



Smithsonian
National Portrait Gallery

A Finding Aid to the Leah Lipton
Research Material on Chester Harding

Molly McGuire

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National Portrait Gallery
Victor Building, Suite 410
750 Ninth Street NW
MRC 973, PO Box 37012
Washington, DC 20013
NPGResearch@si.edu
<https://npg.si.edu/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Portrait Gallery
Title:	Leah Lipton research material on Chester Harding
Date:	1980-2007 (bulk 1980-1986)
Identifier:	NPG.CAP.00001
Creator:	Lipton, Leah (Researcher)
Extent:	2.7 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	Research material gathered by Leah Lipton regarding portrait painter Chester Harding (1792-1866), including correspondence with reference librarians, archivists, scholars, private collectors, Harding's descendants, and others; printed material, notes, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Acquired from Leah Lipton.

Processing Information

The Leah Lipton research material was processed by Molly McGuire in October 2012.

Preferred Citation

Leah Lipton research material on Chester Harding, 1980-2007, bulk 1980-1986. Catalog of American Portraits, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

The Leah Lipton research material is owned by the Catalog of American Portraits, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, and is available for use by researchers. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical / Historical

Leah Lipton is an art historian (1928-2015), who conducted significant research into the life and works of Chester Harding (1 Sept. 1792-10 Apr. 1866), American portrait painter.

Scope and Contents

These papers are the research materials of Leah Lipton on the subject of American portrait painter Chester Harding. The research material was compiled by Lipton for a biography and checklist of the work of Chester Harding, and for "A Truthful Likeness: Chester Harding and His Portraits," a catalogue and 1985 exhibition of his paintings for the National Portrait Gallery. The papers contain correspondence, biographical information on Harding, notes, writings, printed material, and photographs of artwork.

Correspondence includes letters to and from Leah Lipton with European and American museums, galleries, libraries, other cultural institutions, scholars, private collectors, and descendants of Chester Harding. The printed material in the collection includes brochures, publications, copies of correspondence and other documents relating to Harding, and scattered articles and essays on Harding. Comprising the majority of the collection are portrait files, which contain research material such as notes, correspondence, printed material and photographs related to Chester Harding's portraits. The collection also contains files containing information on biographical aspects of Harding's life, subjects related to Chester Harding, and collections with materials relating to Harding.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as six series:

Series 1: Correspondence, 1980-1986, 2002, 2007, bulk 1981-1982

Series 2: Biographical Information about Chester Harding, 1981-1984, 1987, undated

Series 3: Subject Files, 1981-1984, 1986, undated

Series 4: Places, 1981-1984, 1992, undated

Series 5: Portrait Files, 1980-1987, 1991-1992, 1996-1997, 2001, undated

Series 6: Exhibition Materials, 1981-1982, undated

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Harding, Chester, 1792-1866

Occupations:

Portrait painters

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, 1980-1986, 2007, 2002 (bulk 1981-1982)

Scope and Contents: This series contains Leah Lipton's correspondence with museums, dealers and private collectors regarding her research on Chester Harding and the locations of his portraits. The series also contains the correspondence of other Harding scholars, such as Raymond Agler, who was also researching Harding before turning over his research and correspondence to Lipton. Letters contain biographical information about Chester Harding and information about the locations of Chester Harding's works.

This series also contains correspondence between Leah Lipton, her daughter, and the National Portrait Gallery, discussing the transfer of these materials to the Catalog of American Portraits.

Drawer 1, Folder 1 Correspondence with the National Portrait Gallery, 2002, 2007
1 Folder (Folder 1)

Drawer 1, Folder 2-4 General Correspondence, 1980-1986 (bulk 1981-1982)
3 Folders (Folders 2-4)

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Series 2: Biographical Information about Chester Harding, 1986, 1981-1984, undated

Scope and Contents: For the most part, this series is arranged geographically, containing research materials about Chester Harding's activities in Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Missouri, and Kentucky. The series contains correspondence between Leah Lipton and other scholars, private collectors, and other sources that helped her in her research. Found in this series are research materials such as notes about Chester Harding and his portraits, and copies of newspaper and scholarly articles, correspondence, publications, catalogues, maps, documents such as Harding's will, meeting minutes, and museum object information sheets.

Drawer 1, Folder 5	Louisiana 1 Folder (Folder 5)
Drawer 1, Folder 6	Maine 1 Folder (Folder 6)
Drawer 1, Folder 7-11	Massachusetts 5 Folders (Folders 7-11)
Drawer 1, Folder 12	Caledonia, NY 1 Folder (Folder 12)
Drawer 1, Folder 13	St. Louis 1 Folder (Folder 13)
Drawer 1, Folder 14	Kentucky 1 Folder (Folder 14)

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Series 3: Subject Files, 1981-1986, undated

Scope and Contents: This series contains Dr. Lipton's research materials, arranged by subject. The series contains correspondence, printed material, and Dr. Lipton's notes on various subjects related to Chester Harding.

Drawer 1, Folder 15-17	Exhibition Lists 3 Folders (Folders 15-17)
Drawer 1, Folder 18	Genealogy 1 Folder (Folder 18)
Drawer 1, Folder 19	Harding's Gallery 1 Folder (Folder 19)
Drawer 1, Folder 20-21	Harding's Pupils 2 Folders (Folders 20-21)
Drawer 1, Folder 22	Paintings by other members of the Harding family 1 Folder (Folder 22)
Drawer 1, Folder 23	Horace Harding 1 Folder (Folder 23)
Drawer 1, Folder 24	Other artists of the period, contemporaries and unidentified artists; inquiries 1 Folder (Folder 24)
Drawer 1, Folder 25	History - Richmond, 1829-1830 1 Folder (Folder 25)
Drawer 1, Folder 26	Painting Techniques 1 Folder (Folder 26)
Drawer 1, Folder 27	Papers - Charles Francis Adams 1 Folder (Folder 27)
Drawer 1, Folder 28	Papers - Bingham 1 Folder (Folder 28)
Drawer 1, Folder 29	Papers - Dunlap, Harding & Other 1 Folder (Folder 29)
Drawer 1, Folder 30	Papers - Harding Letters 1 Folder (Folder 30)
Drawer 1, Folder 31	Papers - Longacre 1 Folder (Folder 31)
Drawer 1, Folder 32	Papers - Margaret's Journal

Drawer 1, Folder 33	Papers - John Neal 1 Folder (Folder 32)
Drawer 1, Folder 34	Papers - Sully's journal 1 Folder (Folder 33)
Drawer 1, Folder 35	Sources - Photography 1 Folder (Folder 34)
Drawer 1, Folder 36	Sources - Sir Thomas Lawrence, England, Henry Raeburn 1 Folder (Folder 35)
Drawer 1, Folder 37	Sources - Gilbert Stuart - Copley 1 Folder (Folder 36)
Drawer 1, Folder 38	Sources - Van Dyck 1 Folder (Folder 37)
Drawer 1, Folder 39	Harding Chronology 1 Folder (Folder 38)

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Series 4: Places Files, 1992, 1981-1984, undated

Scope and Contents: This series contains Lipton's research materials from various cities, regions and cultural institutions that have some connection to Chester Harding. Found here are photographs of sites and portraits, correspondence, Lipton's notes on various collections containing information or materials on Chester Harding, and printed material such as brochures, articles, essays, museum listings and other documents.

Drawer 1, Folder 40	Places - Am. Antiquarian Society 1 Folder (Folder 39)
Drawer 1, Folder 41	Places - Archives of American Art 1 Folder (Folder 40)
Drawer 1, Folder 42	Places - Boston Public Library 1 Folder (Folder 41)
Drawer 1, Folder 43	Places - Cazenovia, NY 1 Folder (Folder 42)
Drawer 1, Folder 44-45	Places - England 2 Folders (Folders 43-44)
Drawer 1, Folder 46	Places - Frick 1 Folder (Folder 45)
Drawer 1, Folder 47	Places - Glasgow 1 Folder (Folder 46)
Drawer 1, Folder 48	Places - Harvard University 1 Folder (Folder 47)
Drawer 1, Folder 49	Places - Holkham Hall 1 Folder (Folder 48)
Drawer 1, Folder 50-51	Places - Kentucky 2 Folders (Folders 49-50)
Drawer 1, Folder 52	Places - Lowell, MA 1 Folder (Folder 51)
Drawer 1, Folder 53	Places - Massachusetts Historical Society 1 Folder (Folder 52)
Drawer 1, Folder 54	Places - Newport, RI 1 Folder (Folder 53)
Drawer 1, Folder 55	Places - Ohio

1 Folder (Folder 54)

Drawer 1, Folder 56 Places - Philadelphia
1 Folder (Folder 55)

Drawer 1, Folder 57 Places - Richmond
1 Folder (Folder 56)

Drawer 1, Folder 58 Places - South Carolina
1 Folder (Folder 57)

Drawer 1, Folder 59 Places - Society for the Preservation of New England
1 Folder (Folder 59)

Drawer 1, Folder 60 Places - Washington, DC
1 Folder (Folder 60)

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Series 5: Portrait Files, 1991-1992, 2001, 1996-1997, 1980-1987, undated

Scope and Contents: This series contains Dr. Lipton's research on specific Chester Harding portraits. The series contains photographs, negatives and other images of portraits, correspondence with descendents and cultural institutions, notes and printed material such as articles, brochures, documents and information about each portrait. The series is arranged primarily alphabetically by sitter name.

Drawer 1, Folder 61-62	Prints and engravings after Chester Harding portraits 2 Folders (Folders 61-62)
Drawer 1, Folder 63	Portraits - A 1 Folder (Folder 63)
Drawer 1, Folder 64	Portraits - J. Q. Adams 1 Folder (Folder 64)
Drawer 1, Folder 65	Portraits - Seth Adams 1 Folder (Folder 65)
Drawer 1, Folder 66	Portraits - Washington Allston 1 Folder (Folder 66)
Drawer 1, Folder 67	Portraits - B 1 Folder (Folder 67)
Drawer 1, Folder 68	Portraits - Loammi Baldwin 1 Folder (Folder 68)
Drawer 1, Folder 69	Portraits - James Barbour 1 Folder (Folder 69)
Drawer 1, Folder 70	Portraits - Bland Ballard 1 Folder (Folder 70)
Drawer 1, Folder 71	Portraits - Asher Benjamin 1 Folder (Folder 71)
Drawer 1, Folder 72	Portraits - Francis Blaikie 1 Folder (Folder 72)
Drawer 1, Folder 75	Portraits - Kirk Boott 1 Folder (Folder 75)
Drawer 1, Folder 76	Portraits - Nicholas Brown 1 Folder (Folder 76)
Drawer 1, Folder 77	Portraits - C

	1 Folder (Folder 77)
Drawer 1, Folder 78	Portraits - John Caldwell Calhoun 1 Folder (Folder 78)
Drawer 1, Folder 79	Portraits - Charles Carroll 1 Folder (Folder 79)
Drawer 1, Folder 80	Portraits - Wm E. Channing 1 Folder (Folder 80)
Drawer 1, Folder 81	Portraits - John Childe 1 Folder (Folder 81)
Drawer 1, Folder 82	Portraits - Clark
Drawer 1, Folder 83	Portraits - Henry Clay
Drawer 1, Folder 84	Portraits - Thomas Abthorpe Cooper 1 Folder (Folder 82)
Drawer 1, Folder 85	Portraits - Copley-Lee 1 Folder (Folder 83)
Drawer 1, Folder 86	Portraits - Davy Crockett 1 Folder (Folder 84)
Drawer 1, Folder 87	Portraits - D 1 Folder (Folder 85)
Drawer 1, Folder 88	Portraits - E 1 Folder (Folder 86)
Drawer 1, Folder 89	Portraits - F 1 Folder (Folder 87)
Drawer 1, Folder 90	Portraits - G 1 Folder (Folder 88)
Drawer 1, Folder 91	Portraits - William Branch Giles 1 Folder (Folder 89)
Drawer 1, Folder 92	Portraits - Robert Grahame 1 Folder (Folder 90)
Drawer 1, Folder 93	Portraits - H 1 Folder (Folder 91)
Drawer 1, Folder 94	Portraits - Hallett

	1 Folder (Folder 92)
Drawer 1, Folder 95	Portraits - Duke of Hamilton 1 Folder (Folder 94)
Drawer 1, Folder 96	Portraits - Harding family 1 Folder (Folder 95)
Drawer 1, Folder 97	Portraits - Sophia Peabody Hawthorne 1 Folder (Folder 96)
Drawer 1, Folder 98	Portraits - George W. Howe 1 Folder (Folder 97)
Drawer 1, Folder 99	Portraits - I

	1 Folder (Folder 98)
Drawer 1, Folder 100	Portraits - J 1 Folder (Folder 99)
Drawer 1, Folder 101	Portraits - K 1 Folder (Folder 100)
Drawer 1, Folder 102	Portraits - King family 1 Folder (Folder 101)
Drawer 1, Folder 103	Portraits - Lasell Krum 1 Folder (Folder 102)
Drawer 1, Folder 104	Portraits - L 1 Folder (Folder 103)
Drawer 1, Folder 105	Portraits - Lawrence family 1 Folder (Folder 104)
Drawer 1, Folder 106	Portraits - M 1 Folder (Folder 105)
Drawer 1, Folder 107	Portraits - James Madison 1 Folder (Folder 106)
Drawer 1, Folder 108	Portraits - Emily Marshall 1 Folder (Folder 107)
Drawer 1, Folder 109	Portraits - Justice Marshall 1 Folder (Folder 108)
Drawer 1, Folder 110	Portraits - James Monroe 1 Folder (Folder 109)
Drawer 1, Folder 111	Portraits - N 1 Folder (Folder 110)
Drawer 1, Folder 112	Portraits - Duke of Norfolk 1 Folder (Folder 111)
Drawer 1, Folder 113	Portraits - O 1 Folder (Folder 112)
Drawer 1, Folder 114	Portraits - Harrison Gray Otis 1 Folder (Folder 113)
Drawer 1, Folder 115	Portraits - P 1 Folder (Folder 114)
Drawer 1, Folder 116	Portraits - Pattison 1 Folder (Folder 115)
Drawer 1, Folder 117	Portraits - Peabody 1 Folder (Folder 116)
Drawer 1, Folder	Portraits - Commodore Perceval

Series 6: Exhibition Materials, 1981-1982, undated

Scope and Contents: This series contains materials related to Leah Lipton's Chester Harding exhibition, "A Truthful Likeness: Chester Harding and His Portraits" for the National Portrait Gallery in 1985. Found are exhibition labels, proposed exhibition of portraits, notes, lists, permissions and photographs and negatives of portraits.

Drawer 1, Folder 155	Exhibition Labels 1 Folder (Folder 154)
Drawer 1, Folder 156	Portraits - Alphabetical List 1 Folder (Folder 155)
Drawer 1, Folder 157	Permissions from owners and libraries, etc. 1 Folder (Folder 156)
Drawer 1, Folder 158	Portraits Negatives 1 Folder (Folder 157)
Drawer 1, Folder 159	Xeroxes and photos of portraits 1 Folder (Folder 158)

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