



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

David Tolerton papers

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	David Tolerton papers
Date:	1912-1987
Identifier:	AAA.toledavi
Creator:	Tolerton, David, 1907-
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet ((on 1 microfilm reel)) 1.3 Linear feet (ADDITION)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 1977 by David Tolerton and in 2001 by his widow, Sally Tolerton.

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel 3891 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.

Restrictions

ADDITION: Unmicrofilmed: use requires an appointment and is limited to AAA's Washington, D.C. office.

Biographical / Historical

Sculptor, Mill Valley, California. Tolerton was born on January 11, 1907 in Toledo, Ohio, and died on June 20, 2000 in Mill Valley, California. Tolerton moved as a child to California where he later studied art at Stanford University and at the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco. During his early career he fabricated ornamental ironwork (railings, brackets, furniture), working with Berkeley Metal Arts and the Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park. This interest was reinforced by a 1929-30 trip to France, Spain, Italy, and Germany for the purpose of studying the ancient art of ironwork. He From 1932 to 1942 he made wheel-thrown pottery before turning in the late 1940s to the monumental iron (and other metal) sculpture for which he became best known. In 1956 he had a solo show at the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum. He also created the first major outdoor sculpture, a bronze fountain at Crown Zellerbach Plaza, in downtown San Francisco following World War II. At one time a resident of Big Sur, he spent the latter part of his life working in a studio in Mill Valley.

Scope and Contents

Exhibition announcements and catalogs, undated and 1939-1961; report on "Improving Scenic Coast Route", 1959; a clipping, 1954; a photograph of Tolerton; and 6 photographs of his sculpture.

Scope and Contents

ADDITION: Photos (personal and artwork), catalogs, correspondence, and a scrapbook of clipping. Also included are brochures of shows of graphic art and a portfolio from the Hill Gallery, San Francisco, operated by Tolerton's father.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Sculpture -- Photographs

Occupations:

Sculptors -- California