



# Smithsonian

## *Archives of American Art*

### A Finding Aid to the Public Works of Art Project and Treasury Section Bulletins, 1934-1941, in the Archives of American Art

Jayna M. Josefson

The digitization of this collection received Federal support from the  
Smithsonian Collections Information System (CIS) IRM Pool Fund

2025/01/22

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Public Works of Art Project and Treasury Section bulletins
<b>Date:</b>	1934-1941
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.unsttrea
<b>Creator:</b>	United States. Department of the Treasury. Section of Fine Arts
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Microfilm reel
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Public Works of Art Project and Treasury Department Bulletins date from 1934 to 1941. Twenty-four bulletins begin in February of 1934 and end in May of 1941 and are almost complete. Number 12 is not included.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was loaned for microfilming in 1964 by Lewis Ferbrache of the De Young Museum of Art.

### Location of Originals

Originals returned to Lewis Ferbrache of the De Young Museum of Art after microfilming.

### Available Formats

The collection has been microfilmed on reel NDA03. The microfilm has been digitized and is available on the Archives of American Art website.

### Processing Information

The collection was microfilmed on Reel NDA03 and was returned to Lewis Ferbrache after filming. The microfilm was described in a finding aid by Jayna Josefson in 2025 and the microfilm was digitized in 2024 with funding provided by the Smithsonian Collections Information System (CIS) IRM Pool Fund.

### Preferred Citation

Public Works of Art Project and Treasury Department bulletins, 1934-1941. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

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

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Both the Public Works of Art Project and the Section of Fine Arts were federally aided art programs administered by the United States Department of the Treasury and instituted during the Depression. The Public Works of Art Project was the first program to attempt to alleviate unemployment among artists. It lasted from December 1933 to June 1934. Its successor, the Section of Fine Arts, aimed to decorate federal buildings via juried competitions to which artists submitted designs for selection.

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## Scope and Contents

The Public Works of Art Project and Treasury Department Bulletins date from 1934 to 1941. Twenty-four bulletins begin in February of 1934 and end in May of 1941 and are almost complete. Number 12 is not included.

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## Arrangement

Due to the pre-existing microfilm arrangement, the collection is arranged as one series.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Federal aid to the arts  
New Deal, 1933-1939

### Names:

Public Works of Art Project

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Bulletins, 1934-1941

**Scope and Contents:** Twenty-three bulletins date from 1934 to 1941. Number 12 has not been digitized. Bulletins include information about the Public Works of Art Project and the Section of Fine Arts program at the United States Department of the Treasury and may contain lists of artists and managers, projects, financial records, and photographs and diagrams.

Reel NDA03.united,  
Frame 214-304

[Bulletins 1-5, 1934-1941](#)

Reel NDA03.united,  
Frame 305-419

[Bulletins 6-10, 1934-1941](#)

Reel NDA03.united,  
Frame 420-506

[Bulletins 11, 13-15, 1934-1941](#)

Reel NDA03.united,  
Frame 507-599

[Bulletins 16-20, 1934-1941](#)

Reel NDA03.united,  
Frame 600-653

[Bulletins 21-24, 1934-1941](#)

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