



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Isabella Stewart Gardner papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Isabella Stewart Gardner papers
Identifier:	AAA.gardisab
Date:	1760-1956
Extent:	40 Microfilm reels
Creator:	Gardner, Isabella Stewart, 1840-1924
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Microfilm lent by Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum for duplicating, 1972-1975.

Location of Originals

Originals in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, Mass.

Other Finding Aids

Microfilm reels 380-413: Finding aid available at Archives of American Art offices.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 380-413, 631-632, 696-698, and 846 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Reproduction Note

Microfilm copies.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Biographical / Historical

Art patron, collector, and museum founder; Boston, Mass. Immediately after graduation from Harvard, Bernard Berenson was hired by Gardner to travel throughout Italy collecting Italian Renaissance art for her recreated Venetian palazzo in Boston. She established her palazzo as a museum of fine European art

with stipulations that after her death none of the exhibited works was to be moved or rearranged, but left as she had designed during her lifetime.

Scope and Contents

Letters, business records, diary, and photographs.

Scope and Contents

REEL 380-413: Primarily correspondence, mostly Gardner's own, but including family correspondence and Gardner Museum correspondence. Also included are misc. items and printed material.

Correspondents include: Edwin Austin Abbey, Lyman Abbott, Brooks Adams, Alexander Agassiz, Elizabeth C. Agassiz, Louis Agassiz, Luigi Agostini, Hamilton Aide, Thomas B. Aldrich, Abram P. Andrew, Boris Anisfeld, George Arliss, Anne L. Balch, George G. Barnard, Grace Edith Barnes, Cecilia Beaux, Martin Birnbaum, William Sturgis Bigelow, William Phipps Blake, Edwin Howland Blashfield, Wilhelm von Bode, Martin Brimmer, J. Appleton Brown, Dennis Miller Bunker, Bryson Burroughs, Theodore Byard, Morris Carter, Paul Chalfin, Conrad Chapman, John Jay Chapman, Alfred Q. Collins,

Scope and Contents

Frederick Shepard Converse, Walter William Spencer Cook, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, Charles Townsend Copeland, Kenyon Cox, Ralph Adams Cram, Francis Marion Crawford, Raymond Crosby, Sally Cross, Ralph W. Curtis, Howard G. Cushing, Charlotte Cushman, Walter Damrosch, Richard Harding Davis, Elsie De Wolfe, Mary Dexter, Nathan H. Dole, John Donoghue, Ruth Draper, Duveen Brothers, J. S. Dwight, Theodore F. Dwight, Louis Dyer, Charles W. Eliot, Barry Faulkner, Gabriel Faure, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Daniel Chester French, Helen C. Frick, Roger E. Fry, Ossip Gabrilowitsch, John Lowell Gardner, William Amory Gardner, I. M. Gaugengigl, Richard Watson Gilder, Rene Gimpel, Edwin L. Godkin, Leon Gordon, Lady Augusta Gregory, Louise I. Guiney, Edward E. Hale,

Scope and Contents

Mary (Mrs. Richard Walden) Hale, Philip Leslie Hale, Mrs. Philip Hale, Richard Hammond, Walter Hampden, George C. Hazelton, Paul Helleu, Henry Lee Higginson, Thomas W. Higginson, Robert Hinckley, Malvina Hoffman, Edward W. Hooper, Harriet Hosmer, Julia W. Howe, Archer M. Huntington, Vincent d'Indy, Henry Irving, August F. Jaccaci, Clarence King, William Kittredge, Louis Kronberg, Petr A. Kropotkin, Anna C. Ladd, John La Farge, Charles Rollinson Lamb, Charles Lanman, Charles G. Loring, James R. Lowell, Dodge Macknight, Mary L. Macomber, Richard Mansfield, Paul Manship, Frank J. Mather, Francis John McComas, Nellie Melba, Francis Davis Millet, S. Weir Mitchell, Helena Modjeska, Pierre Monteux, John S. Mosby, Gilbert Murray,

Scope and Contents

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Andrews Norton, Lily Norton, Richard Norton, William O'Connell, Kazuzo Okakura, Jean N. Oliver, William O. Partridge, Walter Pater, Anna Pavlova, Waldo Peirce, Joseph Pennell, Harper Pennington, Lilla Cabot Perry, Edward C. Pickering, Sophia L. Pitman, Matthew Stewart Prichard, John Quinn, Robert Reid, Amelie Rives, Elizabeth W. Roberts, Auguste Rodin, Denman Ross, Will Rothenstein, Lillian Russell, Paul J. Sachs, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Ruth St. Denis, Franklin B. Sanborn, Charles Sprague Sargent, John Singer Sargent, J.M. Sears, C. Arnold Slade, Irene Slade, Henry Davis Sleeper, F. Hopkinson Smith, George Warren Smith, Joseph L. Smith, Albert Spaulding, Maurice Sterne, William James Stillman, Julian Story, Thomas W. Story, Henry Swift,

Scope and Contents

John Addington Symonds, Ellen Terry, Celia Thaxter, Abbott H. Thayer, William R. Thayer, Mary A. Tiffany, Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer, Adelaide E. Wadsworth, Francis Amasa Walker, Mrs. Humphry Ward, Mrs. Fiske Warren, Edmund March Wheelwright, James McNeill Whistler, Margaret White, Sara de Prix Wyman Whitman, Wildenstein Galleries, Owen Wister, Charles H. Woodbury, Rufus F. Zogbaum, Anders Zorn, Mrs. Anders Zorn, and others.

Scope and Contents

REELS 631-632: Personal papers of Gardner and some records of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum including dealers' files containing invoices, notes, cancelled checks, and letters; a record book, "Prices Paid for Paintings," 1917; a record book, "Prices Paid for Works of Art"; 118 installation photographs of the museum as arranged by Gardner, 1924; a diary kept in Egypt, 1874, with sketches; a diary kept in Shanghai and India, 1883-1884; "Directions for my funeral," 1912; and "Suggestions for Running a Museum," 1913.

Scope and Contents

REELS 696-698: Letters from Bernard Berenson to Gardner, 1887-1924. Letters contain references to literary topics, Berenson's impressions of Europe, various paintings and artists, advice to Gardner on the purchase of paintings and information on their sale.

Scope and Contents

REEL 846: Checklist of Gardner's letters to Bernard and Mary Berenson, 1894-1924; typescripts of personal and official correspondence (originals found on AAA microfilm reels 696-698), 1887-1924.

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 -- Massachusetts -- Boston
Art, Italian -- Italy -- Venice
Art, Renaissance -- Massachusetts -- Boston
Painting, Renaissance
Sculpture, Renaissance

Names:

Abbott, Lyman, 1835-1922
Adams, Brooks
Agassiz, Alexander, 1835-1910
Agassiz, Elizabeth Cabot Cary, 1822-1907
Agassiz, Louis, 1807-1873
Agostini, Luigi
Aldrich, Thomas Bailey, 1836-1907
Andrew, A. Piatt (Abram Piatt), 1873-1936
Anisfeld, Boris Israelevich, 1879-1973
Arless, George, 1868-1946
Aïdé, Hamilton, 1826-1906
Balch, Anne L.
Barnard, George Grey, 1863-1938
Barnes, Grace Edith
Beaux, Cecilia, 1855-1942
Berenson, Bernard, 1865-1959
Berenson, Mary, 1864-
Bigelow, William Sturgis, 1850-1926
Blake, William P. (William Phipps), 1826-1910
Blashfield, Edwin Howland, 1848-1936
Bode, Wilhelm von, 1845-1929
Brimmer, Martin, 1829-1896
Brown, J. Appleton, 1844-
Bunker, Dennis Miller, 1861-1890
Burroughs, Bryson, 1869-1934
Byard, Theodore
Carter, Morris, 1877-
Chalfin, Paul, 1874-
Chapman, Conrad Wise, 1842-1910
Chapman, John Jay, 1862-1933
Collins, Alfred Quinton, d. 1903
Cook, Walter W. S. (Walter William Spencer), 1888-1962
Coolidge, Archibald Cary, 1866-1928
Coolidge, Thomas Jefferson, 1831-1920
Copeland, Charles Townsend, 1860-1952
Cox, Kenyon, 1856-1919
Cram, Ralph Adams, 1863-1942
Crawford, F. Marion (Francis Marion), 1854-1909
Crosby, Raymond Moreau, 1876-1945
Cross, Sally

Curtis, Ralph W. (Ralph Wormeley), 1854-1922
Cushing, Howard Gardiner, 1869-1916
Cushman, Charlotte, 1816-1876
Damrosch, Walter, 1862-1950
Davis, Richard Harding, 1864-1916
De Wolfe, Elsie, 1865-1950
Dexter, Mary
Dole, Nathan Haskell, 1852-1935
Donoghue, John, 1853-1903
Draper, Ruth, 1884-1956
Duveen Brothers
Dwight, J. S.
Dwight, Theodore F.
Dyer, Louis, 1851-1908
Eliot, Charles William, 1834-1926
Faulkner, Barry, 1881-1966
Faure, Gabriel, b. 1877
Fiske, Minnie Maddern, 1865-1932
French, Daniel Chester, 1850-1931
Frick, Helen Clay, 1888-1984
Fry, Roger Eliot, 1866-1934
Gabrilowitsch, Ossip, 1878-1936
Gardner, John Lowell
Gardner, William Amory
Gaugengigl, I. M. (Ignaz Marcel), 1855-1932
Gilder, Richard Watson, 1844-1909
Gimpel, René
Godkin, Edwin Lawrence, 1831-1902
Gordon, Leon, 1884-1960
Gregory, Lady, 1852-1932
Guiney, Louise Imogen, 1861-1920
Hale, Edward Everett, 1822-1909
Hale, Mary
Hale, Philip Leslie, 1865-1931
Hale, Philip Leslie, Mrs
Hammond, Richard P., 1896-
Hampden, Walter, 1879-1955
Hazelton, George C.
Helleu, Paul, 1859-1927
Higginson, Henry Lee, 1834-1919
Higginson, Thomas Wentworth, 1823-1911
Hinckley, Robert C., 1853-1941
Hoffman, Malvina, 1887-1966
Hooper, Edward W.
Hosmer, Harriet Goodhue, 1830-1908
Howe, Julia Ward, 1819-1910
Huntington, Archer M., 1870-1955
Indy, Vincent d', 1851-1931
Irving, Henry, Sir, 1838-1905
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Jaccaci, Augusto Floriano, 1857-1930
James McNeill Whistler, 1834-1903
Kittredge, William
Kronberg, Louis, 1872-1965

Kropotkin, Petr Alekseevich, kniaz', 1842-1921
La Farge, John, 1835-1910
Ladd, Anna Coleman, 1878-1939 (sculptor)
Lamb, Charles R. (Charles Rollinson), 1860-1942
Lanman, Charles, 1819-1895
Loring, Charles Greely, 1828-1902
Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891
MacKnight, Dodge, 1860-1950
Macomber, Mary L. (Mary Lizzie), 1861-1916
Mansfield, Richard, 1857-1907
Manship, Paul, 1885-1966
Mather, Frank Jewett, 1868-1953
McComas, Francis John, 1874-1938
Melba, Nellie, Dame, 1861-1931
Millet, Francis Davis, 1846-1912
Mitchell, S. Weir (Silas Weir), 1829-1914
Modjeska, Helena, 1840-1909
Monteux, Pierre, 1875-1964
Mosby, John Singleton, 1833-1916
Murray, Gilbert
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Norton, Andrews, 1786-1853
Norton, Lily
Norton, Richard
O'Connell, William, 1859-1944
Okakura, Kakuzō, 1862-1913
Okakura, Kakuzō, 1862-1913
Oliver, Jean Nutting, d. 1946
Partridge, William Ordway, 1861-1930
Pater, Walter, 1839-1894
Pavlova, Anna, 1881-1931
Peirce, Waldo, 1884-1970
Pennell, Joseph, 1857-1926
Pennington, Harper, 1854 or 5-1920
Perry, Lilla Cabot
Pickering, Edward C. (Edward Charles), 1846-1919
Pitman, Sophia L., 1855-1943
Prichard, Matthew Stewart
Quinn, John, 1870-1924
Reid, Robert, 1862-1929
Rives, Amélie, 1863-1945
Roberts, Elizabeth Wentworth, 1871-1927
Rodin, Auguste, 1840-1917
Ross, Denman Waldo, 1853-1935
Rothenstein, Will
Russell, Lillian, 1861-1922
Sachs, Paul J. (Paul Joseph), 1878-1965
Saint-Gaudens, Augustus, 1848-1907
Sanborn, F. B. (Franklin Benjamin), 1831-1917
Sargent, Charles Sprague, 1841-1927
Sargent, John Singer, 1856-1925
Sears, Sarah C., 1858-1935
Slade, C. Arnold (Caleb Arnold), 1882-1961
Slade, Irene

Sleeper, Henry Davis, 1878-1934
Smith, Francis Hopkinson, 1838-1915
Smith, George Warren
Smith, Joseph Lindon, 1863-1950
Spaulding, Albert C. (Albert Clanton), 1914-1990
St. Denis, Ruth, 1880-1968
Sterne, Maurice, 1878-1957
Stillman, William James, 1828-1901
Story, Julian, 1857-1919
Story, Waldo, 1855-1915
Swift, Henry & Mary Coffin
Symonds, John Addington, 1840-1893
Terry, Ellen, Dame, 1847-1928
Thaxter, Celia, 1835-1894
Thayer, Abbott Handerson, 1849-1921
Thayer, William Roscoe, 1859-1923
Tiffany, Mary A. (Mary Adeline)
Van Rensselaer, Schuyler, Mrs., 1851-1934
Wadsworth, Adelaide E., 1844-1928
Walker, Francis Amasa, 1840-1897
Ward, Humphry, Mrs., 1851-1920
Warren, Fiske, Mrs
Wheelwright, Edmund March, 1854-1912
White, Margaret
Whitman, Sarah
Wildenstein Galleries
Wister, Owen, 1860-1938
Woodbury, Charles H. (Charles Herbert), 1864-1940
Zogbaum, Rufus Fairchild, 1849-1925
Zorn, Anders, 1860-1920
Zorn, Anders, Mrs

Occupations:

Art patrons -- Massachusetts -- Boston

Functions:

Art museums -- Massachusetts -- Boston