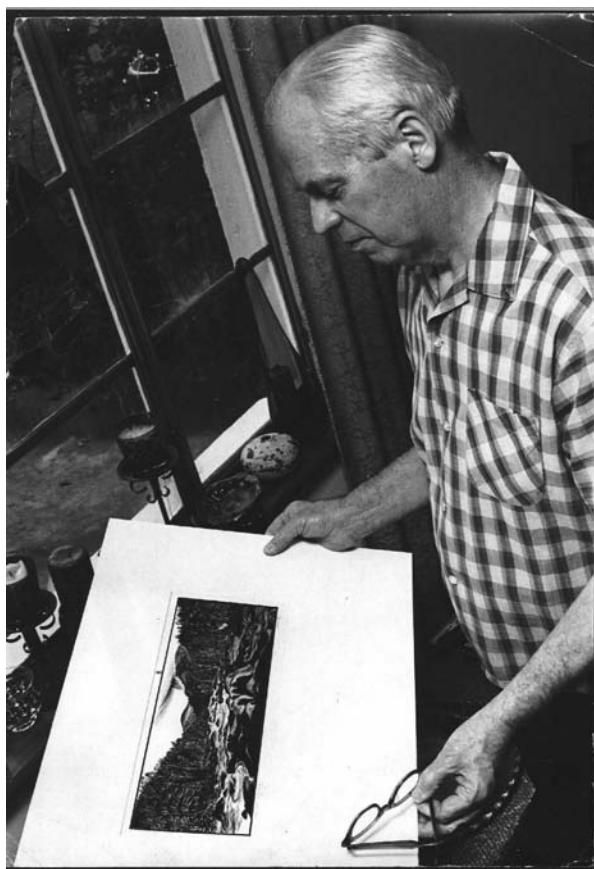


New Hampshire State Library



Herbert Ogden Waters (1903-1996) Papers, Studio Items, and Print Collection



Call#: ARC 769.92 W329

Finding Aid

Prepared by Linda Kent
Technical Services, NHSL
2007-2008

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Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of block prints, photographs, correspondence, financial records, publicity, notes and writings, publications, studio items, and inventories of works by Herbert Ogden Waters (1903-1996), a New Hampshire artist who created wood and linoleum block prints, and watercolor paintings from the 1930's through the 1990's. He was an artist in the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the 1930s and 1940s.

Background: "Herbert Ogden Waters was born in Shantou (Swatow), China on November 15, 1903, the son of Baptist missionaries. He attended high school in Shanghai and then came to America where he graduated from Denison University in 1926. His post-graduate work includes study at the Pennsylvania Museum School of Industrial Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, and Harvard University. He received honorary doctorates in fine arts from Plymouth State College (1984) and Alderson-Broadus College (1985). In 1932 he married Bertha Adams, a childhood friend from China.

"Since 1933, except for a brief period of war service in a Providence shipyard, Herbert and Bertha Waters made their home in New Hampshire. Waters lived in Warner, NH as an artist and art teacher from 1936 to 1941 in the Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project. Later, he taught at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, at Holderness School in Plymouth, and at Alderson-Broadus College in Philippi, West Virginia.

"Throughout a long career, Waters continued to refine his printmaking techniques, especially in wood engraving, and to explore the intimate and grand landscapes of New Hampshire from his home in Campton, NH. He completed his last engravings from 1992 to 1993. Various museums, including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the State of New Hampshire's Living Treasures Collection, as well as numerous private collectors, own examples of his work. The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts has collected some of his more recent prints through the Percent for Art Program."

Information in this section was obtained from a news release (see Box 1, Folder 10).

Provenance: The State of New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources (including the NH State Council on the Arts, NH Artist Archives, NH Living Treasures, NH Dept. of Historical Resources, and the New Hampshire State Library) began discussion with Waters in the 1990's about donating his papers to the state. An inventory of his studio was done in 1995, a year before his death, and the papers and realia were donated to the state shortly thereafter, some with Waters' own explanatory notes attached. The Adams acorn press is on loan to the New Hampshire Institute of Art in Manchester. The block prints were acquired in 2002.

Span dates: The collection reflects Waters' professional life of more than 60 years, from the 1930's to 1996, with the majority of material dating from the 1980s through the mid 1990's. There a few family items from earlier in the 20th century and a few which post-date his death in 1996.

Collection strengths: Waters' own notes and commentaries, art studio items, as well as his active correspondence with fellow artists, gallery owners, students, and collectors provide a unique window into his artistic process and philosophy. There is an extensive range of photographs which document Herbert and Bertha, their home, their friends, Herbert's studio, and many of his artworks. The collection also includes 25 block prints, some located at the New Hampshire State Library, and some on loan to the NH Attorney General's office. These include 15 linoleum block prints:

"Cascade brook"	"Pattern called houses"
"Four of a kind"	"Railroad waiting room"
"Impression: county fair"	"Ravine by the old mill: winter afternoon"
"In the barn" [woodshed in Waterloo, Warner]	"Sawdust pile at sawmill, Warner, NH"
"The old chicken coop"	"Shelter"
"My studio"	Untitled [boat yard]
"Old Portsmouth"	"White Mountains of New Hampshire"
	"Winter fields"

There are also ten wood block prints:

- "Bridge and dam at East Washington, NH"
- "Children's toys"
- "George Colby's sugar house"
- "North wind, south wind"
- "Snow and trees"
- "Squash and Bertha's wheelbarrow"
- Untitled [church with graveyard and grazing horse]
- Untitled [flying geese]
- "Winter feeding station"
- "Winter fields"

Collection size: The collection is contained in 9 letter-sized Hollinger boxes (10.5 x 12.5 x 5"), 2 small photograph boxes (5.75 x 7.75 x 5"), 5 flat oversize boxes (2 boxes @ 19 x 25 x 2.5"; 3 boxes @ 15 x 22 x 2"), 1 large storage box (10 x 12.5 x 10"), and a basket (13 x 20 x 12"). These require approximately 9 linear feet of shelf space, (assuming the small photograph boxes and flat boxes are stacked). The collection also includes an engraving table, a handmade wooden box, a bench, both stored at the New Hampshire State Library, and the Adams acorn press (on loan from NHSL to the NH Arts Institute in Manchester).

Copyright status: All materials are owned by the New Hampshire Division of Cultural Resources and are available for public viewing at the New Hampshire State Library in Concord, New Hampshire.

Subjects:	Linoleum block prints
Adams Press (acorn press)	New Hampshire
Art galleries	NH State Council on the Arts
Artists	New Hampshire State Library
Block prints	New Hampshire Living Treasures

Engravers
Engravings
Woodcuts
Wood engraving

Names

Alderson-Broadus College
Denison University
Holderness School
Mary Ryan Gallery
Phineas Press
Plymouth State College
Shanghai American School
Society of Wood Engravers
Wolf Creek Printery
Works Progress Administration

People:

Adams, Isaac
Carey, Richard A.
Downes, Terry
Hatch, John
McCurdy, Michael
Palumbo, Marc A.
Ryan, Mary
Stuckey, Joanne
Tyler, Gil
Unwin, Nora
Waters, Bertha Adams
Waters, Herbert Ogden
Wright, Jan

Arrangement and Description: In 1995, Terry Downes and Jan Wright compiled an inventory of the contents of Herbert Waters' studio and placed labels on many items. The materials were then stored in large archival boxes and put into storage; unfortunately many of the labels fell off and were lying loose in the boxes and the list they compiled did not readily correlate to the information on the labels. The inventory list has been included as part of the collection (Series IV, Box 11, Folder 83).

The collection is organized into series, sub-series, and folders. In most cases, description is at the folder level, except for studio realia, books, and artwork, where description is at the item level. Materials are placed in chronological or alphabetical order, depending upon the content.

Some items were deaccessioned, due to lack of adequate storage space and because the items in and of themselves did not add to the collection. These included two small saucepans, a floodlight, deer antler, dried leaves, and one of two hand mirrors.

The series and sub-series are as follows:

Series I: Herbert Waters: Life and Family

- Sub-Series A: Biography
- Sub-Series B: Financial and Tax Records
- Sub-Series C: Correspondence
- Sub-Series D: Bertha Waters
- Sub-Series E: A selection of books owned by H.W.

Series II: Creative Process

- Sub-Series A: Notes and papers
- Sub-Series B: Tools and studio realia

Series III: Professional Connections

Sub-Series A: Galleries

Sub-Series B: Society of Wood Engravers

Sub-Series C: Academic affiliations

Sub-Series D: Nora Unwin

Series IV: State of New Hampshire

Sub-Series A: NH State Council on the Arts

Sub-Series B: NH Artist Archives

Series V: Photographs

Sub-Series A: Negatives

Sub-Series B: Prints

Series VI: News Clippings

Series VII: Oversize

Sub-Series A: Notes, templates and dimensions

Sub-Series B: Photographs

Sub-Series C: Publications and Miscellaneous Items

Series VIII: Works of art

Sub-Series A: Wood Block Prints

Sub-Series B: Linoleum Block Prints

Container List

Series I: Life and Family

Sub-Series A: Biography

Box	Folder	Description	# Items	Date
1	1	Biographical info	various	n.d.
	2	Biographical sketch by Henry Andrews	1	1989
	3	Interview with Terry Downes	various drafts	1991
	4	"Still Waters" by Richard A. Carey	1	1994
	5	China	7	1990's, n.d.
	6	Wedding certificate	1	1932
	7	Correspondence between H.W. and B.W.	6	1930-1990's, n.d.
	8	Family correspondence	15	1913-1997, n.d.
	9	Directions, addresses, etc.	various	n.d.
	10	Obituaries	5	[1996]
Env. 1		Daily desk diary	1	1948

I. Sub-Series B: Financial and Tax Records

2	11	1994 tax return	6	
	12	1994-95 tax notice	7	1995-1997, n.d.
	13	1995 tax return	8	
	14	1996 tax return	3	
	15	1997 tax return	10	
	16	Blue Cross/ Blue Shield	8	
	17	Vanguard transaction	1	1997
	18	Receipts	7	1990's
	19	Art customer correspondence	27	1976-1997, n.d.
	20	Art estate planning, Mary Ryan Gallery	11	1985-89, n.d.
	21	Stuckey & Mary Ryan contracts, etc.	12	1983-1991
	22	Memorial donations	9	1996-97
	Notebook 1	Art accounts	1	1972-July 1976
	Notebook 2	Art accounts	1	Aug 1976-Apr 1980
	Notebook 3	Art accounts	1	June 1980-1987

I. Sub-Series C: Correspondence

3	23	Neal and Pat Bousfield	8	1975-1995, n.d.
	24	Susan and Bill Hamilton	10	1991-96, n.d.
	25	Jim Havens	25	1946-1960, 1996, n.d.
	26	Anna Hogan	19	1980-1997
	27	Lawrence Lee	8	1994-95, n.d.
	28	Jim & Erika Luitweiler I	58	1953-1982
	29	Jim & Erika Luitweiler II	59	1983-1996
	30	Dick & Vivian Pranulis, Wolf Creek Printery	8	1993-96
	31	General correspondence I	42	1946-1996
	32	General correspondence II	36	n.d.

I. Sub-Series D: Bertha Adams Waters

4	33	Mother West's family	3	1907-1927
	34	Col. Wm. Humphrey - photos and correspondence	4	1944-1965
	35	Organizational condolences	15	[1996-97]
	36	Personal condolences (A-H)	33	[1996-97]
	37	Personal condolences (J-O)	26	[1996-97]
	38	Personal condolences (P-Y)	30	[1996-97]

I. Sub-Series E: Selection of books owned by Herbert Waters

5	Child's Gallery Print Annual, vol. 16, Boston, n.d.			
	Clark, James. n.d. The Palestine pictorial Bible [phasebox]			
	Endgrain : contemporary wood engraving in North America. 1994, 1 st ed. Mission, B.C. : Barbarian Press.			

- 5 Follett, Muriel. 1939. *New England year : a journal of Vermont farm life*.
Brattleboro, Vt. : Stephen Daye Press.
- Fowler, Harriet. 1985. *New Deal art : WPA works at the University of Kentucky*.
University of Kentucky Press.
- Hanna, Boyd. n.d. *The story of the Nativity in wood engravings : text taken from
The King James version of the Holy Bible*.
Mount Vernon, N.Y. : The Peter Pauper Press.
- Kent, Rockwell. [1934]. *Enjoy your museum IIB : how to make a wood cut*.
- Lane, Charles Stuart. 1993. *New Hampshire first tourists in the lakes and mountains*.
Meredith, N.H. : The Old Print Barn.
- New Testament of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ...*
Philadelphia Pocket Testament League.
- Wright, Helena E. 1995. *With pen and graver : women graphic artists before 1900*.
Washington, D.C. : Smithsonian Institution. (exhibit in the Hall of Graphics
February 1995-January 1996).

Series II: Creative Process

Sub-Series A: Notes and Papers

6	39	Robert Frost poem from studio wall	1	n.d.
	40	C.S. Lewis quote from church program	1	program 1983
	41	Postcards/pictures used as study guides	47	n.d.
	42	H.W. sketches	3	n.d.
	43	Article about drawing	1	n.d.
	44	Notes on engravings and prints	47	1974-1992, n.d.
	45	Lists of artworks	38	1961-1982, n.d.
	46	H.W. and B.W. letterhead	4	n.d.
	47	Cards, notepaper, etc.	23	1950, 1994, n.d.
	48	H.W. talk on Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper"	drafts	n.d.
	49	H.W. talk on St. Francis of Assisi	drafts	n.d.
	50	H.W. talk on China	drafts	n.d.
	51	Writings by H.W. and B.W.	11	1976-1993, n.d.

II. Sub-Series B: Tools and Studio Realia 26

6	52	Supply catalogs	8	1976-1995, n.d.
7		Linoleum block - uncut-"north wind, south wind" Wood block - test block Wood block - engraved for "shelter", last block carved, age 89 Six wood engraving tools Ceramic paint brush holder Dexter shoebox containing misc. drawing tools Five sharpening stones, various sizes, wrapped in oiled newspaper Hand mirror Empty brush holder cylinder with cap Red linen cloth with ink stains		

- 7 One pair eyeglasses in case
- Bone or horn spoon with label "Alaska, scraped and polished by H.W."
- Bristle brush
- Warning sign - property notice to hunters, etc.
- Small piece of light metal w/ "RR track" in red letters
- Pink heart hanger w/ "I love you" on back
- Leaded glass ornament
- Woven Basket with handle
- Sharpening wheel wrapped in old smock
- Work bench, engraving table, wooden box with hinged lid

Series III: Professional Connections

Sub-Series A: Galleries

8	53	Gallery and exhibit announcements	24	1940-1997, n.d.
	54	Herbert Waters: a retrospective	6	Mar-Apr 1992
	55	Reviews	13	1977-1997
	56	Mary Ryan Gallery	various	1970-1995
	57	Correspondence	25	1981-1998, n.d.

III. Sub-Series B: Society of Wood Engravers

8	58	Correspondence	36	1986-1996, n.d.
	59	Publications	6	1987-1997

III. Sub-Series C: Academic Affiliations

8	60	Denison University	9	1971-1996
	61	Holderness School	3	1996-98, n.d.
	62	Academicians of the National Academy of Design	1	1995
	63	Honorary Doctorate, Plymouth State College	4	1984
9	64	Honorary Doctorate, Alderson-Broaddus College	4	1985
	65	Alderson-Broaddus College: exhibit	various	Oct. 3-31, 1991
	66	Alderson-Broaddus College exhibits	3	1993, 1995
	67	Alderson-Broaddus College: correspondence	10	1995-96, n.d.
	68	Alderson-Broaddus College: H.W. notes for talk	various	n.d.
	69	Alderson-Broaddus College: publications	6	1970-1996, n.d.
		Parchment diploma scroll	1	May 19, 1985
		Centennial Parents Citizenship Award (in folder)	1	May 1, 1971
		News photo of award ceremony (in folder)	1	
		Wooden plaque for excellence in teaching	1	1972

9	Alderson-Broaddus yearbook (cover, p.5, 132)	1	1968
	Alderson-Broaddus yearbook (p.14-21, 69, 189)	1	1972

III. Sub-Series D: Nora Unwin

10	70	Book: <u>Nora S. Unwin : 25 wood engravings</u> Sharon Arts Center, intro by H.W.	1	1982
	71	Nora S. Unwin : an appreciation": drafts and correspondence	13	1988, n.d.
	72	Nora S. Unwin correspondence and notes	6	1982, n.d.

Series IV: New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources

Sub-Series A: NH State Council on the Arts

10	73	NH Living Treasures	18	1993-1996
	74	Living Treasures accession sheets with thumbnail photos	16	2002
	75	NH State Council on the Arts	3	1992-1997
		Book: <u>Art in Unexpected Places</u> . Concord: NH State Council on the Arts, 1989. (H.W. print, p. 30).		

IV. Sub-Series B: New Hampshire Artist Archives

10	76	Correspondence	4	1994-1996
	77	W.P.A. art in NH	2	2003, n.d.
	78	Inventory sheets on H.W. prints (incl. W.P.A.) (142 with notes by H.W. and Stuckey	sheets)	n.d.
	79	Blank inventory sheet forms	10	n.d.
	80	H.W. notes on engraving table	1	1996
	81	Tax appraisal and descriptions of Adams acorn press	18	1993- 1996, n.d.
	82	List of H.W. prints, prepared by Gil Tyler	4	1994
	83	List of H.W. works, compiled by Terry Downes, Jan Wright	(61 sheets)	1995
	84	Lists of H.W. works and collections	(22 sheets)	n.d.

Series V: Photographs

Sub-Series A: Negatives

11	Negatives		
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V. Sub-Series B: Prints

12	Env. 1	Portrait of H.W. by John Hatch	1	1955
	Env. 2	Formal photos of H.W.	1 (4 copies)	1985
	Env. 3	Photos of young H.W.	3	1905, n.d.
	Env. 4	H.W. friends	3	n.d.
	Env. 5	Shanghai American School	7	1923-24
	Env. 6	H.W.	7	1954, n.d.
	Env. 7	H.W. and B.W.	4	1986, n.d.

12	Env. 8 Waters' home, interior/exterior	8	1969, 1992, n.d.
	Env. 9 Keepsake album from Eileen Foley	8	1987
	Env. 10 H.W., B.W., friends and family	11	1962, 1985, n.d.
	Env. 11 H.W. and studio (black and white)	6	n.d.
	Env. 12 H.W. and studio	11	n.d.
	Env. 13 H.W. and friend Dick	2	n.d.
	Env. 14 H.W. working outside	5	1974, n.d.
	Env. 15 Photographs of watercolors	17	1982, 1992, n.d.
	Env. 16 "Petite Manan Lighthouse"	2	n.d.
	Env. 17 Exhibit at Alderson-Broadus College	9	n.d.
	Env. 18 Gallery exhibitions	10	1977, n.d.
	Env. 19 Honorary Doctorate, Plymouth State	15	1984
	Env. 20 Honorary Doctorate, Alderson-Broadus	2	1985
	Env. 21 Landscape and nature	13	n.d.
	Env. 22 Welch Mountain	7	1990, n.d.
	Env. 23 Unidentified	4	1948, n.d.

Series VI: News Clippings

13	Newspaper articles		1947-1997
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Series VII: Oversize

Sub-Series A: Notes, templates, dimensions

14	Matte boards, construction paper	94	various
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VII. Sub-Series B: Photographs

15	85	Comments on photos	3	1996, n.d.
	86	Publicity photos of H.W.	1 (7 copies)	n.d.
	87	Welch Mountain Panoramas	3	n.d.
		B&W portrait photos of H.W. by Marc A. Palumbo	10	n.d.
		B&W photos of H.W. and B.W. by Marc A. Palumbo	2	n.d.
		B&W photos of H.W.	3	n.d.
		Straining sap for maple syrup	1	n.d.
		Color photo of B.W.	1	1992
		Jerry, the dog	1	n.d.
		Color folio of B.W. and house in Campton, NH	1	1953
		B&W of house in Campton, NH	1	n.d.
		Portrait photo of [-- S. Siffred]	1	n.d.

VII. Sub-Series C: Publications, Miscellaneous Items

16	Videotape of New Hampshire Crossroads television program		2/10/1983
	New Hampshire House of Representatives Declaration honoring Herbert Ogden Waters		n.d.
	"The use of the Tympan-Frisket frame on the Washington press"		n.d.
	"Thoreau Falls"		1955
	Studio items inventory, by Jan Wright and Terry Downes (handwritten; see also Series IV, Box 10, Folder 83)		1995

16	Holderness School Today (publication)	Sept., 1984
	Holderness School Today (publication)	Winter, 1994
	New Hampshire Arts (publication)	Winter, 1993-94
	New Hampshire Arts (publication)	February, 1996
	New Hampshire Arts (publication)	February, 1997
	New Hampshire Images (publication)	Summer, 1996
	New Hampshire Images (publication)	Fall, 1996
	New Hampshire Images (publication)	Fall/Winter, 1997

Series VIII: Block Prints **25**

17	Prints at NHSL:	9
	"Railroad waiting room"	
	"Winter feeding station", signed	
	"Winter fields", signed	
	"Four of a kind"	
	Untitled [boat yard], signed	1938
	"Bridge and dam at East Washington" (2 prints), signed	1938
	"George Colby's sugar house", signed	
	"Pattern called houses", signed	1936
	"Ravine by the old mill: winter afternoon"	

Prints on Loan to the NH Attorney General's Office: 16

- " Cascade brook"
- "Impression: county fair"
- "In the barn" [woodshed in Waterloo, Warner]
- "The old chicken coop"
- "My studio"
- "Old Portsmouth"
- "Sawdust pile at sawmill, Warner, NH"
- "Shelter"
- "White Mountains of New Hampshire"
- "Children's toys"
- "North wind, south wind"
- "Snow and trees"
- "Squash and Bertha's wheelbarrow"
- Untitled [church with graveyard and grazing horse]
- Untitled [flying geese]
- "Winter garden"

Other information resources at New Hampshire State Library:

De Cordova Museum. By the people, for the people: New England, September 25 - November 27, 1977, De Cordova Museum, Lincoln, Massachusetts. Lincoln, Mass: The Museum, 1977 [Includes work of Herbert Waters].
Call #: 709.74 D2967

Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration of New Hampshire, Herbert Waters, delineator.
Readers' map of New Hampshire. Manchester, N.H.: Granite Press, [1940].
Call #: DF 917.42 W956

Follett, Muriel. New England year: a journal of Vermont farm life. Brattleboro, Vt.: Stephen Daye Press, 1940 [Wood engravings by Herbert Waters].
Call #: 630.1 F667

McGoldrick, Linda Clark; with an appreciation by Herbert Waters. Nora S. Unwin: artist and wood engraver. Dublin, N.H.: William L. Bauhan, published for the Sharon Arts Center, 1990. [several references to Herbert and Bertha Waters.]
Call #: 769.92 U62

[Grover, Kathryn]. New Hampshire in the 1930's : the Great Depression and the New Deal. Concord, N.H.: New Hampshire Historical Society, [1982].
Call #: 974.2 N532g

New Hampshire Printmaking Project. 2007(?). New Hampshire Printmakers past and present. Internet download (see below for URL).
Call #: 760 N53211

WPA artwork in non-Federal repositories. U.S. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service, Historic Buildings and the Arts Center of Expertise, Fine Arts Program. Washington, D.C., 1999.
Call #: R 759.13 W938

Internet Resources

"Currier Collections Online". 2006. Currier Museum of Art.
Last accessed 3/20/2008 <<http://collections.currier.org/>>.

"Arts and Artists". 2004. New Hampshire State Council on the Arts.
Last accessed 3/20/2008
<<http://www.nh.gov/nharts/artsandartists/inmemory/herbertwaters.html>>.

New Hampshire Printmaking Project. [2007]. "Printmakers, Past and Present".
Last accessed 3/20/2008 <<http://home.comcast.net/~wcmprints/nhprintmakers.ppt#256,1>>.

Craig, Steve. "Treasured work". Seacoast online: Spotlight Magazine. April 10, 2003.
Last accessed 3/20/2008 <http://archive.seacoastonline.com/calendar/2003/04102003/cover_st/22301.htm>

"History wired." Smithsonian Institution. n.d.
Last accessed 3/20/2008 <<http://historywired.si.edu/object.cfm?ID=416>>.

"WPA Federal Art Project, New Hampshire [UNH]". University of New Hampshire - Milne Special Collections. Last accessed 3/20/2008 <<http://www.izaak.unh.edu/specoll/mancoll/wpaart.htm>>.