

General Lawrason Riggs Papers MS.14

Finding aid prepared by Amanda McKnight

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Archives and Manuscripts Collections

2011

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Summary Information

Repository	Archives and Manuscripts Collections
Creator	Riggs, Lawrason, General, 1861-1940
Title	General Lawrason Riggs Papers
Date	1889-1941
Extent	0.2 Linear feet
Language	English

Preferred Citation

General Lawrason Riggs Papers, Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art

Biographical Information

Brigadier-General Lawrason Riggs (October 17, 1861 - November 22, 1940) was born in New York City to Lawrason Riggs and his third wife, Mary Turpin Riggs. He was the second child born to this wife and the fifth child of his father's ten children. The family relocated to Baltimore in March 1867 and Riggs attended private schools eventually finishing at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire. He received a degree from Princeton in 1883 and obtained a law degree from the University of Maryland in 1886. He also completed post-graduate work in history and political science at Johns Hopkins University.

Riggs served as the director of the First National Bank and the Mercantile Trust Company. Riggs was a founding member of the Baltimore Museum of Art. He was instrumental in its founding working with the City-Wide Congress Committee and being one of its eight incorporator as well as acquiring its first building, the Garrett-Thomas mansion at 101 West Monument Street. He was an active member of the Maryland Historical Society. He was also involved in civic affairs as the Police Board's president as well as chairing the Municipal Affairs Committee of the Baltimore Association of Commerce and Maryland Training School for Boys president of the board of trustees.

Riggs died as a noted Baltimorean for all his contributions to the community.

Scope and Contents

The General Lawrason Riggs (October 17, 1861 - November 22, 1940) Papers reflect the avid print collecting he was involved with during his lifetime. The most well represented artists in Riggs' collection are Albrecht Durer (57 prints) and Rembrandt van Rijn (45 prints). The collection represents a wide range of prints from the German, Dutch, Italian, French, English and American schools as well as with Chinese color woodcuts.

The collection is arranged into two series: Receipts and Correspondence and Inventory Lists.

Arrangement

The General Lawrason Riggs Papers are arranged into the following series chronologically:

Series I. Receipts and Correspondence

Series II. Inventory Lists

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Archives and Manuscripts Collections 2011

Restrictions on Access

The collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use

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Provenance

Transferred by Rena Hoisington, Prints, Drawings and Photographs. 8/25/2010

Processing Information

Processed by Amanda McKnight, 2011.

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- Art -- Collectors and collecting -- Maryland -- Baltimore

- Baltimore Museum of Art
- Prints--Private collections

Receipts and Correspondence

Collection Inventory

Receipts and Correspondence 1889-1933	Box 1	Folder 1-2
Scope and Contents		
<p>This series is composed of receipts from the purchase of prints as well as any accompanying correspondence. FitzRoy Carrington, Arthur H. Harlow & Co., Frederick Keppel & Co., Anderson Galleries, R. Ederheimer, F. Meder, Scott & Fowles Co., and Rudolf Seckel were among some of the New York dealers who Riggs' purchased prints. He also collected from abroad purchasing prints from Colnaghi & Co. and Rembrandt Gallery in London as well as Gutekunst & Klipstein in Bern. He also supported local dealers by buying prints from Sam Pattison Auctioneers, Purnell Art Company, William E. James and David Bendann.</p>		
Inventory Lists undated, 1941	Box 1	Folder 3
Scope and Contents		
<p>This series consists of inventory lists of Riggs' print collections. The lists include the artist and the title of the print as well as have some annotations on them.</p>		