



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the John Gaw Meem Papers, 1933-1934, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	John Gaw Meem papers
Date:	1933-1934
Identifier:	AAA.meemjohn
Creator:	Meem, John Gaw, 1894-1983
Extent:	1 Microfilm reel
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of architect John Gaw Meem date from 1933-1934. Found are records relating to the formation of the Public Works of Art Project including a list of buildings and correspondence.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers were lent for microfilming 1965 by John Gaw Meem and returned after filming.

Location of Originals

Originals returned to the lender, John Gaw Meem, after microfilming.

Available Formats

The collection has been microfilmed on reels NDA27. The microfilm has been digitized and is available on the Archives of American Art website.

Processing Information

The collection was microfilmed on Reels NDA27 and was returned to John Gaw Meem after filming. The microfilm was described in a finding aid by Jayna Josefson in 2025 and the microfilm was digitized in 2024 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collections Information System (CIS) IRM Pool Fund.

Preferred Citation

John Gaw Meem papers, 1933-1934. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

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

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Biographical / Historical

John Gaw Meem (1894-1983) was an architect in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is known for his Pueblo Revival Style buildings throughout the American Southwest. He was the Head of the Historic American Buildings Survey and was a member of the regional Public Works of Art Project for New Mexico and Arizona (Region 13).

Scope and Contents

The papers of architect John Gaw Meem date from 1933-1934. Found are records relating to the formation of the Public Works of Art Project including a list of buildings and correspondence.

Arrangement

Due to the pre-existing microfilm arrangement, the collection is 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:

Federal aid to the arts -- New Mexico

Names:

Public Works of Art Project (N.M.)

Occupations:

Architects -- New Mexico -- Santa Fe

Arts administrators -- Arizona

Arts administrators -- New Mexico

Container Listing

Series 1: John Gaw Meem Papers, 1933-1934

Scope and Contents: A list of buildings that were candidates for murals in New Mexico was prepared by Meem and sent to the Public Works of Art Project. Correspondence is between the PWAP members of the regional committee for New Mexico and Arizona and national administrators. Correspondents include Emil Bristtram, Edward Bruce, Jesse L. Nusbaum, Forbes Watson and others. Also found is a letter from the PWAP on "winding up" the project.

Reel NDA27.meem, [John Gaw Meem Papers, 1933-1934](#)
Frame 494-524

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