



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Wayne Nowack Papers,  
1881-1996, in the Archives of American Art

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Archives of American Art  
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<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>	Wayne Nowack papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.nowawayn
<b>Date:</b>	1881-1996
<b>Extent:</b>	4 Linear feet
<b>Creator:</b>	Nowack, Wayne, 1923-2004
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The papers of painter and writer Wayne Nowack measure 4.0 linear feet and date from 1881-1996. The collection includes biographical material, personal and professional correspondence, printed material, writings, and photographs of art work and slides.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The Wayne Nowack papers were donated to the Archives of American Art by Wayne Nowack in 1996.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed in 1996 by Arleen Pancza-Graham. A finding aid was created by Caroline Donadio in 2018.

### Preferred Citation

Wayne Nowack papers, 1881-1996. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Wayne Nowack (1923-2004) was a writer and painter in Spencer, New York. He was born in Des Moines, Iowa and graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1947, which later awarded him his master's degree (1948) and M.F.A (1950). Before teaching art for eight years at Union College in New York, he worked as an art therapist. He also taught at Windham College in Vermont and at Skidmore College in New York for brief periods. Nowack's drawings and box constructions were handled by the Allan Stone Gallery in New York.

## Scope and Contents

The papers of painter and writer Wayne Nowack measure 4.0 linear feet and date from 1881-1996. The collection includes biographical material, personal and professional correspondence, printed material, writings, and photographs of art work and slides.

Biographical material includes genealogical items related to Nowack and his family as well as a list of public and private collections in which his work appeared.

Correspondence includes personal correspondence with his family, professional correspondence with Allan Stone, his dealer of 20 years, and general correspondence with others.

Printed material is comprised of exhibition catalogs and clippings of reviews of Nowack exhibitions.

Writings includes diaries, journals, journals, essays, and miscellaneous manuscripts that reflect Nowack's ideas on art, philosophy and the cultural climate of the time. Also found are Nowack's master's thesis from 1948 and various grant applications.

Photographic material includes an album of photographs from Nowack's grandparents, photographs of art work, and 750 slides of work.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged in five series.

- Series 1: Biographical Material, 1881-1989 (Box 1; 0.4 linear feet)
  - Series 2: Correspondence, 1947-1996 (Boxes 1-3; 1.7 linear feet)
  - Series 3: Printed Material, 1932-1974 (Box 3; 0.2 linear feet)
  - Series 4: Writings, 1939-1988 (Box 3; 0.6 linear feet)
  - Series 5: Photographic Material, 1903-1996 (Box 3-4; 1.1 linear feet)
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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:

Art -- Philosophy  
Authors -- New York

Types of Materials:

Diaries  
Photographs

Names:

Stone, Allan

Occupations:

Painters -- New York (State)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Biographical Material, 1881-1989

*0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)*

Biographical material includes genealogical items related to Nowack and his family as well as a list of public and private collections in which his work appeared.

Box 1, Folder 1	Genealogy, 1939-1977, undated
Box 1, Folder 2-7	Biographical Material, 1923-1964
Box 1, Folder 8-9	Nowack, Bernard (Father), 1881-1921, 1926-1989
Box 1, Folder 10	Nowack, Bertha (Mother), 1889-1971
Box 1, Folder 11	Nowack, Frank (Uncle), 1885-1918
Box 1, Folder 12	Collector Lists, undated

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1947-1996

### 1.7 Linear feet (Box 1-3)

Correspondence includes personal correspondence with his family, professional correspondence with Allan Stone, his dealer of 20 years, and general correspondence with others. This series is arranged alphabetically by author's last name.

Box 1, Folder 13-14	Family, 1953-1976
Box 1, Folder 15	A, General, 1947-1989
Box 1, Folder 16	B, General, 1967-1993
Box 1, Folder 17	C, General, 1976-1994
Box 1, Folder 18	D, General, 1968, 1970
Box 1, Folder 19	E, General , 1962-1977
Box 1, Folder 20	Ezner, Eli B., 1961-1970
Box 1, Folder 21	F-G, General, 1952-1987
Box 1, Folder 22	Gallery Search, 1978-1996
Box 1, Folder 23-26	Ginsberg, Arlin, 1960-1976, 1981-1994
Box 2, Folder 1-14	Ginsberg, Arlin, 1960-1976
Box 2, Folder 15	H, General, 1954-1995
Box 2, Folder 16-26	Ind, Peter, 1964-1990
Box 2, Folder 27	L-K, General, 1961-1995
Box 2, Folder 28-30	Martin, Glenn, 1971-1990
Box 2, Folder 31	Meeker, John, 1984-1992
Box 2, Folder 32	Meeker, Michael, 1975-1992
Box 2, Folder 33	Miscellaneous, 1951-1983
Box 2, Folder 34	Paine, Stephen D., 1967-1989

Box 2, Folder 35	S, General, 1967-1991
Box 3, Folder 1-3	Stone, Allan, 1961-1967, 1971-1987
Box 3, Folder 4	T-W, General, 1980-1992

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## Series 3: Printed Material, 1932-1974

*0.2 Linear feet (Box 3)*

Printed material is comprised of exhibition catalogues and clippings of reviews of Nowack exhibitions.

Box 3, Folder 5-9      Exhibition Reviews and Checklists, 1932-1968

Box 3, Folder 10-11      Exhibition Reviews and Catalogs, 1969-1971, 1974

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## Series 4: Writings, 1939-1988

### *0.6 Linear feet (Box 3)*

Writings include diaries, journals, journals, essays, and miscellaneous manuscripts that reflect Nowack's ideas on art, philosophy and the cultural climate of the time. Also found are Nowack's master's thesis from 1948 and various grant applications.

Box 3, Folder 12	Diaries and Journals, 1940-1948
Box 3, Folder 13	Grant Applications, 1972-1978
Box 3, Folder 14	Master's Thesis, 1948-1950
Box 3, Folder 15-16	Miscellaneous, 1939-1947, 1955-1963
Box 3, Folder 17-18	Influential Quotations, 1941-1943
Box 3, Folder 19	Poems, Essays, Articles, and Lectures, undated
Box 3, Folder 20	Notes for Projected Book, 1966-1970  Journals, 1966-1970
Box 3, Folder 21	Journals, 1966-1970
Box 3, Folder 22	<i>North Hollywood Period Part I</i> , 1967
Box 3, Folder 23	<i>North Hollywood Period Part II</i> , 1967
Box 3, Folder 24-25	<i>North Hollywood Period</i> , 1968
Box 3, Folder 26	Journals, 1969-1970
Box 3, Folder 27	Preparation for Drawing Album, 1983
Box 3, Folder 28	Essays, 1983-1993
Box 3, Folder 29	Miscellaneous, undated
Box 3, Folder 30	Album Notes, 1988

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## Series 5: Photographic Material, 1903-1996

### *1.1 Linear feet (Box 3-4)*

Photographic material includes an album of photographs from Nowack's grandparents, photographs of art work, and 750 slides of work.

Box 3, Folder 31	Photographs, 1962
Box 3, Folder 32	Photographs of Work, 1950
Box 4, Folder 1	Photographic Album (Grandparents), 1903-1941, undated
Box 4, Folder 2	Photographic Album, 1945-1988
Box 4, Folder 3-5	Photographs of Drawings, 1940-1985
Box 4, Folder 6-9	Slides of Artwork, circa 1960s-1980s

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