



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Aaron Draper Shattuck
Papers, 1810-1983, in the Archives of American Art

Caroline Donadio

2018 December 20

Archives of American Art
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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

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Aaron Draper Shattuck papers
Identifier:	AAA.shataaro
Date:	1810-1983
Extent:	0.8 Linear feet
Creator:	Shattuck, Aaron Draper, 1832-1928
Language:	English .
Summary:	The papers of Aaron Draper Shattuck measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1810 to 1983. The papers document the activities of Aaron Draper Shattuck and his son, Walter, and include biographical material, writings, correspondence, notes, financial material, artwork, printed material, photographs, and a sample canvas stretcher.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Aaron Draper Shattuck papers were donated by Katherine and Eugene Emigh, 1983-1984. Katherine Emigh is Shattuck's granddaughter.

Location of Originals

Originals of photocopies are in the possession of the donors, Katherine and Eugene Emigh.

Processing Information

The collection was processed shortly after donation. A finding aid was created by Caroline Donadio in 2018.

Preferred Citation

Aaron Draper Shattuck papers, 1810-1983. 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.

Biographical / Historical

Aaron Draper Shattuck (1832-1928) was a landscape painter and inventor who worked in New York City and West Granby, Connecticut. Born in Francetown, New Hampshire, Shattuck studied art in Boston under portrait painter Alexander Ransom and at the National Academy of Design in 1852, becoming an academician in 1861. The principal subjects of his works are landscapes and pastoral scenes. Shattuck was also the inventor of the "Shattuck" stretcher keys for artists' canvases. In 1860, he married Marian Colman, sister of painter Samuel Colman, and descendant of the John Lincoln family. Their children were William, Walter, Edwin, Isabel, Helen, and Bertha. Shattuck maintained a studio in New York from 1856 until circa 1870, then moved to Granby, Connecticut.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Aaron Draper Shattuck measure 0.8 linear feet and date from 1810 to 1983. The papers document the activities of Aaron Draper Shattuck and his son, Walter, and include biographical material, writings, correspondence, notes, financial material, artwork, printed material, photographs, and a sample canvas stretcher.

The collection includes biographical material, a birth certificate of William Shattuck and an inventory of Lincoln Family Estate. Writing consists of a diaries that were kept by Aaron Shattuck and his son Walter. Correspondence includes Aaron Shattuck's acceptance letter to the National Academy of Design in 1858, descriptions of travel along the Maine coast and in New England, and letters concerning Shattuck's paintings. Financial material consists of account books, sales receipts for paintings, and receipts from F.W. Devoe & Co. for stretcher keys. Notes are comprised of writings concerning the Shattuck family that were compiled by the donors, Katherine and Eugene Emigh. Art work contains an etching (12.3 x 14.3 cm.) of the painting "White Hills in October," and nine sketchbooks (10.6 x 21.2 cm. or smaller), containing pencil drawings of landscapes and coastal scenes of Vermont and Maine, especially in the White Mountains. One of the sketchbooks is Walter's, and one contains work by both father and son. Printed material includes clippings, exhibition announcements and catalogs, a copy of Henry Alken's 1849 book, "The Art and Practice of Etching," with an inscription to Shattuck by William Hart. The book contains four etchings, four aquatints, and one National Academy of Design menu with a watercolor drawing. Photographs show Aaron Shattuck and the Shattuck home and garden in West Granby, Connecticut. Other materials include a stretched canvas displaying an advertisement and a sample of Shattuck's Patent Stretcher Key.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collecion the papers are arranged as one series.

Container Listing

Series 1: Aaron Draper Shattuck Papers, 1810-1983

0.8 Linear feet (Boxes 1-2)

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Box 1, Folder 1	Biographical Material, Inventory of Lincoln Family Estate, circa 1810
Box 1, Folder 2	Biographical Material, Birth Certificate of William Shattuck, 1970
Box 1, Folder 3	Diary of Aaron Shattuck, 1893
Box 1, Folder 4	Diary of Walter Shattuck, 1930
Box 1, Folder 5	Letters, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Notes, 1982-1983
Box 1, Folder 7	Financial Material, Account Books, 1854-1856
Box 1, Folder 8	Financial Material, Sales Receipts, 1871-1876
Box 1, Folder 9	Financial Material, Miscellaneous Receipts, 1876-1903
Box 1, Folder 10	Financial Material, Orders for Stretcher Keys, 1884-1895
Box 1, Folder 11	Etching of "White Hills in October" by Aaron Shattuck, circa 1872
Box 1, Folder 12-15	Sketchbooks by Aaron Shattuck, 1856-1858, undated

Box 2, Folder 1	Sketchbooks by Aaron Shattuck, 1887
Box 2, Folder 2-3	Sketchbooks by Walter Shattuck, 1892-1893, 1896
Box 2, Folder 4	Printed Material, Clippings, 1868-1983
Box 2, Folder 5	Printed Material, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1857-1898, 1970
Box 2, Folder 6	Printed Material, Miscellaneous, 1849-1885, undated
Box 2, Folder 7	Photographs, circa 1861, circa 1967
Box 2, Folder 8	Stretcher Key Advertisement, 1895

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