

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 145

Date processed: 1983

- I. Title Federal Art Project [New Haven] Records, 1933-1980
- II. The papers of _____, by _____
deposited in the Library on _____, by _____
In _____ converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 3 1/2
Approximate number of items: 2960
- IV. Restrictions: none
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of _____
in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of
the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on _____
- VII. Biographical note: The Federal Art Project began with the appointment of a
committee in December 1933 to encourage new works of art by unemployed artists.
The proposal originated with a Manhattan lawyer named Edward Bruce. President
Roosevelt designated Lawrence Robert, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in
charge of public works, to head up the project. Art critic Forbes Watson was made
technical director. The name of the project went through several changes but in
1935 it was put under the jurisdiction of the Works Progress Administration.
The WPA went out of existence in 1934. cont. p.^a
43
- VIII. Analysis: The materials in the collection have been left essentially in the
arrangement in which they originally came. The headings on the folders are those
of the originals. In each folder the papers have been arranged in chronological
order. Where there are several folders on the same subject, the folders are in
chronological order also. Where folders have an explicit subject, e.g. Connecticut
Guide Book, the folders are in alphabetical order of the titles.
Folders with miscellaneous correspondence sometimes appear in different places
in the collection. These have been left in the same relative position that they
were in the original boxes, on the assumption that there might be a relationship
with material in adjoining folders. Analysis cont.p.b

The Federal Art Project in New Haven was headed by Theodore Sizer, the Associate Director of the Yale Art Gallery. He served without pay and managed the direction of the program while still carrying on his work at Yale. Other professionals in the area, such as the noted artist, Bancel LaFarge, volunteered their services, giving their advice and in some instances actually supervising projects.

Included in the records are a number of large photographs of murals painted by unemployed artists in the great depression. In light of the uncertain future of the New Haven Public Library building on Elm Street, it is fortunate that the splendid murals in the Children's Room at the library done under the direction of the noted artist, Bancel LaFarge, are preserved in photographs in the collection.

One of the artists who worked on murals in the library was Salvatore DeMaio. He had attended the Yale Art School and then won a prix de Rome fellowship to study in Italy. DeMaio was also one of the three artists who were sent to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis to paint a mural of the "Battle of Santiago." There are twenty-nine detailed photographs of his murals in the lobby of Hamden High School, done in 1935.

NOTE: There is a three-panel mural stored in the NHCHS, which had previously been in the Woolsey School, New Haven. It was completed or installed there in 1939. The title is: Regicides (Planning the Escape of Goffe and Whalley); the artist was Laicita Gregg.

NOTE: The Photo Archive also has photos on this subject matter.

Box 1 Folder A contains a clipping from Time in December, 1933, describing the origin of the Federal Art Project. Also, there is a clipping from the New Haven Register October 12, 1980 dealing with suggestions for organizing a program recognizing the fiftieth anniversary of the WPA in 1933. The correspondence in Box 1 deals largely with specific projects.

Box 2 concentrates on applications, appointments and personnel. Also, there is correspondence with other governmental agencies and with individuals. The Battle of Santiago project fills four folders and deals with a major work on a mural at the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Box 3 contains a great deal of miscellaneous correspondence, memos, expenses and bulletins of the section of painting and sculpture in Washington.

Box 4 contains photographs of murals painted by members of the WPA and proposed designs for a tercentenary medal and a Conn. Commemorative half dollar.

Box 5 contains bills, receipts, bank statements and file card records of projects and workers.

Box 6 contains newspaper clippings concerning WPA art projects, filed in separate folders (so as to preserve them better). Xerox copies of clippings are filed in the appropriate subject folders.

Box 7 contains the personal correspondence collection of Wayland Williams, an administrator in the WPA in Connecticut, who was also a member of the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

CONTENTS

| Box 1 | <u>Folder</u> | |
|-------|---|----|
| A | Newspaper clippings about the Federal Art Project Dec. 5, 1933 - Oct. 12, 1980 | 8 |
| B | Conn. Guide Book correspondence Oct. 25, 1935 - March 10, 1938 | 25 |
| C | Conn. Guide Book - preliminary drafts of New Haven articles Nov. 19, 1935 - March 26, 1936 | 30 |
| D | Stamp, Medal, Coin correspondence Nov. 23, 1932 | 2 |
| E | Jan. 8, 1934 - May 29, 1934 | 30 |
| F | June 5, 1934 - June 30, 1934 | 30 |
| G | July 2, 1934 - July 27, 1934 | 30 |
| H | Aug. 1, 1934 - Aug. 29, 1934 | 20 |
| I | Sept. 1, 1934 - Sept. 29, 1934 | 20 |
| J | Oct. 1, 1934 - Oct. 12, 1934 | 25 |
| K | Oct. 13, 1934 - Oct. 25, 1934 | 25 |
| L | Oct. 22, 1934 - Oct. 31, 1934 | 30 |
| M | Nov. 1, 1934 - Nov. 5, 1934 | 20 |
| N | Nov. 6, 1934 - Nov. 13, 1934 | 20 |
| O | Nov. 14, 1934 - Nov. 28, 1934 | 10 |
| P | Dec. 6, 1934 - Dec. 24, 1934 | 10 |
| Q | Jan 15, 1935 - Jan. 31, 1935 | 10 |
| R | Feb. 1, 1935 - Feb. 28, 1935 | 15 |
| S | March 7, 1935 - March 29, 1935 | 10 |
| T | April 11, 1935 - Oct. 17, 1935 | 15 |
| U | Jan. 30, 1936 | 13 |
| V | Stamp, Medal, Coin Newspaper clippings (copies) | 7 |
| W | Stamp, Medal, Coin Photos of proposed stamp designs | 7 |
| X | Bethany School correspondence Nov. 6, 1933 - Sept. 6, 1934 | 10 |
| Y | Correspondence with Christian Science Monitor Jan. 26, 1934 - March 24, 1934 | 5 |
| Z | Correspondence: Fairfield, Bridgeport, Meriden, New Canaan, Norwalk Westport: Dec. 27, 1933 - Jan. 28, 1934 | 20 |
| AA | Correspondence: Fairfield, Bridgeport, Meriden, New Canaan, Norwalk, Westport: Feb. 2, 1934 - March 26, 1934 | 10 |
| BB | Correspondence: Fairfield, Bridgeport, Meriden, New Canaan, Norwalk, Westport: April 2, 1934 - May 28, 1934 | 10 |
| CC | Correspondence: Guilford, Hartford, Meriden, Newington, Winsted Dec. 22, 1933 - March 30, 1934 | 20 |
| DD | Correspondence: New Haven Dec. 24, 1933 - April 30, 1934 | 5 |
| EE | May 31, 1934 - Oct. 5, 1934 | 30 |
| FF | Correspondence: New London Post Office Mural Jan. 17, 1935 - March 31, 1935 | 40 |
| GG | Correspondence: New London Post Office Mural April 1, 1935 - April 30, 1935 | 30 |
| HH | May 1, 1935 - May 31, 1935 | 20 |
| II | June 6, 1935 - June 14, 1935 | 15 |
| JJ | July 22, 1935 - Oct. 24, 1935 | 20 |

CONTENTS

Box 1 cont.

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|---------------|--|----|
| KK | Correspondence - Waterbury Project Dec. 27, 1933 - June 5, 1934 | 15 |
| LL | Correspondence - Progress Reports Aug. 27, 1934 - June 25, 1935 | 20 |
| MM | Correspondence - Miscellaneous July 2, 1935 - Nov. 12, 1935 | 30 |
| NN | Correspondence - Miscellaneous Nov. 12, 1935 - Feb. 4, 1936 | 20 |
| OO | Correspondence - Miscellaneous March 16, 1936 - March 7, 1937 | 20 |
| PP | "Miscellaneous Notes", 1934-35 | 15 |
| QQ | Blueprint of Landscape design Cold Spring St. and Orange St. (N.D.) | 10 |

| Box 2 | <u>Folder</u> | |
|-------|--|----|
| A | Applications for art projects Dec. 17, 1933 - Feb. 17, 1934 | 30 |
| B | Appointments and personnel Dec. 22, 1933 - Jan. 31, 1934 | 20 |
| C | Feb. 1, 1934 - Feb. 28, 1934 | 15 |
| D | April 1, 1934 - May 28, 1934 | 20 |
| E | March 1, 1934 - March 30, 1934 | 20 |
| F | Telegrams from Boston Dec. 12, 1933 - April 16, 1939 | 20 |
| G | Center Church tablets to Whalley, Goffe, Dixwell Sept. 6, 1934 - Jan. 21, 1935 | 15 |
| H | Civilian Conservation Corps. correspondence June 11, 1934 - Sept. 17, 1934 | 20 |
| I | July 7, 1934 - June 15, 1935 | 25 |
| J | Sept. 19, 1935 - Sept 23, 1935 | 2 |
| K | Paul Cooley correspondence June 8, 1934 - Aug. 30, 1934 | 30 |
| L | Sept. 4, 1934 - Dec. 17, 1934 | 30 |
| M | March 5, 1935 - April 10, 1935 | 20 |
| N | Correspondence - Conn. seal for Gov. Cross Dec. 5, 1934 - Jan. 26, 1935 | 4 |
| O | Correspondence - Gov. Cross portrait July 29, 1935 - Oct. 23, 1935 | 15 |
| P | Conn. tercentenary bulletin Aug. 26, 1935 | 1 |
| Q | Minutes of meeting with Olin Dows-misc. telegrams Sept. 3, 1935 - Sept. 9, 1935 | 10 |
| R | Correspondence - Covis Gudebrod Jan. 4, 1934 - May 11, 1934 | 15 |

CONTENTS

Box 2 cont.

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|---------------|---|----|
| S | Correspondence - F.E.R.A., Hartford Feb. 17, 1934 - May 28, 1934 | 20 |
| T | Correspondence - Hartford County Court House Jan. 18, 1935 - Jan. 31, 1935 | 3 |
| U | Correspondence - Eleanor Little - Mary Parkee (Relief Administrator) April 20, 1934 - Oct. 4, 1934 | 20 |
| V | Correspondence - Lunettes, New Haven Public Library Dec. 19, 1933 - April 16, 1935 | 20 |
| W | Correspondence - Battle of Santiago Project May 10, 1934 - Aug. 17, 1934 | 20 |
| X | Sept. 13, 1934 - Dec. 29, 1934 | 20 |
| Y | Jan. 3, 1935 - Jan. 24, 1935 | 15 |
| Z | Feb. 4, 1935 - May 9, 1935 | 30 |
| AA | Stamford - Letter from Olin Dows Oct. 14, 1935 | 1 |
| BB | Whalley and Goffe tablets - Worker address cards Sept. 30, 1935 - Oct. 4, 1935 | 10 |
| CC | Correspondence - Tercentenary Exhibit at Yale June 8, 1935 | 2 |
| DD | Correspondence - Trowbridge Memorial Gateway July 17, 1935 - Aug. 12, 1935 | 3 |
| EE | Applications - Waterbury Project Jan. 2, 1934 - Jan. 24, 1934 | 10 |
| FF | Correspondence - Forbes Watson Dec. 20, 1933 - Jan. 31, 1934 | 30 |
| GG | Feb. 1, 1934 - March 26, 1934 | 30 |
| HH | April 11, 1934 - Feb. 28, 1935 | 30 |
| II | Correspondence - Miscellaneous April 24, 1935 - Oct. 25, 1935 | 10 |
| JJ | Suggested subjects for art projects Feb., 1934 | 15 |

Box 3 Folder

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| A | Correspondence - Jan. 17, 1934 - May 9, 1934 | 25 |
| B | May 11, 1934 - July 31, 1934 | 20 |
| C | Aug. 1, 1934 - Aug. 31, 1934 | 10 |
| D | Sept. 1, 1934 - Sept. 26, 1934 | 25 |
| E | Oct. 1, 1934 - Oct. 31, 1934 | 30 |
| F | Nov. 1, 1934 - Dec. 20, 1934 | 25 |
| G | Dec. 27, 1934 - Jan. 16, 1935 | 30 |
| H | April 24, 1935 - Dec. 19, 1935 | 15 |
| I | Hamden Board of Education Jan. 9, 1935 - Jan. 11, 1935 | 2 |
| J | Correspondence - Theodore Sizer et. al. July 23, 1935 - Oct. 21, 1935 | 15 |
| K | Correspondence - Bridgeport Post Office Murals Jan. 15, 1935 - Jan. 31, 1935 | 20 |
| L | Feb. 1, 1935 - Feb. 26, 1935 | 30 |
| M | Mar. 4, 1935 - March 29, 1935 | 10 |

CONTENTS

Box 3 cont.

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|---------------|--|----|
| N | Correspondence - Bridgeport Post Office Murals cont. April 6, 1935 - April 30, 1935 | 30 |
| O | May 1, 1935 - May 21, 1935 | 25 |
| P | May 22, 1935 - May 31, 1935 | 30 |
| Q | June 6, 1935 - Oct. 15, 1935 | 20 |
| R | Correspondence - Fairfield County Oct. 9, 1934 - April 26, 1934 | 20 |
| S | Expenses and Memos: Boston Office - Mr. Sizer Jan. 15, 1934 - Jan. 31, 1934 | 10 |
| T | Feb. 1, 1934 - Feb. 28, 1934 | 20 |
| U | Expenses and Memos: Boston Office - Mr. Sizer * March 1, 1934 - March 31, 1934 | 15 |
| X | April 3, 1934 - May 9, 1934 | 10 |
| Y | Dec. 7, 1935 - April 25, 1936 | 20 |
| Z | May 12, 1936 - June 1, 1936 | 20 |
| AA | Bulletin: Section of Painting and Sculptures July 1935 - Oct. 1935 | 30 |
| BB | Bulletins: Section of Painting and Sculpture March - November, 1935 | 30 |
| CC | Treasury Dept. Federal Art Projects Feb. 1936 - Feb. 1937 | 30 |
| DD | Bills and Expenses Dec. 1933 - May, 1934 | 30 |
| EE | Lists of Projects and Workers 1933 - 1934 | 30 |

Box 4: Murals and Commemorative medals; Photos ^(and negatives) of Murals

Folder 1-A Negatives of photographs from this box.

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-------|
| | A | Mural - Manual training school in Ansonia-Artist Henry Streczko-2 Copies | 2 |
| | B | Mural - Bethany School in Orange, Conn. | 3 |
| | C | Mural - Bridgeport Post Office | 6 |
| | D | Mural - Edgewood School Library | 4 |
| E-1 verso | E | Mural - Fair Haven Junior High School | 10 |
| | F | Mural - Nathan Hale School | 23 22 |
| | G | Mural - New Haven County Home for Children, Allingtown | 7 |
| | H | New Haven Public Library DeMaio and Rutkuski | 25 |
| | I | Mural - Battle of Santiago | 18 7 |
| | J | Mural - Troup Junior High School Arthur Schmalz and Don Forrer | 23 |
| | K | Murals - unidentified | 8 |
| | L | Plaques, Bas-reliefs, Portraits Public figures | 24 |
| | M | Tercentary medal and Connecticut Commemorative half dollar; Postage stamps | 15 |

* V,W omitted

CONTENTS

Box 5

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|---------------|---|----|
| A | Federal Art Project, New Haven Bills and Receipts, 1937 | 50 |
| B | Bills and Receipts, 1938 | 50 |
| C | Federal Art Project, New Haven Bank Statements, cancelled checks, 1938 | 50 |
| D | Bank Statements, cancelled checks, 1938-39 | 50 |
| E | Federal Art Project, New Haven File card records of projects 1933-34 and workers | 50 |
| F | 1934 | 50 |
| G | 1934 | 50 |

Box 6

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| A | Newspaper clippings: Jan. 8, 1935 | 4 |
| B | Oct. 3, 1935 | 4 |
| C | May 27, 1941 | 3 |
| D | Oct. 12, 1980 | 1 |
| E | Newspaper clippings - Bridgeport Centennial dollar, 1936 | 1 |
| F | Newspaper clipping - Bridgeport Post Office Mural May 28, 1935 | 2 |
| G | Newspaper clipping - Center Church tablets Oct. 6, 1935 | 1 |
| H | Newspaper clippings - Conn. tercentenary medals November 28, 1938 | 2 |
| I | Newspaper clipping - Conn. Charter Oak Stamp Oct. 23, 1936 | 1 |
| J | Newspaper clipping - Conn. tercentenary stamp Jan. 25, 1935 | 1 |
| K | Newspaper clipping - New Haven Library Murals, 1934 | 3 |
| L | Newspaper clipping - Rip Van Winkle Murals New Haven Public Library, Dec. 16, 1934 | 1 |
| M | Partial newspaper clipping - New Haven Public Library Mural, 1934 | |
| N | Newspaper clippings - LaFarge Murals - New London Post Office July 28, 1935 | 1 |
| O | Newspaper clippings - LaFarge Murals New London Post Office, July 28, 1935 | 1 |
| P | Clipping from <u>Time</u> CUA artists, Dec. 25, 1935 | 1 |
| Q | Newspaper clipping - Troup Junior High School Murals March 3, 1934 | 1 |

CONTENTS

Box 7

| <u>Folder</u> | | |
|-----------------|---|----|
| A | Lists of projects and artists - 1939 | 35 |
| B | Lists of projects and artists - 1934-35 | 30 |
| C | Miscellaneous correspondence - 1934-1937 | 20 |
| D | Correspondence - Wayland Williams | 20 |
| | Jan. 4, 1935 - Jan. 31, 1935 | |
| E | Feb. 1, 1935 - Feb. 27, 1938 | 15 |
| F | April 3, 1935 - April 30, 1935 | 25 |
| G | March 5, 1935 - March 28, 1935 | 10 |
| H | May 1, 1935 - May 29, 1935 | 20 |
| I | June 6, 1935 - June 29, 1935 | 20 |
| J | July 1, 1935 - July 29, 1935 | 30 |
| K | Jan. 3, 1936 - Jan. 29, 1936 | 20 |
| L | Southington, Conn. Mural competition | 15 |
| | Oct. 28, 1941 - Nov. 6, 1941 | |
| M | Miscellaneous - (N.D.) | 2 |
| N | Newspaper Clippings (copies) | 25 |
| | 1934-35 | |
| O | Newspaper Clippings - Crippled Children's Home Murals | 2 |
| | June 4, 1935 - Feb. 4, 1935 | |
| P | Newspaper Clippings - Troup Junior H.S. Murals | 2 |
| | March 3, 1934 | |
| Q | Newspaper Clippings - Battle of Santiago Mural | 1 |
| | March 25, 1936 | |
| R | Newspaper clipping - Washington Post, June 16, 1935 | 1 |
| | Feature story on Washington staff of Federal Art Project. | |
| S | Finding Aid for Regord Group 33, Connecticut State Library | |
| <u>OVERSIZE</u> | "Records of the Work Projects Administration, Connecticut, 1935-44" | |
| Item A | - Photo: Troup Junior High Decorations, 1933-34 | 1 |
| | Photo: Allingtown County Home for Children Mural: | 1 |
| | "The Owl and the Pussy Cat" | |

Box 8 Duplicate photographs