

# Work Projects Administration Oregon Federal Art Project collection, 1937

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	United States. Work Projects Administration. Oregon
<b>Title</b>	Work Projects Administration Oregon Federal Art Project collection
<b>Dates</b>	1937 1937 1937
<b>Quantity</b>	0.75 linear feet, (4 containers)
<b>Collection Number</b>	Coll 238
<b>Summary</b>	In Oregon, artists and crafts people worked on Work Projects Administration (WPA) projects for schools, universities, hospitals, and the Forest Service. This collection includes photographs of paintings and murals that were installed in Oregon public schools, University of Oregon and Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon. Of interest to the researcher is the collection of photographs of woodwork, art, and paintings for Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood, Oregon.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.</a> UO Libraries--SPC, 1299 University of Oregon Eugene OR 97403-1299 Telephone: 541-346-3068 Fax: 541-346-3485 <a href="mailto:spcarref@uoregon.edu">spcarref@uoregon.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.  Records must be used in Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room.
<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

The Work Projects Administration (WPA) was originally named the Works Progress Administration when it was established as a national agency on May 6, 1935, by an executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It was established as a relief measure during the Great Depression and lasted until it was phased out in 1943, after it was rendered unnecessary by increased employment and reduced relief rolls. Activities of the Work Projects Administration in any given area of the country were dependent on the needs and skills of the persons on relief in that area, since the main prerequisite for WPA employment was one's certified relief status. WPA's building program included the construction of 116,000 buildings, 78,000 bridges, and 651,000 miles of road and the improvement of 800 airports.

Also a part of WPA's diversified activities were the Federal Art Project, the Federal Writers' Project, and the Federal Theatre Project. Close to 10,000 drawings, paintings, and sculptured works were produced through WPA, and many public buildings (especially post offices) were decorated with murals. At its peak WPA had about 3.5 million persons on its payrolls. Altogether WPA employed a total of 8.5 million persons, and total federal appropriations for the program amounted to almost \$11 billion.

In Oregon, artists and crafts people worked on projects for schools, universities, hospitals, and the Forest Service. This collection includes photographs of paintings and murals that were installed in Oregon public schools, University of Oregon and Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon.

The most well known Forest Service project was the construction of Timberline Lodge on Oregon's Mt. Hood. On June 11, 1936, ground was broken for a project unique in America. Timberline Lodge was built entirely by hand, inside and out, by unemployed crafts people hired by the Federal Works Progress Administration. The work was done in an amazingly short time - the intensity of the project being due not only to the weather but also to the uncertainty of the WPA's future. From the first drawings, made in early 1936, to the dedication of the completed lodge by President Franklin Roosevelt in September 1937, only 15 months elapsed.

In 1978, Timberline Lodge was declared a National Historic Landmark.

Sources: [www.infoplease.com/ce6/history/A0852725.html](http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/history/A0852725.html). See D. S. Howard, WPA and Federal Relief Policy (1943) Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition, Copyright (c) 2004. [www.encyclopedia.com/html/W/WorkP1roj.asp](http://www.encyclopedia.com/html/W/WorkP1roj.asp) Timberline Lodge web site: [www.timberlinelodge.com/lodge/history.shtm](http://www.timberlinelodge.com/lodge/history.shtm).

## Content Description

The collection comprises black and white photographs of artworks made by Work Projects Administration artists and crafts people for installation at Timberline Lodge, the University of Oregon, various public schools in Oregon and Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children. The collection also includes watercolor paintings of draperies made for Timberline Lodge.

## Use of the Collection

### Restrictions on Use

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Archival material may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal and/or state right to privacy laws and other regulations.

Researchers are advised that the disclosure of certain information pertaining to identifiable living individuals represented in this collection without the consent of those individuals may have legal ramifications (e.g. a cause of action for invasion of privacy may arise if facts concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the University of Oregon assumes no responsibility.

If a researcher finds sensitive personal information in a collection, please bring it to the attention of the reading room staff.

## Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Work Projects Administration Oregon Federal Art Project records, Coll 238, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Collection is organized into the following series: Series I. Black and white photographs of projects at Timberline Lodge by United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon (Project 1267); Series II. Watercolor paintings of draperies for Timberline Lodge from United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon; and Series III. Black/white photographs of paintings by United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon.

### Processing Note

Collection processed by staff.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Black and white photographs of projects at Timberline Lodge by United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon (Project 1267), 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates	
Box	Item		
1	1	Sewing-cutting curtains, two 8x10 black and white photographs	1937
1	2	The Weaver, one 8x10 black and white photograph	1937
1	3	Furniture, three 8x10 black and white photographs Beds and bench; fourth photograph is loose in container.	1937
1	4	Furniture, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 short stool; 1 "window pane" backed chair; 1 high stool (bar?); and 1 polygon low table (coffee?)	1937

Container(s)		Description	Dates
1	5	Rugs/Fabrics, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 w/rectangles, 1 w/diamond, 1 w/squares, and 1 w/ diamond "grid"	1937
1	6	Wild flower watercolors for bedrooms, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 lupine, 1 mertensia, 1 rhododendron, and 1 wild heleotrope	1937
1	7	Furniture, two 8x10 black and white photographs 1 w/bed, curtains, and secretary desk; 1 w/dresser, chair and artwork on walls, unidentified iron objects on floor (appear to be squirrels).	1937
1	8	Furniture, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 secretary desk, 1 desk, 1 table, 1 dresser/bureau, and 1 bench w/rawhide seat (this photo is no longer adhered to board and is loose in container).	1937
1	9	Wild flower watercolors, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 mountain ash, 1 mountain huckleberry, 1 white bark pine, and 1 noble fir.	1937
1	10	Hand carved animal newel posts, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 wildcat, 1 eagle, 1 beaver, and 1 bear; the background in all appears to be plans for the lodge.	1937
1	11	Hand carved newel posts, four 8x10 black and white photographs 1 kingfisher, 2 geometric w/bands, and 1 duck.	1937
1	12	Iron Shop, 1 8x10 black and white photographs Three men working drill and grinder; appears second photograph was cut out.	1937
1	13	Iron Shop, two 8x10 black and white photographs 1 w/man at anvil, and 1 w/two men at anvil.	1937
1	14	Watercolor of deluxe bedroom Three separate panels, fourth panel is no longer adhered to board and is loose in container.	1937

## Series II: Watercolor paintings of draperies for Timberline Lodge by United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon, 1937

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
2	1	Yellow lilies on tan background	1937
2	1	Water lilies on green background	1937
2	1	White flowers on yellow background	1937
2	2	Red gingham	1937
2	2	Red tipped flower on green background	1937
2	2	Cattails on green background	1937
2	3	Salmon seal pattern	1937
2	3	Blue flowers on red-orange background	1937
2	3	Light blue flowers on brick red background	1937
2	4	Brown and red geometric on tan background	1937
2	4	Red and purple geometric on turquoise background	1937
2	4	Blue tulip within red circle on blue background	1937
2	4	Green, violet design on red background	1937
2	5	Blue triangle with green circle on dark brown background	1937
2	5	Brown and red geometric on yellow background	1937
2	5	Blue triangle with green circle on brown background	1937
3	1	Blue "tulip" in red circle on blue background	1937
3	1	Green and yellow leaf pattern on red-brown background	1937

Container(s)		Description	Dates
3	2	Geometric white person with blue dog on brown background	1937
3	2	Five blue flowers on gold background	1937
3	3	White flowers on blue background	1937
3	3	White snowflakes on blue background	1937
3	4	Triangle pattern in three shades of blue on orange brown background	1937
3	4	Brown, orange and yellow flower on blue background	1937
3	4	Brown-red and green leaf pattern on dark brown background	1937

### Series III: Black and white photographs of paintings from United States Work Projects Administration artists in Oregon, 1937

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Item		
4	1	69: "Symphony in Park" by Belle Clogston Black and white photograph of easel painting; School District #1, Portland, Oregon; File no. 4-37-EP-1-c.	April 1937
4	2	70: "Symphony in Library" by Belle Clogston Black and white photograph of easel painting; School District #1, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-EP-2-C; Project No. 419-(1)-G	April 1937
4	3	72: "Willow" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of Wild Flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-3-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4	4	73: "Erigeron" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of Wild Flower watercolor; Timberline lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-4-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4	5	74: "Mount Hood Lily" by Dora Erickson	April 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Black and white photograph of Wild Flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-5-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	
4 6	75: "Western Anemone" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of Wild Flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-6-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 7	76: "Red Monkey Flower" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-7-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 8	77: "Indian Paint Brush" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-8-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 9	78: "Lupin" by Dora Erickson Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-9-E; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 10	79: "Squaw Grass" by Carol Feurer Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-3-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 11	80: "Mertensia Laevigata" by Carol Feurer Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-4-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 12	81: "Anemone Occidentalis (in seed)" by Carol Feurer Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-5-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 13	82: "Wild Heleotrope" by Carol Feurer Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-6-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 14	83: "Shooting Star" by Carol Feurer	April 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-7-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	
4 15	"Shooting Star" by Carol Feurer Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland; File No. 4-37-WC-8-F; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 16	85: "Pioneers" by Aimee Gorham Black and white photograph of wood marquetry; main hall, Alameda High School, District #1, Portland, Oregon; File No. 437-WM-7-G; Project No. 419-(1)-G	May 1937
4 17	86: "Trees" by Aimee Gorham Black and white photograph of wood marquetry; Oregon State College, Portland, Oregon; File No. 437-WM-8-G; Project No. 419-(1)-G	April 1937
4 18	87: "Red Riding Hood" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of oil painting; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-OP-2-H; Project No. 421-(1)-F	April 1937
4 19	88: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-3-H; Project No. 421-(1)-F	April 1937
4 20	89: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-4-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 21	90: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-5-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 22	91: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-6-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 23	91(a): "McLaughlin" by Virginia Darce	April 1937



Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Black and white photograph of mural painting; Oregon City Library, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-5-D; Project No. 419-(1)-T	
4 24	92: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-8-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 25	93: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-9-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 26	94: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC10H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 27	95: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC11H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	April 1937
4 28	96: "Tiger Lily" by Jeffrey Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-4-J; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 29	97: "Rhododendron" by Jeffrey Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-5-J; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 30	98: "Mt. Hood Lily" by Jeffrey Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-6-J; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 31	99: "Mountain Ash" by Jeffrey Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-7-J; Project No. 419-(1)-V	April 1937
4 32	100: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson	April 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Black and white photograph of fresco; Southeast corner, University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-1-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	
4 33	101: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; west wall detail ("Rodman"), University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-2-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 34	102: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; east wall through arcade at night; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-3-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 35	103: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; south wall "Highlander" detail; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-4-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 36	104: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; east wall "Faller" detail; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-5-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 37	105: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; east wall; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-6-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 38	106: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; west wall "Highlander" detail; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-7-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 39	107: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; west wall detail "Engineer"; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-8-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 40	108: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; southeast corner; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-9-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 41	109: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson	April 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Black and white photograph of fresco; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F-9-J Project No. 419-(1)-H	
4 42	110: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; west wall detail; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F11J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 43	111: "Forestry" by Philip Halley Johnson Black and white photograph of fresco; west wall "Engineer" detail; University of Oregon, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-F12J Project No. 419-(1)-H	April 1937
4 44	112: "Airport" by Charlotte Mish Black and white photograph of oil painting; Portland, Oregon File No. 4-37-EP-4-M Project No. 421-(1)-D	April 1937
4 45	113: "Pioneers" by H.S. Sewall Black and white photograph of oil mural; Oregon City High School, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-2-S Project No. 419-(1)-L	April 1937
4 46	114: "Pioneers" by H.S. Sewall Black and white photograph of oil mural; Oregon City High School, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-3-S Project No. 419-(1)-L	April 1937
4 47	115: "Pioneers" by H.S. Sewall Black and white photograph of oil mural; Oregon City High School, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-4-S Project No. 419-(1)-L	April 1937
4 48	116: "Pioneers" by H.S. Sewall Black and white photograph of oil mural; Oregon City High School, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-5-S Project No. 419-(1)-L	April 1937
4 49	117: "Pioneers" by H.S. Sewall Black and white photograph of oil mural; Oregon City High School, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-MP-6-S; Project No. 419-(1)-L	April 1937
4 50	118: "Fairy Tale" by Margot Helser	April 1937

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4	Black and white photograph of watercolor; Doernbecher Memorial Hospital for Children, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-7-H; Project No. 419-(1)-F	
51	119: "Mountain Hemlock" by Jeffrey Black and white photograph of wild flower watercolor; Timberline Lodge, Portland, Oregon; File No. 4-37-WC-3-J; Project No. 419-(1)-U	April 1937

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Art in interior decoration--Oregon  
 Art, American--Oregon--20th century  
 Draperies in interior decoration--Oregon  
 Federal aid to the arts--Oregon  
 Mural painting and decoration, American--Oregon--20th century  
 Painting, American--Oregon--20th century  
 Public art--Oregon  
 School decoration--Oregon

### Corporate Names :

Doernbecher Children's Hospital (Portland, Or.)  
 Federal Art Project  
 Timberline Lodge (Mount Hood, Or.)  
 United States. Work Projects Administration. Oregon  
 University of Oregon.

### Form or Genre Terms :

Black-and-white photographs  
 Watercolors

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