Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Dorothy Hay Jensen Papers, 1933-1991, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

Processing of this collection received support from
the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

2023/05/31

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Dorothy Hay Jensen papers
Date:	1933-1991
Identifier:	AAA.jensdoro
Creator:	Jensen, Dorothy Hay, 1910-
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of arts administrator Dorothy Hay Jensen measure 0.2 linear feet and date from circa 1933 to 1991. Relating to Jensen's work as supervisor of the WPA art projects in Maine and her work on the Index of American Design is a sketch, correspondence, a notebook and notes, photographs, and printed material.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1992 by Dorothy Hay Jensen.

Processing Information

The collection was processed, and a finding aid prepared by Jayna Josefson in 2023 with support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.

Preferred Citation

Dorothy Hay Jensen papers, 1933-1991. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Maine arts administrator and printmaker Dorothy Hay Jensen (1910-1999) was a supervisor for the Federal Art Project in Maine from 1936 to 1941. Her work focused on The Index of American Design, a research

division of the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration, which produced classifications and approximately 20,000 reproductions, in photographs and original drawings, of a wide variety of American art, including paintings, sculpture, handicrafts and folk art.

Scope and Contents

The papers of arts administrator Dorothy Hay Jensen measure 0.2 linear feet and date from circa 1933 to 1991. Relating to Jensen's work as supervisor of the WPA art projects in Maine and her work on the Index of American Design is a sketch, correspondence, a notebook and notes, photographs, and printed material.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection the papers are arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women arts administrators
Women printmakers

Names:

Federal Art Project (Me.)
Index of American Design

Occupations:

Arts administrators -- Maine
Printmakers -- Maine

Container Listing

Series 1: Dorothy Hay Jensen Papers, 1933-1991

0.2 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Artwork consists of an unsigned drawing of a rocking chair. While the bulk of Jensen's correspondence is from the National Gallery of Art's curator for the Index of American Design, there are also scattered letters from friends. A notebook contains a working list for the Index of American Design, as well as annotations and clippings. Photographs are of quilts, paintings, woodcarvings, and stencils by Moses Eaton. Printed materials include newspaper and magazine clippings.

Box 1, Folder 1	Artwork, circa 1940
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, circa 1935-1991
Box 1, Folder 3	Notebook and Notes, circa 1935-1989
Box 1, Folder 4	Photographs, Index of American Design, 1937-1940
Box 1, Folder 5	Photographs, Moses Eaton Stencils, 1938-1939
Box 1, Folder 6	Printed Material, 1933-1987

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