



William D. White Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum

Acquisition Information

Gift of Nancy Carol Willis, 2019

Extent

9 linear feet

Processed

Rachael DiEleuterio, 2019

Abstract

Research materials collected by Nancy Carol Willis for the exhibition *William D. White: Vision and Voice of the Artist Revealed* (2015, Biggs Museum of American Art), original artwork, tear sheets, personal documents, photographs.

Access Restrictions

Unrestricted

Contact Information

Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives
Delaware Art Museum
2301 Kentmere Parkway
Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 571-9590
hfslibrary@delart.org

Preferred Citation

William D. White Papers, Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum

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Biography of William D. White

William Davidson White (1896-1971) was born in Wilmington, Delaware and studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art and with Gayle Porter Hoskins and Harvey Dunn (both students of Howard Pyle). For several years he worked as a documentary artist for Phelps Dodge, a mining corporation.

Organization of the Collection

Series I. Personal and Biographical
Series II. Original Artwork
Series III. Periodicals and Tear Sheets
Series IV. Research materials for *William D. White: Vision and Voice of the Artist Revealed*

Description of the Collection

Series I. Personal and Biographical

Materials in Series I are from the personal collection of William D. White, acquired by Nancy Carol Willis in December 1971 after White's death.

Box 1

Folder

- 1 Photographs – William D. White
- 2 Photographs – William Henry White and Abbie Young White (paternal grandparents)
- 3 Photographs – Delaware Meigs White and Florence Anna Davidson (parents)
- 4 Photographs – unidentified people
- 5 Photographs – World War I (possibly France)
- 6 Materials relating to military service
- 7 Legal and financial documents
- 8 Correspondence re. artwork
- 9 Materials relating to Jerome, Arizona
- 10 Unpublished short story, "The Flight"
- 11 Obituary
- 12 Published illustrations/scrapbook clippings
- 13 Photographs of artwork
- 14 Miscellaneous
- 15 Photocopies of materials given to Delaware Historical Society by Naomi Klein

Series II. Original Artwork

Box 2

Binder containing original artwork by William D. White

Box 3

Oversized original artwork by William D. White and Nancy Carol Willis

Series III. Periodicals and Tear Sheets

Entire magazine is present unless otherwise indicated by *.

Box 4

Folder

- 1 *The Elks Magazine*, March 1928
- 2 *The Explosives Engineer*, February 1924*
- 3 *The Explosives Engineer*, August 1938
- 4 *The Explosives Engineer*, April 1939
- 5 *The Hercules Mixer*, December 1928*
- 6 *The Hercules Mixer*, May 1940*

- 7 *The Hercules Mixer*, February 1943
- 8 *The Hercules Mixer*, December 1943*
- 9 *The Hercules Mixer*, December 1948*
- 10 *The Hercules Mixer*, November/December 1949*, May/June 1956* (stuck together)
- 11 *The Hercules Mixer*, November/December 1950*
- 12 *The Paper Maker*, March 1943*
- 13 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 19, no. 1, 1950
- 14 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 19, no. 2, 1950
- 15 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 20, no. 2, 1951*
- 16 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 21, no. 2, 1952
- 17 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 24, no. 2, 1955
- 18 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 25, no. 2, 1956
- 19 *The Paper Maker*, vol. 26, no. 2, 1957
- 20 *Time Magazine*, December 24, 1934

Box 5 – Oversize

Folder

- 1 *Life*, December 4, 1939
- 2 *The Saturday Evening Post*, June 12, 1920
- 3 *The Saturday Evening Post*, November 13, 1920
- 4 *The Saturday Evening Post*, September 4, 1920
- 5 *The Saturday Evening Post*, October 2, 1920
- 6 *The Saturday Evening Post*, January 29, 1921
- 7 *The Saturday Evening Post*, May 30, 1930

Box 6 – Oversize

Folder

- 1 *Arizona Highways*, August 1955
- 2 *The American Architect*, January 1931
- 3 *The Explosives Engineer*
 - December 1924*
 - February 1926*
 - February 1927*
 - January 1929*
 - May 1929*
 - May 1936*
 - May 1940*
 - January/February 1955*
- 4 *The Hercules Mixer*
 - October 1926*
 - April 1927*
 - December 1937*

Box 7 – Bound volumes

The Explosives Engineer

January – December 1925
January – December 1927
January – December 1932
January – December 1936
January – December 1937
August 1939 – December 1940
January – December 1948

The Hercules Mixer

January – December 1922
January – December 1923
January – December 1927
January – December 1929
January – December 1930

Series IV. Research materials for *William D. White: Vision and Voice of the Artist Revealed*

Box 8

Folder

- 1 Research notes – biographical information, timelines, parents, maternal grandparents
- 2 Research notes – William Henry White family (paternal grandparents)
- 3 William D. White exhibition history
- 4 Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
- 5 *The Saturday Evening Post*
- 6 *The Hardrock Miner in Arizona: William D. White and Lew Davis* by Carolyn Curlee Robbins (thesis, Arizona State University, 1986)
- 7 Mining men of the West
- 8 Ashland Specialty Ingredients – *The Hercules Mixer* and *The Paper Maker*
- 9 Dyno Nobel Americas – *The Explosives Engineer*
- 10 Miners of coal
- 11 Hercules Powder Company
- 12 Delaware Public Works of Art Program (PWAP)
- 13 PWAP, Philadelphia Art Museum, Fiske Kimball
- 14 Works Progress Administration (WPA)
- 15 Delaware WPA
- 16 Dover, Delaware post office mural, 1936; Wesley United Methodist Church mural, 1967
- 17 Miscellaneous slides and negatives
- 18 Biggs Museum of American Art
- 19 Lenders and supporters
- 20 Exhibition catalog and DVD of walking tour
- 21 Dreamstreets
- 22 “Best of Delaware” award
- 23 Updates, 2017 and 2018