Ruth Penington papers and oral history interview, 1920-1985

Overview of the Collection

**Creator**  Penington, Ruth, 1905-1998  
**Title**  Ruth Penington papers and oral history interview  
**Dates**  1920-1985 (inclusive)  
**Quantity**  approximately 6.07 cubic feet  
**Collection Number**  2837  
**Summary**  Tape-recorded interview, notes and pamphlets regarding jewelry making, photographs and cards of a UW faculty member in the School of Art and jewelry designer  
**Repository**  University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections  
Special Collections  
University of Washington Libraries  
Box 352900  
Seattle, WA  
98195-2900  
Telephone: 206-543-1929  
Fax: 206-543-1931  
speccoll@uw.edu  
**Access Restrictions**  Consult the restrictions governing access for each of the accessions listed below.  
Some records stored offsite; advance notice required for use.  
**Languages**  English

Biographical Note

Ruth Esther Penington (1905-1998) was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado; her family moved to Seattle in 1907. After graduating high school, she went on to study art at the University of Washington, receiving a B.F.A. in 1927 and an M.F.A. in 1929. Penington continued her studies in summer sessions at Columbia University Teachers College, Carnegie Summer School at the University of Oregon, and at the California College of Arts and Crafts. A faculty member of the University of Washington School of Art, Penington also served as director of the University's Henry Gallery and created her own summer art program, the Fidalgo Summer School of the Allied Arts (located in La Conner, Washington).

Although Penington worked in a variety of media, including painting and printmaking, she was best known for her metalwork and jewelry. She was involved with organizations such as Lambda Rho, Northwest Printmakers, and Friends of the Crafts. These groups worked to promote the arts and to organize exhibitions and sales featuring artists and craftspeople from the Pacific Northwest and beyond. She also was active as craftsman-trustee of American Crafts Council, New York.
Content Description

Interview, notes, pamphlets regarding silversmithing and jewelry making, Christmas cards, photographs.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

Consult the restrictions governing reproduction and use for each of the accessions listed below.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Organized into 3 accessions.

Accession No. 2837-001, Oral history interview with Ruth Penington, 1972
Accession No. 2837-002, Ruth Penington papers, 1947-1953
Accession No. 2837-003, Ruth Penington papers, 1930-1969

Preservation Note

Some records stored offsite; advance notice required for use.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Accession No. 2837-001: Oral history interview with Ruth Penington, 1972

1 sound tape reel (analog) and 1 transcript
Scope and Content: Tape-recorded interview conducted by William Hoppe, with transcript, 1972.

View inventory/container list for this accession

Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access to the transcript. No user access copy is currently available for the interview on analog tape. Users may obtain a reproduction of the interview for a fee by contacting Special Collections.

Restrictions on Use: Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.

Acquisition Info: Ruth Penington, 1972-08-08
Oral history interview with Ruth Penington

Accession No. 2837-002: Ruth Penington papers, 1947-1953
1 folder
Scope and Content: Notes and pamphlets regarding silversmithing and jewelry making; 1947-1953
Restrictions on Access: Open to all users
Restrictions on Use: Penington's literary rights transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.
Acquisition Info: Robert Dishman (Plestcheeff Institute), 1992-06-05

Accession No. 2837-003: Ruth Penington papers, 1930-1969
6 linear feet
Scope and Content: Mostly Christmas cards received, photographs.
List of sorted cards in Box 1.
Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access.
Records stored offsite; advance notice required for use.
Restrictions on Use: Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.
Acquisition Info: Ruth Penington to Archives of Northwest Art (Henry Gallery), 1973-01-01

Names and Subjects

Personal Names :
Penington, Ruth, 1905-1998--Archives
Penington, Ruth, 1905-1998--Interviews

Corporate Names :
University of Washington. Archives of Northwest Art

Other Creators :
Personal Names :
Hoppe, Bill
(interviewer)

2014 (Last modified: 3/25/2019)

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