

Rudolph Evans Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78020016>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007063>

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Collection Summary

Title: Rudulph Evans Papers

Span Dates: 1862-2001

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1925-1960)

ID No.: MSS20016

Creator: Evans, Rudulph, 1878-1960

Extent: 1,700 items

Extent: 7 containers plus 3 oversize

Extent: 6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78020016>

Summary: Sculptor. Correspondence, photographs, drawings, financial and legal records, awards and citations, printed matter, writings, and miscellaneous items relating to the creation of Evans's sculptures, in particular the commission and execution of the statue for the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Evans, Frank P. (Frank Paxton), 1880-1917--Correspondence.

Evans, Lester L. (Lester Lawrence), 1886-1923--Correspondence.

Evans, Rudulph, 1878-1960.

Evans, Thomas Wiltberger, 1823-1897.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826--Monuments.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826--Statues.

Underwood, Wilbur, 1876-1935--Correspondence.

Subjects

Art.

Creation (Literary, artistic, etc.)

Creative thinking.

Literature.

Monuments--Washington (D.C.)

Sculpture--Washington (D.C.)

Sculpture.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial (Washington, D.C.)

Occupations

Artists.

Sculptors.

Provenance

The papers of Rudulph Evans, sculptor, were given to the Library of Congress by Evans in 1959. Additional material was given by Norman Underwood in 1960 and Frank Evans in 2003.

Processing History

A portion of the Evans Papers has been available for research since 1960. A finding aid was prepared in 2003. The collection was expanded and revised in 2008.

Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Rudolph Evans is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Rudolph Evans are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Rudolph Evans Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1878, Feb. 1	Born, Washington, D.C.
1892-1894	Student in sculpture, Corcoran School of Art, Washington, D.C.
1896	Student in drawing, Art Student's League, New York, N.Y.
1897	Student in sculpture, Julian Academy, Paris, France; employed in studio of Denys Peuch
1899	Student in sculpture, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France; employed in the studio of Alexandre Fulgur
1900	Opened a studio in Paris, France, and worked in studios of August Rodin and Augustus Saint-Gaudens
1901	Established a studio in Washington, D.C., associated with architect George Oakey Totten
1905	Married Jane Coleman Wood
1906	Created masque of actress Maude Adams
1912	Completed fountain statuary, "Maiden with Swans," for home of John D. Rockefeller, Pocantico Hills, N.Y.
1914	Awarded bronze medal, Paris Salon, Paris, France, for female figure entitled, "The Golden Hour"
1916	Created bronze portrait bust of Charles Rich, Jr.
1920	Awarded Watrous gold medal, National Academy of Design, New York, N.Y. Created bronze portrait bust of Frank A. Vanderlip
1931	Completed statue of Robert E. Lee commissioned for the state capitol, Richmond, Va.
1934	Awarded French Cross of the Legion of Honor Created bronze portrait bust of Owen D. Young
1937	Completed statues of William Jennings Bryan and J. Sterling Morton for the National Statuary Hall Collection in the United States Capitol, Washington, D.C. Created bronze portrait bust of Bernard Baruch
1938	Created bronze portrait bust of Clarence M. Woolley
1943	Dedicated Thomas Jefferson Memorial statue, Washington, D.C.
1960, Jan. 16	Died, Arlington, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Rudolph Evans (1878-1960) span the years 1862-2001, with the bulk of the material dated 1925-1960. The collection is arranged by subject or type of material and documents Evans's career as a sculptor of heroic statues and portrait busts of notable Americans and figurative works for the homes and gardens of business leaders. Correspondence with poet Wilbur Underwood covers a long friendship between 1900 and 1935 in which he and Evans discuss literature, the arts, and the creative process.

The history of the Evans family is documented in correspondence with brothers Frank P. Evans and Lester L. Evans. Notes and printed material concern distant relative Thomas Wiltberger Evans, a dental surgeon from Philadelphia who established a practice in Paris, France, and became court dentist during the Second French Empire.

Evans's statue of Thomas Jefferson for the memorial in Washington, D.C., his best-known work, is documented in correspondence, reports, legal records, photographs, printed material, and scrapbooks. One of the scrapbooks documents the dedication ceremonies in 1943 that went forward with a plaster model due to the wartime scarcity of bronze. Other files document efforts by Evans and others to seek new lighting for the statue, a project that was completed in 2001.

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