



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Sartain family papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Sartain family papers
Date:	1795-1944
Identifier:	AAA.sartfami
Creator:	Sartain family (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Extent:	6 Microfilm reels
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Material on reel 2727 lent for microfilming 1982 by the Moore College of Art. Material on reel 4235 lent for filming in 1989 by the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, which had received the papers from the Harriet Sartain estate and through descendants of the Sartain family, 1959 and 1988. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania lent the material on reels 4562-4565 in 1991. These papers had been previously microfilmed in 1955 on reels P19-P20, P24 and P27-P28 but were reprocessed for microfilming. A few items filmed in 1955 were missing in 1991. Items not microfilmed in 1991 include manuscript notes for John Sartain's "Reminiscences," and some lecture notes which were unfilmable; 0.3 linear ft. of mss. for articles by various authors appearing in Sartain's magazine; and Samuel Sartain's minute book of the Republican Convention. Rembrandt Peale's "Notes of the Painting Room" was not refilmed in 1991, and is only available on reel P28.

Location of Originals

Reel 2727: Originals in Moore College of Art.

Location of Originals

Reel 4235: Originals in: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

Location of Originals

Reels 4562-4565: Originals in: Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 2727 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 4235 available at Archives of American Art offices, at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, at the Free Library of Philadelphia, and through interlibrary loan.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 4562-4565 available for use at Archives of American Art offices, through interlibrary loan and at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

Terms of Use

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Conditions Governing Use

Reel 2727: Authorization to publish, quote or reproduce requires written permission from Librarian, Moore College of Art. Reels 4562-4565: Authorization to publish, quote or reproduce requires written permission from Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Family of engravers and painters; Philadelphia, Pa. John Sartain came to U.S. from England in 1830 and established himself firmly in the Philadelphia artistic community. He was director of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts for 23 years and served as chief of the art dept. for the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia and the 1887 American Exhibition in London. Four of his eight children became artists, William, Emily, Samuel and Harriet.

Scope and Contents

Selected Sartain family papers from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Moore College of Art, including correspondence, printed material, photographs, sketchbooks, writings, minutes of meetings and other organizational records, and memorabilia.

Scope and Contents

REEL 2727: Correspondence, mostly among the Sartain family: Emily writes to her father of her European travels with Mary Cassatt; letters from Elliott Dangerfield; correspondence of John Sartain, including letters from the poet Thomas Chivers; correspondence of William, Henry, Samuel, Harriet Judd, and Paul Sartain; receipts of John and Samuel, and undated genealogical notes.

Scope and Contents

REEL 4235: Photographs; scrapbooks; unpublished manuscripts; and correspondence of John, Emily, William, Samuel, and 12 letters from family friend and fellow artist, Thomas Eakins.

Scope and Contents

REEL P28 (fr. 337-581): Rembrandt Peale's manuscript "Notes of the Painting Room," subtitled "Art is Long and Life is Short." 215 p. + 24 p. index.

Scope and Contents

REELS 4562-4565 [filmed previously on reels P19-P20, P24, and P27-P28]: Included are: Emily Sartain correspondence and miscellaneous items, 1895-1923; Harriet Judd Sartain correspondence and biographical sketch, 1854-1887; Henry Sartain letters, 1862-1863; Samuel Sartain correspondence, 1850-1872, including letters to John Sartain while in London on business for his father, printed matter, copyrights and certificates and records of the Art-Union of Philadelphia (AUP), 1852-1885, including catalogs of prizes, an inventory of the AUP property, 1855, and printed reports; obituary for Susanna Swaine (John Sartain's mother); John Swaine's letterbook, 1834-1837; William Sartain letters, 1862-1919, n.d., many written while living in Paris, printed matter, photographs, and sketchbook; John Sartain genealogical information, letterpress books, 1869-1871 and 1887, concerning his Philadelphia and London exhibitions, work and business, correspondence, 1845-189?, financial information, lists of works of art, memberships and certificates, lectures and writings, a sketchbook, and printed material.

Scope and Contents

Also included are manuscript material and printed matter; scrapbooks containing clippings and a few letters; untitled commonplace books which were probably compiled by Harriet or Emily Sartain; John Sartain's records pertaining to the Artists' Fund Society, 1838-1846; Great Sanitary Fair, 1864; Centennial Exposition, 1876, including the Report of the Art Department, and memorabilia; the American Exhibition, London England, 1887; Sartain's Magazine expense book, 1849-1855; minutes of the Graphic Association of Philadelphia, 1849-1855; minutes of the Philadelphia Union of Associationists, 1847-1855; proceedings of the National Art Association second annual convention, held at the Smithsonian Institution, Jan. 11-14, 1859; and minutes of the meeting of the subscribers of the [Christian] Schussele picture fund.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Engraving -- Printing -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia
Painting, American -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia

Names:

American Exhibition (1887 : London, England)
Art-Union of Philadelphia
Artists' Fund Society
Cassatt, Mary, 1844-1926
Centennial Exhibition (1876 : Philadelphia, Pa.)
Chivers, T. H. (Thomas Holley), 1809-1858
Daingerfield, Elliott, 1859-1932
Eakins, Thomas, 1844-1916
Graphic Association of Philadelphia

National Art Association (Washington, D.C.)
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
Philadelphia Union of Associationists
Sartain, Emily, 1841-1927
Sartain, Harriet, 1873-1957
Sartain, Henry, 1833-1895
Sartain, John, 1808-1897
Sartain, Paul
Sartain, Samuel, 1830-1906
Sartain, William, 1843-1924
Swaine, William
United States Sanitary Commission. Great Sanitary Fair. Fine Art Gallery (1864 : Philadelphia, Pa.)

Occupations:

Engravers -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia
Painters -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia

Preferred Titles:

Sartain's union magazine of literature and art