

# Municipal Art Commission Subject Files, 1955-1969

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle (Wash.). Municipal Art Commission
<b>Title</b>	Municipal Art Commission Subject Files
<b>Dates</b>	1955-1969 (inclusive) 1955 1969
<b>Quantity</b>	1.6 cubic ft., (4 boxes)
<b>Collection Number</b>	1652-02
<b>Summary</b>	The Municipal Art Commission Subject Files, 1955-1969, contain correspondence, memoranda, reports, and press clippings relating to the programs, activities, and administration of the Commission.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Historical Note

An Arts Commission was created in 1955 to advise City government regarding the artistic and cultural development of the City. The Commission had ten members (later increased by ordinance to fifteen), who represented the painting, sculpture, music, literature, architecture, and landscape architecture communities; members could be nominated for appointment to the Commission by their organizations.

The Commission was reorganized in 1957 as the Municipal Art Commission by Ordinance 86692. Its primary mission remained the same, and the composition of the Commission changed only slightly. Its fifteen members included two from each of the abovementioned categories as well as three "lay" members. The Commission's advisory responsibility was extended to recommendations regarding the purchase of artworks by the City or the donation of artworks to the City; each painting, sculpture, or fountain and its location had to be approved by the Commission, which also made recommendations on the removal of artworks. The Commission was also responsible for making recommendations on the design of new physical structures to be constructed in the City and could even advise private property owners at no charge.

In 1961, the Commission's responsibilities were broadened to include historic preservation recommendations. In 1971, the Municipal Art Commission, which was "no longer actively pursuing its responsibilities," was abolished by Ordinance 99982 and replaced by the Seattle Arts Commission. The new Commission acted in the same advisory capacity and had fifteen mayor-appointed members; its actions served "to promote and encourage public programs to further the development and public awareness of and interest in the fine and performing arts."

## Content Description

Correspondence, memoranda, reports, and press clippings relating to the programs, activities, and administration of the Municipal Arts Commission; included are materials on Commission input regarding planning for construction of physical structures in the City. Photographs and architectural drawings are found in a few files; the collection also contains several folders of annual reports and general correspondence. The records contain information on projects, special events, programs and development in various Seattle neighborhoods, the Chief Seattle statue, the Civic Center, Seattle Center, historic sites preservation, lighting, landscaping, parks, parking, and sign and billboard regulations. Also included are files regarding the work of prominent local artists such as Doris Chase, Mark Tobey, and George Tsutakawa.

## Use of the Collection

### Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Municipal Art Commission Subject Files, Record Series 1652-02. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Records are arranged alphabetically by subject.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

### Municipal Art Commission Subject Files, 1955-1969

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Allied Arts of Seattle	1956-1967

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1/2	Annual Art Commission Awards Dinner: Correspondence, Invitation Lists and Commission Members	1966-1967
1/2	Annual Art Commission Awards Dinner: Correspondence, Invitation Lists, and Commission Members	1966-1967
1/3	Architecture, Planning, Landscaping Committee: Second Preliminary Report	1956
1/4	Art Commission Annual Report	1958
1/5	Art Commission Annual Report	1957
1/6	Art Commission Annual Report	1956
1/7	Art Commission Annual Report	1959
1/8	Art Commission Annual Report	1960
1/9	Art Commission Annual Report	1962
1/10	Art Commission Annual Report	1964
1/11	Art Commission: Correspondence, General	1963
1/12	Art Commission: Correspondence, General	1964
1/13	Art Commission: Correspondence, General	1965-1966
1/14	Art Commission: Correspondence, General	1967
1/15	Art Commission: Correspondence, General	1968
1/16	Art Commission Landscape and Architecture Committee	1964-1967
1/17	Art Commission Members, Committees, Regulations	1959-1967
1/18	Art Commission Projects: Gifts for the Mayor	1965
1/19	Art Commission Projects: Miscellaneous	1965-1967
1/20	Arts for Youth Festival	1964

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1/21	Arts Programming: Report on Park Department Music and Art Programming	1961
1/22	Associated Council for the Arts (New York)	1967-1968
1/23	Ballard City Hall Site	1965-1966
1/24	Beautification: General	1965-1966
1/25	Boeing 50th Anniversary Medallion	1965-1966
1/26	Bridges	1964
1/27	Bus Stops and Shelters	1962-1963
1/28	Central Association of Seattle	1965-1966
1/29	Central Area Motivation Program: Performing Arts Center - Cherry Hill Firehouse	1967
1/30	Central Business District Development	1963
1/31	Charles Street Traffic Engineering Building: Landscape Recommendations	1964-1966
1/32	Chief Sealth Statue: Report on Relocation	1957
1/33	Citations, Awards, and Resolutions	1961-1962
1/34	City Council	1966
1/35	City Building Signs	1965
1/36	City Flag	1965
2/1	City Light	1962-1964
2/2	City Light: Pine Street Substation (Drawing)	1965
2/3	Civic Arts Account: Donated Art Works	1961
2/4	Civic Arts Account: Donated Art Works	1962

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
2/5	Civic Arts Fund	1965-1966
2/6	Civic Arts Fund	1967-1969
2/7	Civic Center: International Fountain Design and Competition	1960-1962
2/8	Civic Center Survey	n.d.
2/9	Design Review and Recommendations	1966-1968
2/10	Engineering Department: General	1965-1966
2/11	Public Financing for Public Art Works	1966
2/12	Fire Station Number 8	1963
2/13	Fire Station Number 22: Preservation	1963-1966
2/14	Fire Station Number 23: Disposition	1965
2/15	Fire Station Number 40	1964
2/16	Freeway Landscaping and Highway Aesthetics	1959-1964
2/17	Fortson Square	1966
2/18	Gerber Memorial Park: Children's Fountain - George Tsutakawa	1968
2/19	Gray, Maxine Cushing: "The Argus"	1965-1966
2/20	Historic Sites in Seattle	1960-1966
2/21	Historic Sites in Seattle: Suggested Consultants	1965
2/21	Historic Sites: Suggested Consultants	1965
2/22	Holiday Dance Concert	1963
2/22	Holiday Dance Concert	1963
2/23	Interdepartmental Seattle Beautiful Committee	1966

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/24	Instructions to Architects: Design Review	1965
2/25	Ivar Haglund Fountain	1966
2/26	Joshua Green Fountain: George Tsutakawa Insurance Issues	1965-1967
2/27	Kerry Park: Doris Totten Chase Sculpture	1968
2/27	Kerry Park: Doris Totten Chase Sculpture	1968
2/28	Landscape Architect Licensing	1966-1967
2/29	Nominating Committee	1956-1968
2/29	Lake Union Development	1963-1967
2/30	Lake Washington Bridge	1963
3/1	Lake Washington Boulevard at Hillside Drive: Viewpoint Proposed Improvement - Frederick J. Blanchett Foundation	1965-1966
3/2	Legislative Department: City Council	1965
3/3	Library and Library Branches	1963-1967
3/4	Lighting Fixtures for Restaurant Annex A, Civic Center: Seattle Lighting Company (includes drawing and photographs)	1964
3/5	Mark Tobey Mural Cards: Journey of the Opera Star	1965-1966
3/6	Messenger Memorial: United Parcel Service	1966
3/7	Municipal Building	1963-1968
3/8	Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (METRO)	1965-1966
3/9	Northwest Craft Center	1965-1967
3/10	Northwest Dance Theater	1965
3/11	Old Public Safety Building (Yesler Building)	1966

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
3/12	Overpasses	1962-1965
3/13	Parking Garages and Parking Lots	1963-1967
3/13	Parking Lots and Parking Garages	1963-1967
3/14	Parking: Suggested Modifications to Parking Lot Criteria in New Zoning Ordinance	n.d.
3/14	Parking: Suggested Modifications to Parking Lot Criteria in the New Zoning Ordinance	n.d.
3/15	Parks Department: General	1964-1966
3/16	Pedestrian Overpasses	1959-1964
3/17	Performing Arts Program for Youth: Grant Proposal to Ford Foundation - Central Area Motivation Program	1967
3/18	Pike Place Market	1964-1968
3/19	Pioneer Square	1964-1968
3/20	Planning Commission	1966
3/21	Plaques for Donated Works of Art	1962-1967
3/22	Playgrounds and Playfields	1963-1966
3/23	Plymouth Congregational Church Columns	1966-1967
3/24	Post Office: Curb-Side Mailboxes	1965-1966
3/25	Queen City Yacht Club	1963
3/26	Requests for Information	1965-1966
3/27	R.H. Thomson Freeway	1965
3/28	Robert Joffrey Ballet Company: Proposed Summer Residency	1965-1967
3/29	Seattle Center: General	1963-1968

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
3/30	Seattle Center: International Fountain	1965
3/30	Seattle Center: International Fountain	1965
3/31	Seattle Center: Kobe Bell Building and Grounds	1964-1966
3/31	Seattle Center: Kobe Bell Building and Grounds	1964-1966
3/32	Seattle Center: Marine Park and Aquarium Proposal	1966
3/33	Seattle Center: Opera House	1963-1966
3/34	Seattle Center: Opera House - Cecilia Schultz Music Room Dedication	1965
3/35	Seattle Center Permanent Works of Art and Items of Interest	1965-1966
3/35	Seattle Center: Permanent Works of Art and Items of Interest	1965-1966
3/36	Seattle Center: Playhouse Questionnaire	1965
3/37	Seattle Center: Repertory Theatre	1964
4/1	Seattle Housing Authority	1966
4/2	Seattle Public Library: General	1965-1966
4/2	Seattle Public Library: General	1965-1966
4/3	Seattle Repertory Theatre Tickets	1965-1966
4/3	Seattle Repertory Theatre Tickets	1965-1966
4/4	Service Pins for City Employees	1966
4/5	Sewage Treatment Plants: Landscaping and Design	1963
4/6	Seward Park: Torii	1962-1963
4/6	Seward Park: Torii	1962-1963
4/7	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1955-1958



<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
4/8	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1959
4/9	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1960
4/10	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1961-1962
4/10	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1961-1963
4/11	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1963-1964
4/11	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1963-1964
4/12	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1965-1967
4/12	Sign and Billboard Regulation	1965-1967
4/13	Spring and Seneca Streets and Sixth Avenue Triangle	1965-1966
4/14	Stewart Street Landscaping and Lighting	1965
4/15	Street Furniture	1966
4/16	Street Lighting	1964-1965
4/17	Street Tree Planting Program: A Report on Current and Future Stree Tree Planting Programs	1966
4/18	Street Trees: Planting and Pruning	1963-1968
4/19	Trash Receptacles	1965-1966
4/20	Title III: Supplementary Education Planning	1966
4/21	Underground Wiring	1963-1968
4/22	Urban Design Board	1965
4/23	Victoria (B.C.) Light Standards	1965
4/24	Washington Bird Sculpture	1965-1966
4/25	Washington State Arts Commission	1965

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/26	Washington State Coliseum	1963
4/27	Westlake Mall	1963-1965
4/28	Westlake Square Fountain (Drawing)	1964-1967
4/29	Will Rodgers Memorial	1966
4/30	Winter Leaves by Morris Graves	1963
4/31	Woodland Park Zoo	1964

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Architecture--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Art commissions--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Art, Municipal--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Billboards--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 City planning--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Historic preservation--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Public art--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Public sculpture--Washington (State)--Seattle  
 Signs and signboards--Washington (State)--Seattle

### Personal Names :

Chase, Doris, 1923-  
 Seattle, Chief, 1790-1866--Statues  
 Tobey, Mark  
 Tsutakawa, George

### Corporate Names :

Seattle Center (Seattle, Wash.)

### Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)--Buildings, structures, etc.

### Form or Genre Terms :

Architectural drawings  
 Correspondence  
 Memorandums  
 Photographic prints

Finding aid prepared by Scott Cline and Shannon B. Lynch  
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