



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

James Robb papers

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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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	James Robb papers
Identifier:	AAA.robbjame
Date:	1846-1871
Creator:	Robb, James, 1814-1881
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet ((on partial microfilm reel))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1983 by Herbert Gray, a collector of autographed letters. This group of James Robb papers was included in a scrapbook that Mr. Gray purchased, containing letters to and from various historical figures. The remainder of the James Robb items from the scrapbook (ca. 157 letters and receipts pertaining to the purchase and sale of the Robb art collection) were donated to the Historic New Orleans Collection, a major repository of manuscript material on Robb.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 3948 available 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

Railroad and banking tycoon, art collector; active in New Orleans in the mid-nineteenth century. Robb collected European and American art. Much of his collection was sold in 1859; some works from his collection are in the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Scope and Contents

Fourteen letters written to Robb, 1846-1871, from John Gadsby Chapman, Henry Dilworth Gilpin, James H. Hackett, George Peter Alexander Healy, Daniel Huntington, Miner Kilbourne Kellogg, William Kemble, Charles Macalester, Hiram Powers, Robert Walter Weir, and Richard Henry Wilde; a letter written to "My Dear Sir" by Robb, 1848; a handwritten copy of an agreement between Hiram Powers and Robb concerning the exhibiting of Powers' THE GREEK SLAVE, 1848; a page of clippings, undated and 1859, relating to the sale of the Robb collection and to his railroad affiliation.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- Louisiana -- New Orleans

Names:

Chapman, J. G. (John Gadsby), 1808-1889
Gilpin, Henry D. (Henry Dilworth), 1801-1860
Healy, G. P. A. (George Peter Alexander), 1813-1894
Huntington, Daniel, 1816-1906
Kellogg, Miner K. (Miner Kilbourne), 1814-1889
Kemble, William
Macalester, Charles, 1798-1873
Powers, Hiram, 1805-1873
Weir, Robert Walter, 1803-1889
Wilde, Richard Henry, 1789-1847

Occupations:

Artists -- United States
Painters
Sculptors