



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Harold Sterner 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>	Harold Sterner papers
<b>Date:</b>	1929-1978
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.sterharl
<b>Creator:</b>	Sterner, Harold
<b>Extent:</b>	0.4 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1984 by Paula Sterner, Harold Sterner's widow.

### 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Architect, painter; New York, N.Y. Born 1895, died 1976. Son of painter-illustrator Albert Sterner, and art gallery director Marie Walther Sterner. After graduating from M.I.T., 1917, with a degree in architecture, Sterner worked for various firms before starting his own firm in 1932. Although he never received formal art training, he painted sporadically throughout his career, particularly during the depression, when he used painting as a means of earning extra money.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence; 2 drawings of architectural details; lists of works of art and architectural projects; photographs of Sterner, his mother, his friends, and of his architectural projects and paintings; clippings and exhibition catalogs; writings by Sterner, including pages from a diary, autobiographical essays, essays on art and architecture, and an illustrated draft for a children's book, "The Adventures of Desmond the Gooplefish"; and an essay "Harold Sterner" by Gurdon Wattles.

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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:

Sterner, Marie, 1880-1953

Occupations:

Architects -- New York (State) -- New York  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York