



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Putnam 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/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Putnam family papers
<b>Date:</b>	1822-1978
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.putnputn
<b>Creator:</b>	Putnam family
<b>Extent:</b>	1.2 Linear feet ((microfilmed on 2 reels))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1981-1983 by the Timken Art Gallery. The Putnam Foundation and the Timken Foundation jointly founded the Timken Art Gallery.

### Location of Originals

Originals returned to the Timken Art Gallery after microfilming.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 2347 & 2842 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### 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

Art patrons; San Diego, California. Henry William and Elbert H. Putnam were brothers. Amy, Anne and Irene were daughters of Henry.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence; genealogical information; a photo album; photographs and tintypes; an inventory notebook; contracts; clippings; and miscellaneous material.

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## Scope and Contents

REEL 2347: Selected papers, 1822-1967, from the Elbert H. Putnam and Henry W. Putnam Family archive at the Timken Art Gallery, San Diego, California, including correspondence of Anne R. Putnam and Amy

Putnam; Irene Putnam's correspondence and poetry; a photo album, photographs and tintypes of the Putnam family; an inventory notebook of paintings and correspondence concerning the family art collection and library (mostly relating to Russian history and art); clippings about the family; and miscellany, including a few pencil drawings and cartoons, and personal documents.

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## Scope and Contents

REEL 2842: Papers, ca. 1867-1966, relating to the formation of the Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego (now the San Diego Museum of Art), including genealogical information on the Putnams; letters to Appleton S. Bridges, honorary president of the Fine Arts Society which managed the Gallery, regarding the purchase of 16 Pieter Veen paintings, 1916, and incorporation of the Society, 1925; correspondence between board members of the Society regarding the search for a Director of the Gallery and the selection of Reginald Poland; 2 letters from Poland, 1925; a typescript of a speech "The Putnam Sisters at Home" by Julia Gethman Andrews, 1966; contracts for the construction of the Gallery; a tintype; and photographs of Amy, Anne, Elbert, Henry and Irene Putnam. [The Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego is incorrectly identified as the Timken Art Gallery on the microfilm.]

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## Other Title

Elbert H. Putnam and Henry W. Putnam Family Papers (microfilm title)

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Names:

- Bridges, Appleton S., 1848-1929
- Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego
- Fine Arts Society of San Diego (Calif.)
- Poland, Reginald
- Putnam, Amy, 1874-1958
- Putnam, Anne R., 1867-1962
- Putnam, Elbert H., d. 1927
- Putnam, Henry W. (Henry William), 1825-1915
- Putnam, Irene, 1869-1936
- Timken Art Gallery

### Occupations:

- Art patrons -- California -- San Diego

### Functions:

- Art museums -- California -- San Diego
- Arts organizations -- California