



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

John Warner Norton and Norton family papers

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

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

---

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	John Warner Norton and Norton family papers
<b>Date:</b>	1893-1954
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.nortjohn
<b>Creator:</b>	Norton, John Warner, 1876-1934
<b>Extent:</b>	200 Items (Ca. 200 items (on 3 partial microfilm reels))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Passport and photographs donated 1984 by Mr. and Mrs. John Norton Garrett, Norton's grandson. Material on reels 3257 & 3367 lent for microfilming by Mr. & Mrs. Garrett, 1984, as part of the Archives of American Art's Texas Project. Material on reel 4074 lent for microfilming, 1987, by John C. Norton, John Norton Garrett and Katherine Norton Smalley, grandsons and granddaughter of John W. Norton as part of AAA's Chicago project.

### Location of Originals

Reels 3257 (fr. 14-396) & 3367: Originals returned to the lenders, Mr. & Mrs. John Norton Garrett, after microfilming.

### Location of Originals

Reel 4074: Originals returned to the lenders, Katherine Norton Smalley, John C. Norton and John Garrett, after microfilming.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 3257 and 3367 available for use only at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and through interlibrary loan.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4074 available for use 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.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Painter, muralist; Chicago, Ill. Taught at the Art Institute of Chicago.

---

## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, sketches and sketchbooks, printed material, writings and photographs.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 3257: Norton's passport; 2 photographs of him and his work; a bibliography; letters to Norton's wife (some illustrated), his mother, ca. 1898, when he was with the Rough Riders, and correspondence concerning mural commissions; subject files on the Jefferson County Court House murals in Birmingham, Ala. and at the Logan Museum, Beliot College; his memorial exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago, and obituaries and condolence letters received by his wife; cancelled checks; a typescript of writings by his children regarding a trip to Mexico City; a contract for a mural; an award; clippings; his memorial biography, JOHN W. NORTON: AMERICAN PAINTER; a sketchbook and sketches; and a scrapbook containing illustrated letters, photographs and sketches.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 3367: A typed draft of Norton's story "White Man's Luck"; Norton's United Scenic Artists' union card; 9 sketches and a sketchbook of drawings, notes and a draft of Norton's last letter to Tom Lea, 1933.

---

## Scope and Contents

REEL 4074: Twelve letters, many illustrated, from John to his family including his son "Bud" (John Francis Norton); a magazine article on Norton from Northwest Architect; an address and a poem by Norton; and 19 photographs and a 5 page manuscript written by Madge Norton, John's wife, describing their trip to Arizona in 1904.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists' writings  
Mural painting and decoration -- 20th century -- United States  
Painting, American -- Illinois -- Chicago

Occupations:

Muralists -- Illinois -- Chicago  
Painters -- Illinois -- Chicago