



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Records, 1972-1984

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Smithsonian Institution Archives
Washington, D.C.
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Historical Note.....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Records
Identifier:	Record Unit 556
Date:	1972-1984
Extent:	2.5 cu. ft. (2 record storage boxes) (1 document box)
Creator::	National Portrait Gallery. Historian's Office
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 556, National Portrait Gallery. Historian's Office, Records

Historical Note

The Office of the Historian, National Portrait Gallery (NPG), was established in 1966 when Daniel J. Reed was appointed the first Historian. Reed resigned in 1968 and Virginia Purdy became Acting Historian. Beverly J. Cox was appointed Historian in 1970. A year later, Lillian B. Miller was appointed Historian and Cox became Assistant Historian. Cox left the Office to become Coordinator of Exhibitions in 1973. Miller continued to serve as Historian until 1974 when she became editor of the Charles Willson Peale Papers. Marc Pachter was appointed Historian in 1975 and served in that capacity through 1984.

The Historian was appointed to direct the research program of the NPG in American iconography, biography, and history; to explore the art of portraiture in the United States and the Western world; and to conduct studies of men and women of any nation who made significant contributions to the history, development, and culture of the United States. From 1966 through 1967, the Historian also supervised the activities of the Catalog of American Portraits at NPG.

The Office also prepared biographical information on individuals whose portraits were offered to the NPG by gift or purchase. It undertook to prepare succinct and informative labels for portraits in the permanent collections or items on exchange; wrote catalogs; and conducted research on objects represented in portraits, statuary, prints, miniatures, and engravings.

Descriptive Entry

This record unit documents the activities of the Office's first three Historians. Most of the records were created during Marc Pachter's tenure. They include much correspondence between Pachter and art

historians, artists, national and international art institutions, and funding organizations. There is also correspondence with Amy E. Henderson, Assistant Historian, Kenneth Young and J. Michael Carrigan, exhibition designers, and Mona Dearborn, keeper of the Catalog of American Portraits. In addition, the records document symposia and discussion panels organized by the Office and the production and display of exhibitions.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art historians
- Art museums
- Museums -- Acquisitions
- Museums -- Public relations

Types of Materials:

- Manuscripts

Names:

- Carrigan, J. Michael
- Cox, Beverly J.
- Dearborn, Mona Leithiser
- Henderson, Amy
- Miller, Lillian B.
- National Portrait Gallery (U.S.). Catalog of American Portraits
- National Portrait Gallery (U.S.). Charles Willson Peale Papers
- Pachter, Marc
- Purdy, Virginia Cardwell
- Reed, Daniel J., 1922-
- Young, Kenneth, 1933-

Container Listing

Box 1

	Abroad in America Files
Box 1 of 3	Abroad in America (Reprint)
Box 1 of 3	Addresses of Contributors
Box 1 of 3	Embassy Contacts
Box 1 of 3	Potential Contributors
Box 1 of 3	Miscellaneous Correspondence
Box 1 of 3	Response to Abroad
Box 1 of 3	Dates of U.S. Visits
Box 1 of 3	Curator's Letters to Portrait Lenders
Box 1 of 3	Aruga
Box 1 of 3	Elemer Bako
Box 1 of 3	Dr. Ludmila Bradova
Box 1 of 3	Bradova Travel
Box 1 of 3	Georges Clemenceau
Box 1 of 3	Philip Collins
Box 1 of 3	Marcus Cunliffe
Box 1 of 3	Jose De Onis
Box 1 of 3	A. N. J. Den Hollander
Box 1 of 3	Dennis Donoghue

Box 1 of 3	Jean Baptiste Duroselle
Box 1 of 3	Christian Feest
Box 1 of 3	Abbott Gleason
Box 1 of 3	Jerome Grieder
Box 1 of 3	Patrice Higonnet
Box 1 of 3	Lee Houchins
Box 1 of 3	Edmond Ions
Box 1 of 3	Anna Katona
Box 1 of 3	Bel Kaufman
Box 1 of 3	Alan Kors
Box 1 of 3	Marghanita Laski
Box 1 of 3	Benjamin Lawton & Anna Lawton
Box 1 of 3	Irving Leonard
Box 1 of 3	Duncan J. MacLeod
Box 1 of 3	Longin Pastusiak
Box 1 of 3	Signe Rooth
Box 1 of 3	George Shepperson
Box 1 of 3	Sigmund Skard
Box 1 of 3	C. B. Tripathi
Box 1 of 3	Henry Wilson
Box 1 of 3	Esmond Wright

Various Exhibit Records

Box 1 of 3	The Americans: The Democratic Experience
Box 1 of 3	Lincoln Exhibition
Box 1 of 3	SI Anniversary Exhibit
Box 1 of 3	<i>Now</i> Exhibition
Box 1 of 3	Frederick Douglass Exhibit
Box 1 of 3	Selections from Permanent Collection
Box 1 of 3	Portraits of Winold Reiss
Box 1 of 3	Black Leaders Exhibition
Box 1 of 3	Twelve Authors and Their Circles
Box 1 of 3	Woodward and Lothrop Exhibit
Box 1 of 3	Writers Show
Box 1 of 3	Museum of History and Technology Exhibit
Box 1 of 3	Prints and Engravings Show
Box 1 of 3	Harmon Collection
Box 1 of 3	"American Self-portraits"
Box 1 of 3	Lazzironi
Box 1 of 3	In the Minds and Hearts . . .
Box 1 of 3	If Elected . . .
Box 1 of 3	Burr Conspiracy Exhibition
Box 1 of 3	The Great War
Box 1 of 3	Edouart Exhibition

Box 1 of 3 Washington Show

Box 1 of 3 Return to Albion

Box 1 of 3 How Fleeting Is Fame

Box 1 of 3 Code Duello

Box 2

Box 2 of 3 Harlow Shapley Memorial

Box 2 of 3 St. Memin Show

Box 2 of 3 Chron Files, 1981-1984 (9 folders)

Box 2 of 3 Projected Activities and Goals

Box 2 of 3 NPG Background

Box 2 of 3 History Department Staff Meetings (2 folders)

Box 2 of 3 Education Department

Box 2 of 3 Office of Museum Programs

Box 2 of 3 Special Publications Office

Box 2 of 3 Curator's Office

Box 2 of 3 Catalog of American Portraits

Box 2 of 3 NPG Commissioners

Box 2 of 3 Administrative Office

Box 2 of 3 Library NPG/National Collection of Fine Arts

Box 2 of 3 Office of Charles W. Peale Papers

Box 2 of 3 Public Relations Office, NPG

Box 2 of 3	Small Exhibits
Box 2 of 3	Exhibits
Box 2 of 3	General Correspondence, 1973-1982 (2 folders)
Box 2 of 3	Questions/Comments on Exhibitions
Box 2 of 3	Suggestions - General
	Various Symposia Records
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Symposium Photos
Box 2 of 3	Directory of Publishers
Box 2 of 3	Publications Review Board
Box 2 of 3	Study Collection
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Hall
Box 2 of 3	Policy for NPG Collection
Box 2 of 3	Afro-American History
Box 2 of 3	Black on White Show
Box 2 of 3	Harmon Foundation
Box 2 of 3	Afro American History Bibliography
Box 2 of 3	10th Anniversary Lecture Series
Box 2 of 3	Art of Biography
Box 2 of 3	1978 Symposium - Thank You Letters
Box 2 of 3	1978 Symposium on Biography Chron File
Box 2 of 3	Indians
Box 2 of 3	Women in American History

Box 2 of 3	Notable American Women
Box 2 of 3	Russian American Documents
Box 2 of 3	Members of the Algonquin Round Table (The Vicious Circle)
Box 2 of 3	Harlem Renaissance
Box 2 of 3	Hawaii
Box 2 of 3	Possible China Exhibition
Box 2 of 3	NATO
Box 2 of 3	The Conway Cabal
Box 2 of 3	Brown v. The Board of Education Exhibit
Box 2 of 3	Sports Correspondence
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Symposium: Invitations
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Symposium
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Symposium Fee Log
Box 2 of 3	Presidential Personality
Box 2 of 3	Symposia Acceptance/Rejections (2 folders)

Box 3

Box 3 of 3	Symposia Acceptance/Rejections
Box 3 of 3	Symposium Invitees (4 folders)