



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Louis A. Holman papers and
Holman's Print Shop records

Archives of American Art
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Louis A. Holman papers and Holman's Print Shop records
Identifier:	AAA.holmloui
Date:	ca. 1870-1977
Creator:	Holman, Louis A. (Louis Arthur), 1866-1939 Holman's Print Shop Goodspeed's Book Shop
Extent:	2.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1991 and 1997 by William Greenbaum, a print dealer. According to Greenbaum, other business records of Holman's Print Shop may have been discarded.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Illustrator, art editor, and print dealer; Boston, Mass. Holman was born on Prince Edward Island, Canada, and began work in the bookselling and publishing business in Canada. He moved to Boston in 1889, where he attended Cowles Art School and studied with the painter Charles Woodbury. Holman travelled extensively and contributed illustrations and articles to various popular magazines and worked as art editor of New England Magazine and the Youth's Companion. In 1915, he established a print department at Goodspeed's Book Shop, leaving in 1930 to open his own firm, Holman's Print Shop, where he was joined by his son, Richard Bourne Holman, who ran the firm after Louis' death in 1939 until 1977.

Scope and Contents

Letters, writings, a scrapbook, printed material, and files on printmakers documenting Holman's career as a Boston print dealer at Goodspeed's Book Shop and the Holman Print Shop.

Scope and Contents

Included are correspondence with customers, publishers, family, museums, galleries, and others concerning Holman's business and expertise in the field of prints, ca. 1890-1941; a typescript "What Does a Print

Seller Look for in a Print?"; a scrapbook of clippings about the Holman Print Shop, 1931-1937; clippings; advertisements; and exhibition announcements and catalogs.

Scope and Contents

Also included are artist/subject files containing letters and printed materials on Joseph Andrews, Timothy Cole, John Sanderson Datziel, Arthur Heintzelman and the book Old Maps and Their Makers. Included in the Andrews file is a ledger book, ca. 1851-1869, with clippings on his "Plymouth Rock." The Cole file has letters from and about Cole, cancelled checks, biographical sketches, notes, lists of works, clippings, reproductions of work, a bookplate designed by Cole, and photographs of Cole.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION (1.4 linear ft.): Biographical material; memorabilia; diaries, 1925-1938, detailing the running of a print dealership; notes, writings, and lectures; business and financial records, among them guestbooks kept by Holman's Print Shop from its founding until its closing, recording signatures, remarks, and several caricatures from noted artists and collectors; printed material; Richard Holman's research file on John Foster's "A Map of New-England," including correspondence with several noted mid-20th century authorities on American printing and printmaking history, in particular Ray Nash; and photographs.

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
- Map printing
- Prints -- 19th century
- Prints -- 20th century
- Prints -- Collectors and collecting -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Prints, American
- Wood-engraving

Names:

- Andrews, John
- Cole, Timothy, 1852-1931
- Datziel, John Sanderson
- Heintzelman, Arthur William, 1891-1965
- Holman, Richard Bourne, 1903-
- Nash, Ray, 1905-

Occupations:

- Art dealers -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Engravers (printmakers)
- Gallery owners

Functions:

- Art galleries, Commercial -- Massachusetts