 minute, 9 second sound tape reel of a eulogy delivered by an unidentified speaker.

Available Formats

The bulk of the collection was digitized in 2018 and is available on the Archives of American Art website. Materials which have not been digitized include blank pages, blank versos of photographs, negatives and transparencies for which prints exist, stereo slides, the dictaphone recordings, the home movie, and duplicates. In some cases, exhibition catalogs and other publications have had only their covers, title pages, and relevant pages digitized.
Processing Information

The collection received a preliminary level of arrangement after donation and was partially microfilmed on reels 927 and 3968-3974. The collection was processed, prepared for digitization, and described in a finding aid by Stephanie Ashley in 2017 with funding provided by The Walton Family Foundation.

Preferred Citation


Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Use of archival audiovisual recordings with no duplicate copy requires advance notice.

Conditions Governing Use

The Chester Dale 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 / Historical

New York art patron and collector of French and American art Chester Dale (1883-1962), made his fortune as a banker who pioneered the sale of public utility securities. He began purchasing French paintings in the mid-1920s and retired from the investment security business in 1935 in order to focus full time on the acquisition of art.

Dale was encouraged to begin collecting art by his first wife, Maud Dale, who was an artist, a writer, and a former chairman of the Exhibition Committee of the Museum of French Art. With the benefit of his wife's knowledge, passion, and perception, Dale began to lay the foundation of his collection in 1926, and amassed circa seven hundred pictures within ten years. His collection is considered to be one of the most complete collections of nineteenth and twentieth century French art in the world, and includes some of the finest examples of works by Braque, Corot, Delacroix, Degas, Derain, Dufy, Leger, Matisse, and Renoir, as well as by artists representative of the French tradition in art including Modigliani, Picasso, Rivera, and Van Gogh.

Although primarily interested in French art, Dale also collected and encouraged American artists. He was a patron of George Bellows and Salvador Dali, and had his portrait painted by both artists. Dale presented the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the National Gallery of Art with their first Dali paintings, the latter being The Sacrament of the Last Supper. Dale also purchased works by Mary Cassatt, representative works by "the Eight," and examples of eighteenth century American portraitists John Smibert, Gilbert Stuart and Thomas Sully. In the early 1940s he visited Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Mexico, and Rivera subsequently completed a portrait of Dale in 1945.

Dale served as a trustee to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Chicago Art Institute, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He made the first of a series of gifts to the National Gallery of Art when it opened in 1941. In 1955 he was elected president of the museum, by which time his collection occupied ten of its galleries. Dale bequeathed the bulk of his remaining collection to the National Gallery in his will. This final gift
included eighty of his favorite pictures, which had been located in his Manhattan apartment at the Plaza Hotel up until his death.

A year after the death of Maud Dale in 1953, Dale married Mary Towar Bullard, whom he had employed as his secretary for twenty-five years. Mary Dale oversaw the disbursement of her husband's estate, following Dale's death from a heart attack in 1962.

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**Scope and Contents**

The papers of New York art collector Chester Dale measure 8.4 linear feet and date from circa 1883-2003. Dale amassed one of the world’s most complete collections of nineteenth and twentieth century French art, was a collector of eighteenth century American portraitists, and a patron and collector of twentieth American artists including George Bellows and Mary Cassatt. The bulk of the collection dates from 1920 to 1970 and documents Dale’s activities through biographical material, correspondence, memoirs and other writings, purchase, sales and estate records, printed material, scrapbooks, and photographs.

Biographical material comprises brief genealogical and biographical notes on Dale’s father’s side of the family; four pieces of miscellaneous artwork; several certificates, membership cards, and programs; circa six unidentified dictaphone recordings; and a home movie of an unidentified social event.

Correspondence provides scattered documentation of Dale’s activities as a collector and benefactor, including correspondence relating to gifts to various museums such as the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as posthumous gifts to the Allentown Art Museum and Amherst College. Also documented is Dale’s election as president of the National Gallery of Art in 1955. There are several letters to and from Salvador and Gala Dali, copies of two letters from Diego Rivera, and letters from other friends and business associates, including historian Georges Salles. Over one third of the correspondence consists of condolence telegrams and letters sent to Mary Dale following Dale’s death. Other correspondence documents Mary Dale’s work as exhibition chairman for the Parrish Museum of Art, and includes letters from Andrew, Jamie, and Nicholas Wyeth.

Writings include typed drafts of Dale’s memoirs which recall the beginning of his career in banking, and include stories of his early experiences in buying art. Dale credits the highly discerning and influential eye of his first wife, Maud Dale, for guiding him in his early selections, and his memoirs recall his unconventionally direct way of doing business with the Paris art dealers. Two travel diaries record a 1904 trip to Europe, and five trips to Europe and the Caribbean between 1949 and 1953. Writings by others include several essays on Dale by various authors, several essays on art by Maud Dale, and a typed draft of a manuscript on Dale’s life by Neil MacNeil.

Extensive inventories, estate appraisals, and will disbursement records document the contents of the Chester Dale collection in Series 4. Also found here are receipts for specific purchases of works by Cezanne, Cassatt, Dali, Dufy, Picasso, and others.

Printed material includes catalogs for auction sales annotated with sales prices and other purchase information; catalogs of Dale’s collection; and exhibition catalogs and announcements for the Parrish Museum of Art during Mary Dale’s tenure as exhibition chairman. Some of the catalogs include essays by Maud Dale. News clippings and magazine articles document press coverage of Dale’s activities at home and abroad.

Scrapbooks contain additional printed material, primarily news clippings, documenting press coverage of Chester Dale’s life from the 1920s until his death. One of the scrapbooks includes multiple photographs of Dale and others, including a photo of Frida Kahlo and Jose Orozco. An additional scrapbook of photographs and clippings documents Mary Dale’s life before and after her marriage to Dale.
Photographs are of Dale, Mary Dale, Maud Dale, family, friends, and colleagues. There are photographs of Dale and Mary Dale with artists including George Braques, Salvador and Gala Dali, Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo, and Jamie and Nicholas Wyeth; and friends and associates Renee and Claire Batigne, Veronica "Rocky" Cooper and Maria Cooper, Robert Sturgis Ingersoll, Edith Hamilton with Robert Frost, Neil MacNeil, Herbert Mayes, and Paul and Timothy Mellon. There are individual photos and three photograph albums of Dale's various residences and his collection, including photographs taken shortly before his death at his Plaza Hotel apartment showing some of his favorite pictures. Photographers include Rudolph Burkhardt, Irving Cantor, Ivan Dmitri, and Dmitri Kessel. There are also many photographs of exhibition openings and museum events, especially events at the National Gallery of Art, including the presentation of Dale's gift of Dali's *The Sacrament of the Last Supper* to the museum in 1956, and the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II of England’s visit to the museum in 1957. Photographs also include photographs of artwork in Dale's collection.

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**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged as seven series.

- **Series 1: Biographical Material, circa 1897-circa 1960, 2003** (Boxes 1, 7-8; FC 20; 0.45 linear feet)
- **Series 2: Correspondence, 1911-1984** (Box 1; 0.9 linear feet)
- **Series 3: Writings, 1904-1963** (Boxes 2, 8; 0.55 linear feet)
- **Series 4: Chester Dale Collection, circa 1930-1968** (Boxes 2-3; 1 linear foot)
- **Series 5: Printed Material, 1925-circa 1972** (Boxes 3-4, 8, OV 9; 1.2 linear feet)
- **Series 6: Scrapbooks, circa 1920s-1963** (Box 4, BVs 10-14; 1.2 linear feet)
- **Series 7: Photographs, circa 1883-1972** (Boxes 4-6, 19, BVs 15-17, OV 18; 3.3 linear feet)

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**Names and Subject Terms**

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

**Subjects:**
- Art -- Collectors and collecting
- Art dealers -- France -- Paris
- Art, French--19th century
- Art, French--20th century
- Art, Modern -- 20th century -- Collectors and collecting
- Art, Modern--19th century--Collectors and collecting
- Motion pictures (visual works)

**Types of Materials:**
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks
- Sound recordings
- Travel diaries

**Names:**
- Allentown Art Museum
- Amherst College
- Batigne, Claire
Batigne, Renee
Braque, Georges, 1882-1963
Burkhardt, Rudy
Cantor, Irving
Cassatt, Mary, 1844-1926
Cooper, Maria
Cooper, Veronica
Cézanne, Paul, 1839-1906
Dale, Mary Towar Bullard, 1892-1984
Dale, Maud, 1875-1953
Dallas Museum of Art
Dalí, Gala
Dalí, Salvador, 1904-
Dmitri, Ivan, 1900-1968
Dufy, Raoul, 1877-1953
Elizabeth II, Queen of Great Britain, 1926-
Frost, Robert, 1874-1963
Hamilton, Edith, 1867-1963
Ingersoll, R. Sturgis (Robert Sturgis), b. 1891
Kahlo, Frida
Kessel, Dmitri
MacNeil, Neil
Mayes, Herbert R., 1900-1987 (Herbert Raymond)
Mellon, Paul
Mellon, Timothy
Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.)
National Gallery of Art (U.S.)
Orozco, José Clemente, 1883-1949
Parrish Art Museum
Picasso, Pablo, 1881-1973
Rivera, Diego, 1886-1957
Salles, Georges
Wyeth, Andrew, 1917-2009
Wyeth, Jamie, 1946-
Wyeth, Nicholas

Geographic Names:

Europe -- description and travel
Container Listing


0.45 Linear feet (Boxes 1, 7-8, FC 20)

Biographical material includes four pieces of artwork by unidentified artists, including a self portrait sketch inscribed to Mary Bullard, an etching of a dog, “Shandy,” a caricature of Dale with his poodle, and an illustrated photograph; certificates and membership cards, including two certificates for the Society of Illustrators; programs, including one for the presentation of the Gari Melchers Gold Medal to Chester Dale in 1952, and a program for an African cruise on the S. S. Laconia; a hand-colored papal blessing; a film reel (with two copies) of an unidentified home movie, possibly of a dinner event; and circa six dictaphone recordings. Labels on the dictaphone recordings are illegible but it is possible they include recordings of Dale’s dictated memoirs.

The bulk of this series has been digitized with the exception of the home movie and the dictaphone recordings.

Box 1, Folder 1  Artwork, 1912-1955
Image(s)
Oversized material housed in Box 8, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2  Biographical Notes on Dale Family, circa 1950s
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 3  Certificates, Membership Cards and Programs, circa 1897-1928, circa 1950s
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 4  Papal Blessing, 1949
Image(s)
Oversized material housed in Box 8, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 5  Home Movie, circa 1950s, 2003
1 Film reel (original; 16mm)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (duplicate; duration 1 min, 30 sec)
1 videocassettes (vhs) (duplicate)
Film reel stored separately in film can numbered FC 20

Box 1, Folder 6  Unidentified Dictaphone Recordings, circa 1952-circa 1960
6 sound cylinders (Dictabelt)
Recordings housed in Box 7, Folders 1-4

Box 7, Folder 1  Dictaphone Recordings from Box 1, Folder 6, circa 1952

Box 7, Folder 2  Dictaphone Recordings from Box 1, Folder 6, circa 1958

Box 7, Folder 3  Dictaphone Recordings from Box 1, Folder 6, circa 1959
Box 7, Folder 4  Dictaphone Recordings from Box 1, Folder 6, circa 1960
Box 8, Folder 1  Oversized Artwork digitized with Box 1, Folder 1
Box 8, Folder 1  Oversized Papal Blessing digitized with Box 1, Folder 4
Box FC 20  Home Movie from Box 1, Folder 5

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1911-1984

0.9 Linear feet (Box 1)

Less than circa 0.3 linear feet of this series directly documents Dale's personal and professional activities through correspondence with artists, friends, businesses, museums and other art institutions. Dale's correspondence includes letters documenting gifts to museums including the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the National Gallery of Art. The series includes letters from friends and business associates congratulating Dale on his election as President of the National Gallery of Art in 1955; circa thirteen letters and postcards from Gala and Salvador Dali, including two illustrated postcards; copies of two 1944 letters from Diego Rivera in which Rivera expresses his admiration for all Dale has accomplished, and states his opinions of the Toulouse Lautrec painting *Two Women*; and a letter from President Harry Truman thanking Dale for his gift to the Ambassador's residence in Paris.

The remaining correspondence relates to Mary Dale's activities after Chester Dale's death, including arrangements relating to Dale's gift to Amherst College; correspondence with Neil MacNeil regarding MacNeil's manuscript for a book on Dale; and correspondence documenting Mary Dale's election to the board of trustees of the Allentown Art Museum in 1969, her appointment as an honorary trustee in 1971, and the assistance she provided to the museum in planning their exhibition schedule.

Thirteen folders of correspondence and related material document Mary Dale's involvement with the Parrish Art Museum during her tenure as exhibition chairman. In addition to correspondence, material includes loan forms, notes and lists, and minutes of the museum's board meetings which document arrangements for exhibitions of works by Mary Cassatt, Roland Oudot, the Wyeth family, and others. Correspondence includes letters from Andrew, Jamie, and Nicholas Wyeth.

The remainder of the series comprises condolence telegrams and letters sent to Mary Dale following Dale's death.

Correspondence is arranged alphabetically by correspondent in a combination of named and "general" files. Condolence letters are arranged alphabetically at the end of the series.

This bulk of this series has been digitized with the exception of floral arrangement cards from Dale's funeral.

Box 1, Folder 7  Allentown Art Museum, 1969-1971  Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 8  Amherst College, 1963-1964  Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 9  Artists' Fellowship, Inc., 1952  Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10  B, General, circa 1943-circa 1955, 1984  Image(s)  
  1984 item is an empty envelope
Box 1, Folder 11  C, General, 1930-1955  Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 12  D, General, 1963-1968
Box 1, Folder 13  Doane Family, 1941-1965

Box 1, Folder 14  Dali, Gala and Salvador, 1955-1962

Box 1, Folder 15  Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, 1945-1950

Box 1, Folder 16  E-G, General, 1911-1962

Box 1, Folder 17  H-L, General, 1929-1976

Box 1, Folder 18  M, General, 1930-1964

Box 1, Folder 19  Museo de Arte, Sao Paulo, 1951-1952

Box 1, Folder 20  N, General, circa 1955

Box 1, Folder 21  National Gallery of Art, 1962-1966

Box 1, Folder 22  National Gallery of Art, Board of Trustees Appointment, Congratulatory Letters, 1955

Box 1, Folder 23  P, circa 1950-1965

Box 1, Folder 24  Parrish Art Museum, circa 1959-circa 1970

Box 1, Folder 25  Parrish Art Museum, 1964-1965

Box 1, Folder 26  Parrish Art Museum, 1966 January

Box 1, Folder 27  Parrish Art Museum, 1966 February-March
Box 1, Folder 28  Parrish Art Museum, 1966 April-May
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 29  Parrish Art Museum, 1966 June-July
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 30  Parrish Art Museum, 1966 August-December
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 31  Parrish Art Museum, 1967 January-April
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 32  Parrish Art Museum, 1967 May-December
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 33  Parrish Art Museum, 1968-1970
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 34  Parrish Art Museum Loan Agreements, 1966
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 35  Parrish Art Museum Loan Agreements, 1966
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 36  Parrish Art Museum Loan Agreements, 1967
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 37  R, General, circa 1937-1965
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 38  S, General, 1955-1971
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 39  Salles, Georges, 1955-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 40  T-W, General, 1926-1965
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 41  A, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 42  B, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Box 1, Folder 43  C, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 44  D, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 45  E, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 46  F-G, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 47  H, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 48  I-J, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 49  K-L, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 50  M, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 51  N, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 52  O-P, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 53  R, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 54  S, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 55  T-V, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 56  W-Z, Condolence Letters, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 57  First Names Only, and Illegible, Condolence Letters, A-W, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 1  Floral Arrangement Cards from Dale’s Funeral, 1962

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Series 3: Writings, 1904-1963

0.55 Linear feet (Boxes 2, 8)

Writings by Dale include an essay on Rolad Oudot written for a 1955 exhibition; an essay for the New York Times on Dale's collection of nineteenth century French paintings; financial and investment articles written for W. C. Langley & Co. during Dale's employment with the company; and typed drafts of memoirs written in 1958 and 1959. The memoir from 1958 recalls Dale's early employment and experiences in the world of finance. The 1959 memoir, a "retype of the 1953 version," records his early experiences in art collecting. The memoirs reference how Mary Towar Bullard, Dale's secretary at the time, encouraged him to tell stories related to the purchase of his first paintings and record them using a dictaphone. It is possible that these stories can be found on the dictaphone recordings in Series 1.

There are two travel diaries in this series. The diary for 1904 opens "on board the Kaiser Franz Joseph-July 1st" and reference is made to it being the writer's 21st birthday. Although 1904 would be the year of Dale's 21st birthday, the July date conflicts with records stating May as the month of Dale's birth. The author of the diary, therefore, cannot be confirmed. It describes, through a series of journal entries, a trip to Italy, Switzerland, Germany, France, Holland, England, and Scotland visiting museums and other cultural sites.

The second travel diary has short notes on five different trips to Europe and the Caribbean taken during 1949-1953, and includes some brief note on impressions of artwork seen on the trip. The bulk of the diary, however, consists of names and addresses of overseas contacts.

Also found are writings by others, about Dale, and on art in general. These include typed drafts of Neil MacNeil's writings on Dale's life and his collection which draw extensively from Dale's memoirs. It is unclear whether MacNeil's writings on Dale were published, but they include two folders of data sheets for artwork in Dale's collection, possibly intended to be used for illustrations in a book. Other writings include addresses given at Dale's interment and memorial service; four newspaper articles/press releases about Dale; and several essays by authors including Henry McBride and Horace Havermeyer.

Of additional note are several typed manuscripts of essays on art by Maud Dale, and two articles by her that were published in Art News. Additional writings by Maud Dale can be found in Series 5: Printed Material in some of the early published catalogs.

This series is arranged as two subseries.

- 3.1. Writings by Dale, 1904-1959
- 3.2. Writings by Others, circa 1930s-1963

The bulk of this series has been digitized. Only the relevant pages of publications from W. C. Langley & Co., Investments have been digitized.

3.1: Writings by Dale, 1904-1959

Box 2, Folder 2
Catalog Essay, Roland Oudot, 1955
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 3
Essay for the New York Times, circa 1952
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 4
For W. C. Langley & Co., Investments, 1919-1922
Box 2, Folder 5  For W. C. Langley & Co., Investments, 1923-1929
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 6  Memoirs, 1958
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 7  Memoirs, 1958
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 8  Memoirs, 1959
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 9  Memoirs, 1959
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 10  Travel Diary, 1904
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 11  Travel Diary, 1949-1953
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 12  Travel Diary, Loose Notes, circa 1949-circa 1953
Image(s)

3.2: Writings by Others, circa 1930s-1963

Box 2, Folder 13  About Chester Dale, circa 1930s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 14  About Chester Dale, 1936-1963
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 15  About Chester Dale, by MacNeil, Neil, circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 16  About Chester Dale, by MacNeil, Neil, circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 17  About Chester Dale, by MacNeil, Neil, circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 18  About Chester Dale, by MacNeil, Neil, circa 1962
Box 2, Folder 19  
About Chester Dale, Interment and Memorial Service Addresses and Register, 1962 December 18  
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 20  
By Dale, Maud, 1929-1930s  
Image(s)  
Oversized material housed in Box 8, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 21  
On Art, undated  
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 2  
Oversized, By Dale, Maud digitized with Box 2, Folder 2

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Series 4: Chester Dale Collection, circa 1930-1968

1 Linear foot (Boxes 2-3)

This series includes inventories of the Chester Dale collection and houses documents related to the appraisal and disbursement of Dale’s estate.

Several iterations of the collection inventory list artwork in the collection alphabetically by artist and include details such as artist, title, execution and purchase dates, provenance, exhibition history, size, reproduction details, and press coverage. Only the first of the two main inventories includes prices, as indicated on the original cover. There are two additional inventories in which artwork is grouped by auctions, sales, and gifts, including sales at Parke-Bernet Galleries and Plaza Art Gallery.

Lists of artwork are from various sources and include a list of American pictures, two lists of gifts from the Dale collection, and a list of Dale’s collection on loan to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Receipts include a 1930 receipt for artwork purchased by Mary Bullard and a “list of pictures belonging to Mary Bullard” with prices. There are receipts for individual artwork purchased from various galleries, which document the purchase of works by Cezanne, Cassatt, Dufy, Picasso, and others. Also found is a receipt for the sale of Salvador Dalí’s portrait of Dale from Carstairs Gallery.

Records documenting the disbursement of Dale’s will to various art institutions include lists, legal documents, and related correspondence.

Also found is a guest book which provides a list of visitors to the Chester Dale collection at his residence on 79th Street, New York, New York, which lists dates, names, and sometimes occasions for the visit.

The priced and unpriced inventories have been labeled numbers 1 and 2 respectively for clarity. Folders are arranged alphabetically by type of record.

This series has been digitized in entirety, with the exception of duplicates.

Box 2, Folder 22  Collection Inventory #1, A-B, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 23  Collection Inventory #1, C, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 24  Collection Inventory #1, D, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 25  Collection Inventory #1, E-G, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 26  Collection Inventory #1, H-L, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 27  Collection Inventory #1, M, circa 1964  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 28  Collection Inventory #1, N-Q, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 29  Collection Inventory #1, R-S, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 30  Collection Inventory #1, T-V, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 31  Collection Inventory #1, W-Z, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 32  Collection Inventory #1, List of Contents of Large Portfolio, (bulk circa 1964)
Box 2, Folder 33  Collection Inventory #2, A-J, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 34  Collection Inventory #2, K-Z, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 35  Collection Inventory, Auctions, Sales, and Gifts, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 36  Collection Inventory, Auctions and Sales, Parke Bernet and Plaza Gallery (1944-1946), circa 1946
Box 2, Folder 37  Collection Inventory, Auctions and Sales, Parke Bernet and Plaza Gallery (1944-1946), circa 1946
Box 2, Folder 38  Estate Appraisal, circa 1964
Box 2, Folder 39  Estate Appraisal, circa 1964
Box 3, Folder 1  Estate Appraisal, circa 1964
Box 3, Folder 2  Estate Appraisal, circa 1964
Box 3, Folder 3  Estate Appraisal, circa 1964
Box 3, Folder 4 Estate Appraisal, Chemical Bank, circa 1964

Box 3, Folder 5 Guest Book, 1934-1942

Box 3, Folder 6 Lists of Artwork, circa 1950s

Box 3, Folder 7 Receipts for Artwork, circa 1930-1937

Box 3, Folder 8 Receipts for Artwork, 1948-1965

Box 3, Folder 9 Will Disbursement, 1963

Box 3, Folder 10 Will Disbursement, Addison Gallery of American Art, 1963

Box 3, Folder 11 Will Disbursement, Art Institute of Chicago, 1963-1964

Box 3, Folder 12 Will Disbursement, Art Students League, 1964

Box 3, Folder 13 Will Disbursement, Brooklyn Museum, 1963-1968

Box 3, Folder 14 Will Disbursement, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, 1963

Box 3, Folder 15 Will Disbursement, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1963-1968

Box 3, Folder 16 Will Disbursement, North Dakota Heritage Center, 1963-1964

Box 3, Folder 17 Will Disbursement, Smith College Museum of Art, 1963-1968

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Series 5: Printed Material, 1925-circa 1972

1.2 Linear feet (Boxes 3-4, 8, OV 9)

Catalogs are of exhibitions and of auction sales, many of which are annotated; check marks in some of the auction catalogs may indicate items bought by Dale. Several exhibition catalogs include essays and introductions by Maud Dale, including a 1929 essay on Modigliani and a 1929 essay on the Chester Dale collection, "Before Manet to Modigliani from the Chester Dale Collection."

Many of the Parrish Art Museum catalogs and announcements are for exhibitions arranged by Mary Dale in her capacity as exhibition chairman, as documented in the Parrish Art Museum correspondence in Series 2.

One 1953 folder of catalogs includes notations on "artists seen by Dale on his first visit to Spain that he found good." The series also includes bound catalogs of the Chester Dale collection in Washington, Chicago, and Philadelphia, one of which is inscribed to Mary Bullard.

New clippings consist of articles, primarily about Chester Dale, including obituaries from 1962. They include bound editions of Life Magazine articles about Dale, and a bound volume of Esquire featuring an article about Dale by Murdock Pemberton entitled "Ambassador to Art." Clippings also document people and subjects of interest to Dale.

Of note is a poster for the exhibition Douze Décors de Théâtre par Maud Dale, 1925, at Galerie J. Allard which can be seen in photographs of Dale's country residence in Series 7: Photographs.

The bulk of this series has been digitized. For some catalogs, only the covers, title pages, and relevant pages have been digitized.

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Box 4, Folder 11  News Clippings, 1960-1962
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Box 4, Folder 12  News Clippings, 1963-1964
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Box 4, Folder 17  Poster for Exhibition *Douze Décors de Théâtre par Maud Dale*, Galerie J. Allard, 1925
Image(s)
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Box 4, Folder 18  Miscellaneous Printed Material, circa 1930s-circa 1970s
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Box 8, Folder 3  Oversized *Esquire* Article "Ambassador to Art" by Murdock Pemberton digitized with Box 4, Folder 3
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<td>Oversized Poster for Exhibition <em>Douze Décors de Théâtre par Maud Dale</em>, Galerie J. Allard digitized with Box 4, Folder 17</td>
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Series 6: Scrapbooks, circa 1920s-1963

1.2 Linear feet (Box 4, BVs 10-14)

Found here are five bound and two disbound scrapbooks, primarily containing printed material about Dale. Two of the scrapbooks also include many photographs of Dale and others, including one of Frida Kahlo and Jose Orozco. Titles in parentheses indicate original titles on the scrapbook covers. One scrapbook is labeled "MTD," and contains many photographs of Mary Dale before and after her marriage to Chester Dale.

This series has been digitized in entirety.

Box 4, Folder 21  Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Book I"), 1928-1931
Image(s)
Oversized scrapbook housed in BV 10

Box 4, Folder 22  Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Book II"), 1930-1956
Image(s)
Oversized scrapbook housed in BV 11

Box 4, Folder 23  Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Chester Dale I"), 1930-1958
Image(s)
Oversized scrapbook housed in BV 12

Box 4, Folder 24  Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Chester Dale II"), 1958-1962
Image(s)
Oversized scrapbook housed in BV 13

Box 4, Folder 25  Scrapbook of Printed Material (1 of 2), 1926-1928
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 26  Scrapbook of Printed Material (2 of 2), 1926-1928
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Box 4, Folder 27  Scrapbook of Photographs and Printed Material (1 of 2), circa 1920s-1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 28  Scrapbook of Photographs and Printed Material (2 of 2), circa 1920s-1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 29  Scrapbook of Printed Material and Photographs ("MTD"), 1952-1963
Image(s)
Oversized scrapbook housed in BV 14

Box 4, Folder 30  Loose Items from Scrapbooks, 1930s-1960s
| Box BV10 | Oversized Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Book 1") digitized with Box 4, Folder 21 |
| Box BV 11 | Oversized Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Book II") digitized with Box 4, Folder 22 |
| Box BV 12 | Oversized Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Chester Dale I") digitized with Box 4, Folder 23 |
| Box BV 13 | Oversized Scrapbook of Printed Material ("Chester Dale II") digitized with Box 4, Folder 24 |
| Box BV 14 | Oversized Scrapbook of Printed Material and Photographs ("MTD") digitized with Box 4, Folder 29 |

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Series 7: Photographs, circa 1883-1972

3.3 Linear feet (Boxes 4-6, 19, BVs 15-17, OV 18)

This series is arranged as two sub-series.

- 7.1: Photographs of People, Places, and Events, circa 1883-1972
- 7.2: Photographs of Artwork, circa 1940s-1968

The bulk of this series has been digitized. Items not digitized include blank versos of photographs, duplicates, negatives and transparencies for which prints exist, and stereo slides of artwork in the Chester Dale collection.

7.1: Photographs of People, Places, and Events, circa 1883-1972

Photographs are of Dale, Mary Dale, and Maud Dale, including a circa 1905 platinum print of Maud Dale. Also found are photographs of several other family members; friends and business colleagues; multiple events including museum openings, dinners, and parties; Dale's various residences and his collection as it was housed at each residence; and photographs of individual artwork in the Dale collection. Photographs of Dale and Mary Dale include portraits and snapshots by Rudolph Burkhardt, Irving Cantor, Ivan Dmitri, and Dmitri Kessel.

There are photographs of Dale with artists including George Braques, Salvador and Gala Dali, including some taken at the Dali home in Spain, and Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo on Dale's visit to Mexico in the early 1940s. Other photos of identified friends include Renee and Claire Batigne, Robert Sturgis Ingersoll, Paul and Timothy Mellon, and Ed Seay. There are also two photographs of Edith Hamilton, one with Robert Frost; a photo of Mary Dale with Jamie and Nicolas Wyeth; and a photo of Mary Dale with Harry Marinsky.

Photographs of Dale's residences include three photograph albums of separate residences by three different photographers: 20 E. 79 Street, photographed by Samuel H. Gottscho; 54 W. 9th Street photographed by John Wallace Gillies; and 35 E 76 Street photographed by F. S. Lincoln. There are several series of photographs of the interior of Dale's Plaza Hotel apartment, including a series taken by David Douglas Duncan of Dale showing his paintings to Veronica "Rocky" Cooper and Maria Cooper, and a series of photos showing Dale with Neil MacNeil and Herbert Mayes at the same apartment. There are also photographs of the exterior and interior of a country residence, probably Dale's residence in Southampton, Long Island.

Other photographs show numerous events and exhibitions at the National Gallery and elsewhere, including Dale's presentation of Dali's *The Sacrament of the Last Supper*, the visit of Queen Elizabeth II of England, and the opening of Dale's twentieth century French art collection in 1952.

The bulk of this series has been digitized. Items not digitized include blank versos of photographs, duplicates, and negatives and transparencies for which prints exist.

Box 4, Folder 31 Of Dale, 1898-circa 1914 Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 32 Of Dale, circa 1926-circa 1940s Image(s)
Oversized photographs housed in OV 18

Box 4, Folder 33 Of Dale, circa 1940s-circa 1950s
Box 4, Folder 34  Of Dale, circa 1950s
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 35  Of Dale, circa 1950-1960
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 36  Of Dale, circa 1962
Image(s)
Oversized photos housed in OV 18

Box 4, Folder 37  Of Dale and Mary Dale, circa 1953-circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 38  Of Dale and Mary Dale, circa 1953-circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 39  Of Dale and Mary Dale, circa 1953-circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 40  Of Dale and Mary Dale, circa 1953-circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 41  Of Dale and Mary Dale, 1952-1954
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 42  Of Dale and Mary Dale, 1956-1957
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 43  Of Dale and Mary Dale, 1958-1959
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 44  Of Dale and Mary Dale, 1960-1962
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 45  Of Dale and Mary Dale, by Ivan Dmitri, 1962-1963
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 46  Of Dale, Maud (Murray), circa 1905-circa 1946
Image(s)
Oversized photo housed in OV 18

Box 4, Folder 47  Of Dale, Mary, circa 1933
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Of Dale, Mary, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 2
Of Dale, Mary, 1960-1972
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 3
Of Dale’s Dog, circa 1950s
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 4
Of Dale Family, circa 1883, circa 1940s
Image(s)
Oversized photos housed in OV 18

Box 5
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Box 5, Folder 5
Braque, Georges, circa 1940s
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 6
Dali, Salvador and Gala, 1950s-1960s
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Box 5, Folder 7
Kahlo, Frida and Rivera, Diego, circa 1942-circa 1945
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 8
Of Artists/Friends/Others, circa 1956-circa 1966
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Box 5, Folder 9
Of Friends/Others, circa 1930s-circa 1960s
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Oversized photo housed in OV 18

Box 5, Folder 10
Of Friends/Others, circa 1943-1967
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Box 5, Folder 11
Of Travel, circa 1940s-circa 1950s
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Box 5
Of Collection and Dale Residences

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Apartment, 20 E. 79th Street, New York, N.Y., 1941
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 13
Apartment, 20 E. 79th Street, New York, N.Y., Negatives, 1941

Negatives housed in Box 19

Box 5, Folder 14  Apartment, 20 E. 79 Street, New York, NY, Photographs Album, 1941
Image(s)  Photograph Album housed as BV 15

Box 5, Folder 15  Residence at 54 W. 9 Street, New York, NY, Photograph Album, circa 1940s-circa 1950s
Image(s)  Photograph Album housed as BV 16

Box 5, Folder 16  Residence at 35 E 76 Street, New York, NY, Photograph Album, circa 1940s-circa 1950s
Image(s)  Photograph album housed as BV 17

Box 5, Folder 17  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, Color Negatives, circa 1950s
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Box 5, Folder 18  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, Color Prints, circa 1962
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Box 5, Folder 19  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, Black and White Prints, circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 20  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, Color Negatives, circa 1962

Box 5, Folder 21  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, with Neil MacNeil and Herbert Mayes, circa 1962
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 22  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, with Veronica (Rocky) and Maria Cooper, 1962
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 23  Apartment at Plaza Hotel, with Veronica (Rocky) and Maria Cooper, 1962
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Box 5, Folder 24  Country Residence, Exterior, 1948-1957
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Box 5, Folder 25  Country Residence, Exterior, circa 1957
Image(s)  Oversized photos housed in OV 18

Box 5, Folder 26  Country Residence, Interior, circa 1948-circa 1957
Box 5, Folder 27  
Country Residence, Interior, circa 1948-circa 1957
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 28  
National Gallery of Art Dale Collection Galleries, circa 1960
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 29  
National Gallery of Art Dale Collection Galleries, circa 1960
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Box 5, Folder 30  
National Gallery of Art Dale Collection Galleries, circa 1960

Box 5  
Of Events and Exhibitions

Box 5, Folder 31  
Wildenstein & Co., Inc., Exhibition of Paintings by Boldini, 1933 March
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 32  
Union League Club of New York, Exhibition of American Paintings from Chester Dale Collection, 1937 January
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Box 5, Folder 33  
Dale Receiving Gari Melchers Gold Medal from Artists’ Fellowship, Inc., 1952
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Box 5, Folder 34  
National Gallery of Art Opening of Dale’s Twentieth Century French Art Collection, 1952
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National Gallery of Art Opening of Dale’s Twentieth Century French Art Collection, 1952
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Box 5, Folder 36  
National Gallery of Art, Salvador Dali’s “The Sacrament of the Last Supper”, 1956
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Image(s): National Gallery of Art, Kress Opening

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National Gallery of Art Opening, 17th Century French Art Collection, 1959
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Box 5, Folder 40  National Gallery of Art, George Bellows Exhibition, 1957
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Box 5, Folder 42  Huntington Cairns’ Cardoza Lecture at the New York City Bar Association, 1962 November 1
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Box 5, Folder 43  Miscellaneous Events, circa 1942-circa 1960
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Box BV 15  Oversized, Of Collections and Residences, Apartment, 20 E. 79 Street, New York, NY, Photograph Album digitized with Box 5, Folder 14

Box BV 16  Oversized, Of Collections and Residences, Residence at 54 W. 9 Street, New York, NY, Photograph Album digitized with Box 5, Folder 15

Box BV 17  Oversized, Of Collections and Residences, Residence at 35 E 76 Street, New York, NY, Photograph Album digitized with Box 5, Folder 16

Box OV 18  Oversized, Of Dale digitized with Box 4, Folder 32

Box OV 18  Oversized, Of Dale digitized with Box 4, Folder 36

Box OV 18  Oversized, of Dale, Maud (Murray) digitized with Box 4, Folder 46

Box OV 18  Oversized, of Dale Family, digitized with Box 5, Folder 4

Box OV 18  Oversized, of Friends/Others digitized with Box 5, Folder 6

Box OV 18  Oversized, of Collection and Dale Residences, Country Residence, Exterior digitized with Box 5, Folder 25

Box 19, Folder 1-2  Of Collections and Residences, Apartment, 20 E. 79th Street, New York, N.Y., Negatives from Box 5, Folder 13

7.2: Photographs of Artwork, circa 1940s-1968

Photos of individual artwork in the Dale collection include portraits of Dale, Mary Dale, and Maud Dale, and a series of Kodachrome and Realist stereo slides of artwork.

Following photos of portraits, photographs of artwork are arranged alphabetically by last name of artist. Stereo slides are housed at the end of the series.
The bulk of this series has been scanned with the exception of blank versos of photographs, duplicates, and stereo slides.

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Box 6, Folder 1  Artists, D-E: Dufy-Eyck, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

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Box 6, Folder 6  Artists, M: Manet-Matisse, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 7  Artists, M: Meukes-Modigliani, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 8  Artists, M: Monet, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 9  Artists, M: Monticelli-Nonnotte, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 10  Artists, O: Otis-Oudot, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 11  Artists, P: Paradise-Pils, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 12  Artists, P-R: Pisanello-Redon, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 13  Artists, R: Renoir, circa 1950s-circa 1960s

Box 6, Folder 14  Artists, R: Ribot-Ryder, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Box 6, Folder 15  Artists, S: St. John-Sully, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 16  Artists, T-U: Theus-Utrillo, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 17  Artists, V: Vallon-Van Heinessen, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 18  Artists, V: Verdiihan-Vuillard, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 19  Artists, W: West-Wright, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 20  Artists, Z: Zak-Zurbaran, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 21  Artists, Unidentified, circa 1950s-circa 1960s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 22  Stereo Slides, 1950s

Box 6, Folder 23  Stereo Slides, 1950s

Box 6, Folder 24  Stereo Slides, 1950s

Box 6, Folder 25  Stereo Slides, 1950s

Box 6, Folder 26  Stereo Slides, 1950s

Box OV 18  Oversized Photographs of Artwork digitized with Box 5, Folder 44