

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Park, Lawrence, Papers, 1910-1924

LOCATION:

Mss. boxes "P"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

3 manuscript boxes

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

For biographical information, see AAS *Proceedings*, vol. 34, p. 153-154. For genealogical information, see F. S. Parks, *Parke Families of Mass.* (Washington, D.C.: n.p., 1909) p. 208.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Unknown

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Lawrence Park (1873-1924) of Worcester and Groton, Mass., author and authority on American portraiture, worked as a draftsman and architect in the firm of Park and Kendall until 1914, when he chose to devote his time to the study of colonial art, especially portraiture. Park soon became an authority on the works of Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828), wrote several descriptive portrait lists, was granted membership in various historical societies, and was hired as a consultant for several museums. He also produced a few genealogies and wrote for many scholarly journals.

This collection is a compilation of Park's extensive correspondence, for the period 1910 to 1924, with museum directors, portrait owners, authors, publishers, photographers, art connoisseurs, and a variety of scholarly institutions concerning his work in the field of colonial art. Included are letters on the value of specific works, letters with detailed descriptions of portraits, letters on the compilation of photographs of old Worcester views (with which Park became involved in 1924), letters on the advisability of unearthing the old gravestones on Worcester's common. There are also many photographs of portraits collected by Park and by Clarence Saunders Brigham (1877-1963).

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Contents List

Manuscript Box

- 1 Correspondence, A - F
- Folder 1 "A"
- a. Park's administration of the Groton estate of George E. H. Abbott (-1911)
 - b. William Sumner Appleton (1874-1947) re: portrait research, furniture assessments, Worcester's old cemetery on the common
- Folder 2 "B" (except Clarence S. Brigham)
- a. Scholarly institutions re: Joseph Blackburn (1700-1765?) and Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828)
 - b. Frank William Bayley (1863-1932), Copley Gallery, Boston, Mass., re: portrait research
 - c. Henry Wyckoff Belknap (1860-1946), Essex Institute, re: portrait descriptions
 - d. Charles Knowles Bolton (1867-1950), Library of the Boston Athenaeum
- Folder 3 Clarence Saunders Brigham (1877-1963), AAS
re: Blackburn portrait list, old Worcester views, and cemetery on common
- Folder 4 "C"
- Thomas Benedict Clarke (1848-1931) of N.Y., connoisseur of portraiture, re: developing exhibits, locating portraits, newsclippings on portrait clubs
- Folder 5 "D", "E", "F"
- a. Correspondence on old Worcester views
 - b. Mantle Fielding (1865-1941), Philadelphia architect, re: various artists
 - c. Harriette Merrifield Forbes (1856-1951) of Worcester, on photographs of Worcester views
 - d. Helen Clay Frick (1888-1984), Frick Art Reference Library, N.Y., re: portrait research, visiting portrait owners
- 2 Correspondence, G - Z
- Folder 1 "G", "H"
- a. Thomas Hovey Gage (1826-1909), Worcester Art Museum, re: identifying portraits by Ethan Allen Greenwood (1779-1856)
 - b. J. E. Gittings (-), of Baltimore, Md., re: portrait identifications
 - c. Correspondence concerning buying and selling of portraits, headstone designs, etc.
 - d. Charles Henry Hart (1847-1918) re: William Edward West (1788-1857), artist
- Folder 2 "I", "J", "K"
- a. E. Alfred Jones (1879-1958) re: portraits of Mass loyalists, et al. for Jones' book

(cont.)

Manuscript Box

- 2 Correspondence, G - Z (cont.)
- Folder 3 "L"
 a. John Lane (1854-1925), Park's publisher in N.Y., re: tracing portrait-owners
 b. Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, Horticulture, and Gardening for Women, Groton, Mass., (Park served on executive committee) re: internal troubles, financial accounts
- Folder 4 "M"
 a. Correspondence re: gathering photographs of paintings, descriptions of engravings
 b. John Hill Morgan (1870-1945), N.Y., re: photographs
- Folder 5 "N", "O", "P"
 a. Correspondence with scholars and dealers
 b. Miscellaneous Park family letters
 c. List of portraits, dates, artists, and present owners
- Folder 6 "R", "S", "T"
 a. Thomas Savage (1608-1682) genealogy compiled by Park; Joseph Savage (1756-1814) genealogy
 b. Benjamin H. Stone (-), Worcester Art Museum, re: portrait acquisitions
 c. Treasury Department (Internal Revenue) statement of Park's net worth, 1922
- Folder 7 "U", "V", "W", "X", "Y", "Z" (except Frederic Allen Whiting)
 a. Detailed description of a bust portrait of George Washington (1732-1799) by Joseph Wright (1756-1793)
- Folder 8 Frederic Allen Whiting (-), Director, Cleveland Museum of Art (Park was its Curator of Colonial Art) re: purchasing portraits, antiques for museum, colonial exhibitions
- 3 Photographs of American Portraits
 --with attributions by Park and others (also, Clarence S. Brigham's collection)
- Folder 1 Photographs of portraits by Washington Allston (1779-1843); Joseph Badger (1708-1765)
- Folder 2 Photographs of portraits by Joseph Blackburn (1700-1765?) and Bridges
- Folder 3 Photographs of portraits by John Singleton Copley (1737-1815)
- Folder 4 Photographs of portraits by Ralph Earl
- Folder 5 Photographs of portraits by Robert Feke (1705?-1750?); James Frothington
- Folder 6 Photographs of portraits by Chester Harding (1792-1866)
- Folder 7 Photographs of portraits by John Johnston
- Folder 8 Photographs of portraits by Charles Osgood and Peale family
- Folder 9 Photographs of portraits by John Smibert (1688-1751)
- Folder 10 Photographs of portraits by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828)
- Folder 11 Photographs of portraits by Thomas Sully (1783-1872)
- Folder 12 Photographs of portraits by John Trumbull (1756-1843)
- Folder 13 Photographs of portraits by known subjects by unknown artists
- Folder 14 Photographs of portraits of known subjects by miscellaneous artists
- Folder 15 Photographs of portraits of unknown subjects by unknown artists