



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston records

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

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston records
Date:	1870-1973
Identifier:	AAA.musefabr
Creator:	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Extent:	79 Microfilm reels
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1973-1983 by Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Location of Originals

Originals in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Other Finding Aids

Microfilm inventory available at all Archives of American Art offices.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 536-565, 584-587, 589-590, and 2715 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 2436-2497 available for use only at the Boston Public Library and through Archives of American Art's interlibrary loan service.

Restrictions

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

Restrictions

REEL 588: SEALED; no access.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, minutes, accession records, building records, and records of the Department of Prints and Drawings.

Scope and Contents

REELS 536-565: Archives of the Museum, 1875-1954, including: correspondence of the President, Gardiner M. Lane, 1910-1914 (8 letterpress books and 1,256 items); correspondence of the Director, Charles Greely Loring, 1876-1901 (6 vols. and 11,355 items); correspondence of the Assistant Director, Benjamin Ives Gilman, 1894-1902 (6 vols. and 272 items); minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1870-1954 (17 vols.); minutes of the Committee on the Museum, 1875-1954 (25 vols.); minutes of the Executive Committee, 1876-1946 (5 vols.); and Visiting Committee records, 1906-1949 (1 loose leaf binder).

Scope and Contents

REELS 584-587: Records of the Department of Prints and Drawings, including 2 vols. of correspondence, 1904-1915, 14 accession books, 1872-1946, and 14 record books. Record books include the following: The Sylvester Rosa Koehler Collection, 1893 (3 vols.); the Harvey D. Parker-Henry F. Sewell Collection, 1897-1900 (4 vols.); Objects Entering the Department of Prints and Drawings, 1935-1947; Prices of Prints, 1877-1885; Engravings and Photographs Purchased in Europe, 1886-1887; Visitors to the Gray Collection, 1872-1889; Visitors Register, 1890-1915; and a register of books.

Scope and Contents

REEL 588 (SEALED): Accession records, 1967-1973.

Scope and Contents

REELS 589-590: Accession records, 1870-1951.

Scope and Contents

REELS 2436-2496: Directors' correspondence, 1901-1954.

Scope and Contents

REELS 2493-2497: Building records, including: records of the Copley Square Building with correspondence, 1870-1901, reports, minutes of the Executive Committee, financial records, and a prospectus and subscription list for the William Morris Hunt Memorial Exhibition, 1879; records of the Huntington Avenue Building, with reports, correspondence and financial records related to its personnel, departments, collections, and competitions; and clippings.

Scope and Contents

REEL 2715: Papers of the print department, ca. 1841-1901, including: letters from Sylvester R. Koehler, curator of the print department, to Charles G. Loring, director of the museum; letters to Koehler concerning printmaking techniques from W. H. Dougal, John M. Falconer, Henry Farrar, Thomas Moran, Walter Rowlands, Walter Shirlaw, James David Smillie, Frederick T. Stuart and Charles A. Walker; a report by

Koehler on the print department, January 10, 1888; correspondence regarding the acquisition of the Henry F. Sewall print collection; a handwritten catalog of the Sewall collection, ca. 1880, including printmaker, title, catalog number, collector's mark and value, 463 p.; notes by Koehler; and printed material.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Prints -- Technique

Names:

Dougal, William H., 1822-1895
Falconer, John Mackie, 1820-1903
Farrer, Henry, 1843-1903
Koehler, S. R. (Sylvester Rosa), 1837-1900
Loring, Charles Greely, 1828-1902
Moran, Thomas, 1837-1926
Rowlands, Walter, b. 1855
Sewall, Henry F., 1816-1896
Shirlaw, Walter, 1838-1909
Smillie, James David, 1833-1909
Stuart, Frederick T., 1837-1913
Walker, Charles Alvah, 1848-1920

Occupations:

Museum curators -- Massachusetts
Museum directors -- Massachusetts

Functions:

Art museums -- Massachusetts -- Boston