



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Charles Henry Hart
Papers, 1774-1930, bulk 1888-1918,
in the Archives of American Art

Jean Fitzgerald

October 30, 2009

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

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical Note.....	2
Scope and Content Note.....	3
Arrangement.....	3
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	5
Series 1: Correspondence, 1838-1930.....	5
Series 2: Personal Business Records, 1893-1917.....	6
Series 3: Subject Files, 1774-1922.....	7
Series 4: Images File, circa 1890-1900.....	14
Series 5: Notes and Writings, 1890-1922.....	16
Series 6: Printed Material, 1822-1925.....	17

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Charles Henry Hart papers
Identifier:	AAA.hartchah
Date:	1774-1930 (bulk 1888-1918)
Extent:	6.1 Linear feet
Creator:	Hart, Charles Henry, 1847-1918
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of Philadelphia art historian and writer Charles Henry Hart date from 1774-1930, bulk 1888-1918, and measure 6.1 linear feet. Found within the papers are correspondence, subject files, scattered personal business records, a file of images of art work, notes and writings, and printed material. The subject files include letters from art historians, art collectors, dealers, and gallery owners.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The Charles Henry Hart papers were donated anonymously in 1971.

Related Material

Also found in the Archives of American Art are 2 volumes of an autograph collection compiled by Charles Henry Hart.

The Archives also has a collection of correspondence between Charles and Clarence W. Bowen loaned by the New York Public Library for microfilming on reels N10-N11. The correspondence concerns Hart's activities on the planning committee of the Centennial of George Washington's Inauguration, New York City, 1889; and Hart's chairmanship of the Committee on Retrospective Art for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1893.

Additional Charles Henry Hart papers are also available at the Winterthur Library in Delaware.

Other Finding Aids

List of correspondents available at Archives of American Art offices, filed New York Public Library, Manuscript Division.

Available Formats

Portions of this collection are available on 35 mm microfilm reels 928-935 and 2813 at the Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan. Researchers should note that

the arrangement of the material described in the container inventory does not reflect the arrangement of the collection on microfilm.

Processing Information

The collection was initially microfilmed upon receipt in separate accretions on reels 928-935 and 2813; this microfilm is no longer in circulation. All accessions were merged, arranged, and described by Jean Fitzgerald in October 2009.

Preferred Citation

Charles Henry Hart papers, 1774-1930, bulk 1888-1918. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions on Access

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

Terms of Use

The Archives of American Art makes its archival collections available for non-commercial, educational and personal use unless restricted by copyright and/or donor restrictions, including but not limited to access and publication restrictions. AAA makes no representations concerning such rights and restrictions and it is the user's responsibility to determine whether rights or restrictions exist and to obtain any necessary permission to access, use, reproduce and publish the collections. Please refer to the [Smithsonian's Terms of Use](#) for additional information.

Biographical Note

Charles Henry Hart (1847-1918) was an art historian, lawyer, writer, and director of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts from 1885-1904. He worked primarily in the Philadelphia area and published widely on the subject of eighteenth and nineteenth-century portraiture in America.

Charles Henry Hart was born on February 4, 1847 in Philadelphia, the son of Julia Leavey and Samuel Hart. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1869 and practiced law until 1894, when he turned his interest to art and writing after suffering injuries in a railroad accident. He became a noted author of books and articles about art, especially portraiture. He had a special interest in the work of Gilbert Stuart. Hart's writings often focused on exposing fraudulent attributions of art work.

From 1882 to 1902, Hart was director of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia. In 1893, he also served as chairman of the Committee on Retrospective American Art at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Hart was a member of several organizations including the American Historical Association, the Essex Institute, and the Players Club.

Hart's first wife, Armine Nixon, was a great-granddaughter of Robert Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. She died in 1897. According to the *New York Times*, in 1905 he married Marianne Livingstone Phillips, with whom he fathered a son, Charles Henry Hart, Jr. In 1912, Hart married Anita Beatriz Arabe.

Charles Henry Hart died on July 29, 1918 in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Philadelphia art historian and writer Charles Henry Hart date from 1774-1930, bulk 1888-1918, and measure 6.1 linear feet. Found within the papers are correspondence, subject files, scattered personal business records, a file of images of art work, notes and writings, and printed material. The subject files include letters from art historians, art collectors, dealers, and gallery owners.

Twelve folders of general correspondence consists primarily of letters received from colleagues, dealers, gallery owners, and publishers discussing art-related topics not specifically addressed in the Subject Files arranged in Series 3 below. There is one folder of miscellaneous personal business records.

Subject files comprise the largest and most important series in the collection. The files contain a wide variety of materials, including letters, notes and writings, clippings, reproductions of art work, and photographs. Letters are from art historians, art collectors, dealers, and gallery owners mostly concerning notable subjects of portraits, artists, organizations, including the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and miscellaneous subjects such as miniature paintings and H. W. Elson's book *History of the United States*. Several files contain letters from the descendants of John Quincy Adams, Asher B. Durand, Benjamin Latrobe, and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

The images files contain a mixture of printed reproductions of art work, photographs of art work, and original art work compiled and used by Hart as reference material.

Notes and writings consist primarily of notes on art-related topics including the work of various artists, activities of arts organizations, collectors, galleries and museums, sales of art work, and background material about the subjects of portraits. There is also a typescript by Hart containing descriptions of art work to be published in a catalog of the Herbert Lee Pratt collection.

Printed material consists of clippings about Hart and miscellaneous art-related topics, auction catalogs, and an incomplete set of pages from Hart's book *Memoirs of the Life and Work of Jean Antoine Houdon: Sculpture of Voltaire and of Washington*.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 6 series:

- Series 1: Correspondence, 1838-1930 (Box 1; 12 folders)
- Series 2: Personal Business Records, 1893-1917 (Box 1; 1 folder)
- Series 3: Subject Files, 1774-1922 (Boxes 1-4, 8; 4.0 linear feet)
- Series 4: File of Images, circa 1890-1900 (Boxes 5, 8; 0.6 linear feet)
- Series 5: Notes and Writings, 1890-1922 (Boxes 5-6; 0.8 linear feet)
- Series 6: Printed Material, 1822-1925 (Boxes 6-7; 0.8 linear feet)

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Authors -- Pennsylvania
Miniature painting

Works of art

Types of Materials:

Notes

Photographs

Names:

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848

Hawthorne, Nathaniel, 1804-1864

Latrobe, Benjamin Henry, 1764-1820

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Pratt, Herbert Lee, 1871-1945

Occupations:

Art historians -- Pennsylvania

Portrait painters

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, 1838-1930

(Box 1; 12 folders)

Correspondence consists primarily of letters received from various colleagues including dealers, gallery owners, and publishers discussing miscellaneous art-related topics not addressed in the subject files.

Box 1, Folder 1	Miscellaneous Correspondence, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1838-1868
Box 1, Folder 3	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1870-1879
Box 1, Folder 4	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1880-1889
Box 1, Folder 5	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1890-1891
Box 1, Folder 6	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1892
Box 1, Folder 7	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1893-1896
Box 1, Folder 8	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1897-1898
Box 1, Folder 9	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1899
Box 1, Folder 10	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1900-1905
Box 1, Folder 11	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1906-1909
Box 1, Folder 12	Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1910-1930

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Personal Business Records, 1893-1917

(Box 1; 1 folder)

Invoices for dues from the Sculpture Society, a stock certificate for 50 shares of The United Editors' Association, and a receipt for a pocket knife.

Box 1, Folder 13

Invoices, a Receipt, and United Editors' Association Stock Certificate,
1893-1917, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Subject Files, 1774-1922

(Boxes 1-4, 8; 4.0 linear feet)

Subject files contain letters from art historians, art collectors, dealers, and gallery owners, notes and writings, clippings, reproductions of art work, and photographs pertaining to notable subjects of portraits, artists, organizations including the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and miscellaneous subjects including miniature paintings and H. W. Elson's book *History of the United States*. Several files contain letters from descendants of notable people including John Quincy Adams, Asher B. Durand, Benjamin Latrobe, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. The file for Gilbert Stuart contains a letter from Kenyon Cox protesting Hart's opinions, and the file for Robert Morris contains a 1775 paper Continental Currency note. The file for John Paul Jones concerns the controversy over the identification of Jones' exhumed body and includes a photograph of his corpse in 1805.

Box 1, Folder 14	John Quincy Adams, 1909-1915, undated
Box 1, Folder 15	Francis Alexander, 1897
Box 1, Folder 16	John James Audubon, 1885-1917, undated
Box 1, Folder 17	Sir William Berkeley, 1905, undated
Box 1, Folder 18-20	William Russell Birch, 1892-1914, undated (3 folders)
Box 1, Folder 21-22	Amelia Bloomer, 1909-1910, undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 23	W. W. Boyle, 1895
Box 1, Folder 24	James Britton, 1913
Box 1, Folder 25-33	John Henri Isaac Browere, 1896-1912, undated (9 folders)
Box 1, Folder 34-35	William H. Brown, undated (2 folders)
Box 1, Folder 36-38	John C. Calhoun, 1896-1897, undated (3 folders)
Box 1, Folder 39	Ludovico Caracci, 1888
Box 1, Folder 40	Mrs. James Chestnut, 1910
Box 1, Folder 41-46	Henry Clay, 1896-1897, undated

(6 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)

Box 1, Folder 47	James Goodwin Clonney, 1895, undated
Box 1, Folder 48	Christopher Columbus, 1892-1898, undated
Box 1, Folder 49-54	John Singleton Copley, 1876-1909, undated <i>(6 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 55	The Copley Gallery, 1913-1915
Box 1, Folder 56	Captain Nathaniel Cunningham and Family, 1898, undated
Box 1, Folder 57	Alexander James Dallas, 1887
Box 1, Folder 58	Moseley Isaac Danforth, 1890
Box 1, Folder 59	John Wood Dodge, 1908
Box 1, Folder 60	Sally Ward Downs, 1909
Box 1, Folder 61	Sir Francis Drake, 1905
Box 1, Folder 62	Asher B. Durand, 1887-1915, undated
Box 1, Folder 63-64	Ralph Earl, 1913-1916, undated <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 1, Folder 65	Jean Pierre Henri Elouis, 1907, undated
Box 1, Folder 66-87	H. W. Elson's <i>History of the United States</i> , 1896-1907, undated <i>(22 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 1	Federico Faruffini, undated
Box 2, Folder 2	George Fox, 1895-1905, undated
Box 2, Folder 3-22	Benjamin Franklin, 1879-1913, undated <i>(20 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)</i>
Box 2, Folder 23-24	Ed Frossard, 1890-1898, undated <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 2, Folder 25	Sarah Margaret Fuller, 1909

Box 2, Folder 26	The Gordon Family, 1918, undated
Box 2, Folder 27	Zilpah Polly Grant (Mrs. William B. Banister), 1909
Box 2, Folder 28	Rebecca Gratz, 1909
Box 2, Folder 29	John Valentine Haidt, 1900
Box 2, Folder 30	Sarah Josepha Hale, 1909
Box 2, Folder 31-32	Alexander Hamilton, 1881-1897 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 33-36	James Hamilton, 1858-1914, undated (4 folders)
Box 2, Folder 37	Nathaniel Hawthorne, 1893-1903, undated
Box 2, Folder 38	Benjamin R. Haydon, 1846-1897
Box 2, Folder 39-45	Gustavus Hesselius, 1896-1929, undated (7 folders)
Box 2, Folder 46	Joseph Hunt, 1913-1914
Box 2, Folder 47	Governor Thomas Hutchinson, undated
Box 2, Folder 48-49	Independence Hall (Albert Rosenthal Scandal), 1917 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 50	Indian Portraits, 1904-1905
Box 2, Folder 51	Washington Irving, 1897
Box 2, Folder 52-57	Andrew Jackson, 1885-1898 (6 folders)
Box 2, Folder 58-59	Thomas Jefferson, 1896-1899 (2 folders)
Box 2, Folder 60-78	John Paul Jones, 1812-1913, undated (19 folders)

Box 2, Folder 79-88	Matthew Jouett, 1896-1902, undated (10 folders)
Box 2, Folder 89	Horace Kneeland, 1896
Box 2, Folder 90	Marquis de Lafayette, 1896-1897
Box 2, Folder 91	John Lambert, 1897-1914
Box 2, Folder 92	John Laurens, 1897, undated
Box 2, Folder 93	Octavia Walton LeVert, 1909
Box 3, Folder 1	Abraham Lincoln, 1899
Box 3, Folder 2	George Linen, 1897, undated
Box 3, Folder 3	William Lovett, undated
Box 3, Folder 4	Mary Lyon, 1909
Box 3, Folder 5-7	Gabriel Edward Manigault, 1888-1897 (3 folders)
Box 3, Folder 8-11	John Marshall, 1892-1897, undated (4 folders)
Box 3, Folder 12-26	Miniatures, 1888-1915, undated (15 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)
Box 3, Folder 27-48	Robert Morris, 1774-1912, undated (22 folders)
Box 3, Folder 49-57	Napoleon, 1899-1913, undated (9 folders)
Box 3, Folder 58	Gilbert Stuart Newton, 1890-1892
Box 3, Folder 59	The James Otis Family, 1909
Box 3, Folder 60	The Peale Family, 1891-1897
Box 3, Folder 61	William Penn, undated

Box 3, Folder 62-68	Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1810-1912, undated <i>(7 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)</i>
Box 3, Folder 69	Wendell Phillips, 1912
Box 3, Folder 70-77	Photographers Who Did Work for Hart, 1896-1898, undated <i>(8 folders)</i>
Box 3, Folder 78	Pocahontas, undated
Box 3, Folder 79	Edgar Allan Poe, 1897, undated
Box 3, Folder 80	Charles Peale Polk, 1892, undated
Box 3, Folder 81	Mrs. James K. Polk, 1907-1909, undated
Box 3, Folder 82	Sara Pryor (Mrs. Roger Pryor), 1910
Box 3, Folder 83-97	John Ramage, 1873-1907, undated <i>(15 folders)</i>
Box 3, Folder 98	John Rand, 1898, undated
Box 4, Folder 1-3	John Randolph, 1896-1899, undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 4-6	Edward Savage, 1905-1916, undated <i>(3 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 7-11	John Smibert, 1898-1917, undated <i>(5 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 12	Xanthus Smith, undated
Box 4, Folder 13-29	Gilbert Stuart, 1805-1922, undated <i>(17 folders)</i>
Box 4, Folder 30	Major General John Sullivan, 1897
Box 4, Folder 31	Robert M. Sully, 1891-1897, undated
Box 4, Folder 32	Thomas Sully, 1896-1916, undated
Box 4, Folder 33	Ida Tarbell, undated

Box 4, Folder 34	William Thornton, undated
Box 4, Folder 35	Benjamin Trott, 1893
Box 4, Folder 36	John Trumbull, 1884-1906, undated
Box 4, Folder 37	John Tyler, 1908
Box 4, Folder 38-40	John Vanderlyn, 1884-1896 (3 folders)
Box 4, Folder 41	Voltaire, 1907-1908
Box 4, Folder 42-58	George Washington, 1799-1918, undated (17 folders; Oversized Material is Housed in Box 8)
Box 4, Folder 59	John Watson, 1899
Box 4, Folder 60	Anthony Wayne, 1910
Box 4, Folder 61-68	Daniel Webster, 1896-1900, undated (8 folders)
Box 4, Folder 69-77	Adolph Ulric Wertmuller, 1887-1914, undated (9 folders)
Box 4, Folder 78-86	Benjamin West, 1888-1914, undated (9 folders)
Box 4, Folder 87	Lady Diana Whichcote, 1915, undated
Box 4, Folder 88	Esther and Thomas White, undated
Box 4, Folder 89	John Baptist Wittkamp, 1891, undated
Box 4, Folder 90-92	Henry Wolf, 1915-1916, undated (3 folders)
Box 4, Folder 93	George B. Wood, 1891
Box 4, Folder 94	Robert Wylie, 1884
Box 8, Folder 1	Four Oversized Galley Sheets about Henry Clay, undated,

(from Box 1, Folder 46)

Box 8, Folder 1 An Oversized Pencil Sketch about Benjamin Franklin, undated,
(from Box 2, Folder 9)

Box 8, Folder 1 Two Oversized Clippings about Miniatures, 1897,
(from Box 3, Folder 22)

Box 8, Folder 1 An Oversized Announcement of an Art Survey by the Pennsylvania Academy of
the Fine Arts, 1899,
(from Box 3, Folder 67)

Box 8, Folder 2 Oversized Letter about a Portrait of George Washington, 1899,
(from Box 4, Folder 47)

Box 8, Folder 2 Oversized Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of George Washington,
undated,
(from Box 4, Folder 52)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Images File, circa 1890-1900

(Box 5, 8; 0.6 linear feet)

This series consists of printed reproductions of art work, photographs of art work, and original art work compiled and used by Hart as reference material. Subjects of the art work range from portraiture to landscapes to scenes from American history.

Box 5, Folder 1-15	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Unidentified Subjects, undated (15 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)
Box 5, Folder 16	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "A," undated
Box 5, Folder 17	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "B," undated (Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)
Box 5, Folder 18-20	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "C," undated (3 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)
Box 5, Folder 21	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "D," undated
Box 5, Folder 22	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "E" - "G," undated (Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)
Box 5, Folder 23	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "H," undated
Box 5, Folder 24	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "J" - "L," undated
Box 5, Folder 25-26	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "M," undated (2 folders)
Box 5, Folder 27	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "N" - "P," undated
Box 5, Folder 28	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "R," undated
Box 5, Folder 29	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "S," undated

Box 5, Folder 30	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "T", undated
Box 5, Folder 31	Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Identified Subjects, Surnames "V" - "Y", undated
Box 5, Folder 32-34	Reproductions and Photographs of "Historical Scenes - American", undated
Box 5, Folder 35-39	Reproductions and Photographs of Art Work, undated <i>(5 folders; Oversized Material Housed in Box 8)</i>
Box 5, Folder 40-43	Original Art Work, undated <i>(4 folders)</i>
Box 8, Folder 3	Ten Oversized Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of Unidentified Subjects, undated, <i>(from Box 5, Folder 15)</i>
Box 8, Folder 3	Ten Oversized Reproductions and Photographs of Portraits of the Biddle Family, undated, <i>(from Box 5, Folder 17)</i>
Box 8, Folder 3	An Oversized Reproduction of a Portrait of James Cox, undated, <i>(from Box 5, Folder 20)</i>
Box 8, Folder 3	An Oversized Reproduction of a Portrait of Gideon Fairman, undated, <i>(from Box 5, Folder 22)</i>
Box 8, Folder 3	Two Oversized Reproductions of Art Work, undated, <i>(from Box 5, Folder 38)</i>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Notes and Writings, 1890-1922

(Boxes 5-6; 0.8 linear feet)

This series consists primarily of notes on art-related topics including the work of various artists, activities of arts organizations, collectors, galleries and museums, sales of art work, and background material about the subjects of portraits. There is also a typescript by Hart containing descriptions of art work to be published in a catalog of the Herbert Lee Pratt collection.

Box 5, Folder 44	Early Inventory of the Papers of Charles Henry Hart, undated
Box 5, Folder 45-64	File of Clippings and Notes on Miscellaneous Topics, 1890-1922, undated <i>(20 folders)</i>
Box 6, Folder 1-7	File of Clippings and Notes on Miscellaneous Topics, 1890-1922, undated <i>(7 folders)</i>
Box 6, Folder 8-9	Typescript and Galleys for the Pratt Catalogue, 1917 <i>(2 folders)</i>
Box 6, Folder 10-13	Miscellaneous Notes, undated <i>(4 folders)</i>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 6: Printed Material, 1822-1925

(Box 6-7; 0.8 linear feet)

Printed material consists of clippings about Hart and miscellaneous art-related topics, auction catalogs, and an incomplete set of pages from Hart's book *Memoirs of the Life and Work of Jean Antoine Houdon: Sculpture of Voltaire and of Washington*.

Box 6, Folder 14-15	Clippings, undated (2 folders)
Box 6, Folder 16	Clippings, 1822-1881
Box 6, Folder 17	Clippings, 1890-1897
Box 6, Folder 18	Clippings, 1898-1899
Box 6, Folder 19	Clippings, 1901-1903
Box 6, Folder 20	Clippings, 1904
Box 6, Folder 21	Clippings, 1907-1909
Box 6, Folder 22	Clippings, 1910-1913
Box 6, Folder 23	Clippings, 1914
Box 6, Folder 24	Clippings, 1915
Box 6, Folder 25	Clippings, 1916
Box 6, Folder 26	Clippings, 1917-1918
Box 6, Folder 27	Clippings, 1921
Box 6, Folder 28-32	Clippings, 1922 (5 folders)
Box 7, Folder 1-7	Clippings, 1922 (7 folders)
Box 7, Folder 8-17	Clippings, 1923 (10 folders)
Box 7, Folder 18	Clippings, 1924

Box 7, Folder 19	Clippings, 1925
Box 7, Folder 20-28	Clippings Concerning Individual Artists, 1878-1918, undated (9 folders)
Box 7, Folder 29	Clippings Concerning Rembrandt Frauds, 1923
Box 7, Folder 30	Auction Catalogs, undated
Box 7, Folder 31	Pages from Book <i>Memoirs of the Life and Work of Jean Antoine Houdon: Sculpture of Voltaire and of Washington</i> , 1912
Box 7, Folder 32	Miscellaneous Printed Material, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)