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Guide to the Willard Dryden Paddock Photographs and Papers

YCAL MSS 848



by Matthew Daniel Mason

2014

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 848

CREATOR: Paddock, Willard Dryden, 1873-1956

TITLE: Willard Dryden Paddock photographs and papers

DATES: 1902-1988

BULK DATES: 1912-1941

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.84 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Collection of photographs and papers, chiefly from 1912 to 1941, which document the work of American artist Willard Dryden Paddock and his activities with his wife Charlotte Elizabeth Smith Paddock, as well as related material collected and created by his nieces Mary Steichen Calderone and Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen from 1954 to 1988.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.paddock>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.paddock>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Francesca Calderone-Steichen, 2014 and 2022.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 3 (photographic negatives): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Willard Dryden Paddock Photographs and Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Willard Dryden Paddock Photographs and Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Associated Materials

Edward Steichen, Photograph Albums of the Steichen Family (YCAL MSS 593). Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Willard Dryden Paddock (1873-1956)

Willard Dryden Paddock was an American artist. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, the son of John D. Paddock (born 1842) and Elizabeth C. Adams Paddock (born 1849). In 1893, Paddock began training with sculptor Herbert Adams (1858-1945) at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. In 1895, he earned a two-year scholarship to study in Europe, which included periods at the Académie Colarossi and Académie Julian in Paris.

In 1922, Paddock became an associate member of the National Academy of Design, and the following year he co-founded the Kent Art Association in Kent, Connecticut. Beginning in 1927, he was a member of the faculty at Pratt Institute.

His sculptural work ranged from small whimsical pieces and busts, usually for the Gorham Manufacturing Company in Providence, Rhode Island, to fountains and monumental structures. Paddock is known for his memorials to World War I, which include the War Memorial in Stratford, Connecticut, and a flagpole on the Pratt Institute campus. His other significant works include the Noah Webster Memorial Fountain for Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts, and the Alfred Nobel Memorial at the United Engineering Societies Building in New York City. Paddock also produced a number of paintings.

In 1902, Paddock married Charlotte Elizabeth Smith Paddock (1874-1936), the daughter of John Randolph Smith (1836-1917) and Frances R. Keet Smith (1844-1939). Her younger sister was Clara Emma Smith Steichen (1875-1952), who was married to Edward Jean Steichen (1879-1973) from 1903 until their divorce in

1922. Around 1912, the Paddocks moved to a small farm at 28 Spooner Hill Road in South Kent, Connecticut, where he also maintained a studio. Their nieces Mary Steichen Calderone (1904-1998) and Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen (1908-1988) would often visit the farm. After the death of his wife, Paddock returned to New York City, where he lived until his death.

Scope and Contents

Collection of photographs and papers, chiefly from 1912 to 1941, which document the work of American artist Willard Dryden Paddock and his activities with his wife Charlotte Elizabeth Smith Paddock, as well as related material collected and created by his nieces Mary Steichen Calderone and Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen from 1954 to 1988.

Photographic material in the collection includes a photograph album created by Charlotte Paddock and Kate Steichen that documents activities on a small farm owned by the Paddocks in South Kent, Connecticut, 1912-1936. Other photographs in the collection document sculptures created by Paddock, with many depictions of *Sundial*, *Boy With Spider* (1916-1918), an outdoor sculpture and functional sundial that depicts a boy sitting cross-legged with an open scroll in his lap and holding a twig with a spider affixed to the wire that acts as the gnomon.

A small quantity of papers in the collection document some of his sculptures and paintings, including an illustrated catalog of sculptures, as well as programs for exhibitions and dedications, circa 1929-1941. Other papers, 1978-1988, document his nieces' interests in his artwork and the home in South Kent, Connecticut.

Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Photographs, 1912-1978. II. Papers, 1929-1988. III. September 2022 Acquisition, 1902.

Collection Contents

Series I: Photographs, 1912-1978

1 volume and 40 folders

Series I contains photographic material that visually documents the Paddock farm, home, and studio in South Kent, Connecticut, as well as Paddock's sculptures.

Box 3 (photographic negatives): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Series I is organized into three subseries: Photograph Album, Photographic Prints, and Photographic Negatives

- b.1 [Photograph Album](#) 1912-1966
1 album (134 photographic prints)
- Photograph album with images related to a small farm owned by Willard Dryden Paddock and Charlotte Smith Paddock at 28 Spooner Hill Road, South Kent, Connecticut, 1912 to 1936, with the bulk from 1930 to 1936.
- Charlotte Smith Paddock compiled the first portion of the album, circa 1930-1936, and her niece, Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen, compiled the second portion, circa 1966, using photographs from her aunt's collection. The second portion includes copious manuscript captions transcribed by Steichen from inscriptions made by Paddock on the versos of the photographic prints, as well as descriptions authored by Steichen.
- Informal portraits of individuals include Charlotte Paddock, Willard Dryden Paddock, Clara Smith Steichen and Kate Steichen. The album also includes portraits of Kate Steichen with Ray Bolton, and a portrait of her with Carol Silverberg. Other identified individuals include psychoanalyst Adam Empie and his wife, author Margery Hazzard Wells Empie, as well as a portrait of actor Walter Hampden.
- Images depict interiors and exteriors of the home, as well as views of gardens and surrounding farmland, and a cottage on the property. A couple of images depict sculpture created by Paddock, including *Rose in the Wind* and a small sculpture of a pig.
- Images of activities related to farm life include plowing fields and gathering hay, as well as cooking in an open-hearth fireplace. Images of animals on the farm include cows, dogs, geese, horses, oxen, pigs, and rabbits.
- A group of detail photographs, probably created for an unrealized book about fires and fireplaces by Willard Dryden Paddock, include images of fireplace implements, including andirons, grates, and tongs, as well as cooking tools.
- A group of images document the first automobiles owned by Kate Steichen, including a Ford Model T in 1926 and a Ford Model A in 1930.
- A printed poem, "The Little House," by Edith D. Osborne, is pasted to the front endpaper of the album. A formerly laid-in note by Kate Steichen describes a picnic table on the property modelled after Stonehenge.
- Images not created on the property include canoeing on the Housatonic River in western Connecticut and an exterior portrait made in 1912 of Charlotte Smith Paddock with the family dog at their home at 82 Grove Street on Sheridan Square in New York City.

Photographic Prints

b. 2, f. 1	Photographs of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) in the studio of Willard Dryden Paddock <i>2 photographic prints</i>	1916-1918
b. 2, f. 2	Exterior photographs of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) <i>6 photographic prints</i> Accompanied with notes, probably by Willard Dryden Paddock, about different photographic exposures	1920 July 16
b. 2, f. 3	Exterior photograph of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) in the Rose Garden of "Killenworth," a mansion owned by George Dupont Pratt in Glen Cove, New York	circa 1920
b. 2, f. 4	Exterior photographs of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) <i>2 photographic prints</i>	circa 1920
b. 2, f. 5	Studio photograph of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918)	circa 1920
b. 2, f. 6	Interior photograph of the living and dining room in the Paddock house at South Kent, Connecticut <i>2 photographic prints</i>	circa 1920
b. 2, f. 7	Studio photographs of <i>Portrait of a Young Girl</i> (1919?-1922?) with exposure notes <i>8 photographic prints</i> The sculpture depicts Mary Steichen Calderone as a child Accompanied with notes, probably by Willard Dryden Paddock, about different photographic exposures Associated materials: See also: Photographic negatives, Box 3, folders 28-37	1922
b. 2, f. 8	Interior photograph of <i>Rodina</i> (1926?) The sculpture depicts Kate Steichen	circa 1926
b. 2, f. 9	Ira W. Martin, Photographic postcards of the World War Memorial Flagstaff (1926) at the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, published by the Santway Photo-Craft Company, Watertown, New York <i>2 photomechanical postcards</i> Flagstaff designed by John Mead Howells with sculptural elements by Paddock	circa 1934
b. 2, f. 10	Exterior photograph of Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen posed sitting beside the War Memorial at the West Broad Street Green in Stratford, Connecticut Steichen modeled for the sculpture	1954
b. 2, f. 11	Interior color photograph of <i>Rodina</i> (1926?)	circa 1970
b. 2, f. 12	Color photograph of the sculpture <i>Flight</i> (1925) The sculpture depicts Kate Steichen	1978

Photographic Negatives
17 photographic negatives

Photographic Negatives (continued)

b. 3, f. 25-26	Exterior photographs of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) mounted on a rock	circa 1920
b. 3, f. 27-28	Exterior photographs of the sculpture <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) mounted on a pedestal	circa 1920
b. 3, f. 29-38	Studio photographs of <i>Portrait of a Young Girl</i> (1919?-1922?)	1922
b. 3, f. 39	Exterior photograph of the Paddock home and studio in South Kent, Connecticut	circa 1930
b. 3, f. 40-41	Studio photographs of <i>Rose in the Wind</i> (1927?)	circa 1930

Series II: Papers, circa 1929-1988*12 Folders*

Series II includes papers, circa 1929-1941, chiefly related to sculptures and other artwork by Paddock, including a privately printed catalog illustrated with examples of his sculptural work. The series also includes later correspondence and other documentation, 1978-1988, related to his artwork and the farm in South Kent, Connecticut.

Arranged chronologically.

b. 2, f. 13	F. Denks, Inc. Announcement for the Permanent Exhibition of Sculpture for the House and Garden by Willard Paddock	circa 1929
b. 2, f. 14	<i>Some Reproductions of Works by Willard Paddock</i> (New York: Privately printed) 2 catalogs Limited edition of one thousand copies. These copies numbered 1 and 252.	1928 April
b. 2, f. 15	Denks Galleries. Program for an exhibition of paintings by Willard Paddock	1929 April 3-30
b. 2, f. 16	Stratford, Connecticut. Program for the dedication of the War Memorial at the West Broad Street Green in Stratford, Connecticut Accompanied by newspaper clippings describing the event and a humorous editorial about it by George S. Smith	1931 May 24
b. 2, f. 17	Gould, Ralph Edgar, United States National Bureau of Standards. <i>Sundials</i> . Circular of the National Bureau of Standards, no. 402. (Washington: United States Government Printing Office)	1933
b. 2, f. 18	Card from National Art Week in New York City for the sculpture <i>Flight</i> (1925)	1941 November 17-23
b. 2, f. 19	Correspondence between Robert S. Ratner and the Brooklyn Museum Ratner, an attorney working on behalf of Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen, relays her offer to purchase of a bust depicting Mary Steichen Calderone from the museum	1978 December 20-1979 August 21
b. 2, f. 20	Correspondence between Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen and Emily Hopson, president of the Kent Historical Society A single exchange of letters regarding the historical society and Steichen seeking copies of a catalog of works by Paddock	1983 July 19, August 28
b. 2, f. 21	Correspondence between Charlotte "Kate" Rodina Steichen and Mary Steichen Calderone A single exchange of letters about works by Paddock owned by the family, and Calderone giving her copy of <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) to Steichen	1987 May 27, August 20
b. 2, f. 22	J. M. Layton & Co., Insurance binder for <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918)	1987 September 2
b. 2, f. 23	Burt Chernow, Appraisal of sculptures <i>Sundial, Boy With Spider</i> (1916-1918) and <i>Flight</i> (1925) Accompanied by notes by Kate Steichen	1987 September 19

b. 2, f. 24 Photocopy of a letter from Mary Steichen Calderone to Deborah L. Chabrian 1988 May 27
Chabrian had recently purchased the former Paddock home and studio in South
Kent, Connecticut

April 2022 acquisition, 1902 September 17

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

This acquisition contains an anniversary card sent to Willard Dryden Paddock and his wife Charlotte, along with a related photograph and annotated envelope.

Gift of Francesca Calderone-Steichen, 2022.

b. 4	Anniversary card with related photograph and annotated envelope The anniversary card includes an annotated envelope and a black and white photograph of the house where Charlotte Smith and Willard Dryden Paddock were married on Quincy Street in Brooklyn, New York.	1902 September 17
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Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Sculptors
Sculpture -- Pictorial works
Sundials -- Pictorial works

Geographic Names

Connecticut -- Pictorial works
South Kent (Conn.) -- Pictorial works

Genres / Formats

Photograph albums
Photographic prints

Occupations

Sculptors -- Connecticut -- 20th Century

Names

Calderone, Mary Steichen, 1904-1998
Paddock, Charlotte Elizabeth Smith, 1874-1936
Paddock, Willard Dryden, 1873-1956
Steichen, Charlotte Rodina, 1908-1988

Families

Paddock family -- Pictorial works
Steichen family -- Pictorial works

Contributors

Paddock, Willard Dryden, 1873-1956
Paddock, Charlotte Elizabeth Smith, 1874-1936
Steichen, Charlotte Rodina, 1908-1988