



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

J. B. Murray drawings

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-7950  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	J. B. Murray drawings
<b>Date:</b>	1985
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.murj
<b>Creator:</b>	Murry, J. B. (John B.), 1908-1988
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Items ((on partial microfilm reel))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1985 by J. B. Murray.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 3667 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Visionary artist from Athens, Georgia. Birthdate also cited as 1907. Also known as J.B. Murry. Raised in rural central Georgia. Untrained as an artist, he began drawing and painting when a dislocated hip forced him to retire from farming. Although unable to read and write in English, he developed his own codified use of colors and improvised script, called "spirit script," which he incorporated in his paintings as a visual element and which only he could translate. His work has been included in several Southern exhibitions of Black isolated artists.

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## Scope and Contents

Two ballpoint pen and felt-tip pen drawings by J. B. Murray.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists with disabilities

Types of Materials:

Drawings

Occupations:

Painters -- Georgia