



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Wallace Putnam papers

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>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Wallace Putnam papers
Date:	1914-1983
Identifier:	AAA.putnwall
Creator:	Putnam, Wallace, 1899-1989
Extent:	1.5 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1983 by Wallace Putnam.

Citation

Wallace Putnam papers, 1914-1983. 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.

Biographical / Historical

Painter, writer, lithographer, and draftsman; Yorktown Heights, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence is primarily between Putnam and his family and friends, including one letter from Clyfford Still. Photographs are of Putnam, his family and friends (mostly from his high school years), and of miscellaneous subjects.

Scope and Contents

Writings include 3 journals in which Putnam recorded his dreams and his interpretations of them; an autobiography formed from his letters and essays; an undated and unfinished autobiography; essays and poetry on art and other subjects (many of them incomplete); a manuscript for Putnam's book *Manhattan Manners* with a note by Alfred Stieglitz; and a transcript of an unpublished manuscript entitled "Three Heroes I Have Known" which include comments about Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, and Abe Birnbaum.

Scope and Contents

Also found are several drawings, in ink and in pencil, undated; exhibition catalogs and announcements; programs for Putnam's graduations and other school events; clippings, mostly regarding Putnam's high school athletic activities; miscellaneous printed materials; and Putnam's William H. Lincoln medal, Brookline High School, 1918.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- New York (State)

Names:

Avery, Milton, 1885-1965
Birnbaum, Abe, 1899-1966
Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970
Stieglitz, Alfred, 1864-1946
Still, Clyfford, 1904-1980

Occupations:

Painters
Painters -- New York (State)