

STORM KING ART CENTER
ARCHIVES

DOROTHY DEHNER
PHOTOGRAPHS OF BOLTON
LANDING AND DAVID SMITH

Collection 2017-001
Storm King Art Center
New Windsor, NY

Storm King Art Center Archives

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Collection 2017-001

Storm King Art Center

New Windsor, NY

Dorothy Dehner, Photographs of Bolton Landing and David Smith

Dates of record-keeping activity: 1924-1945

Extent: 3 boxes including negative transparencies, mounted and unmounted 5x7 prints, with copy of D.Dehner's handwritten notes

Creator(s):

- Dehner, Dorothy, 1901-1994
- Smith, David, 1906-1965

Abstract: Collection of photographs received from artist Dorothy Dehner documenting her early years with sculptor David Smith and the development of their Bolton Landing property.

Administrative/Biographical History:

After meeting in New York City and studying together at the Art Students League, Dorothy Dehner and David Smith married in 1927 and bought an 86-acre farm in Bolton Landing in 1929. Settling there full-time in 1940, they built a cinder-block studio and then house on the property. Dehner left the marriage and Bolton Landing in 1950 and continued her artistic career. They divorced in 1952. Smith lived and worked at Bolton Landing until his death in 1965.

Scope and Content:

The photographs span the mid-1920s through the mid-1940s and include negative transparencies, mounted photographs and prints. Most photographs taken by Dehner, some taken by Smith and others. Illustrating the early years Dehner and Smith shared in New York City and their country life in Bolton Landing, the bulk of these photographs document original structures and construction on the property as well as Smith's art-filled studio space. Titles of the photographs are taken from Dehner's handwritten notes on the collection.

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Languages and Scripts of the Material:

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Dorothy Dehner, artist

Related Archival Materials:

Dorothy Dehner, "Life on the Farm" Paintings (Collection 2017-002, Storm King Art Center)

Photographs:

1. David Smith's studio, Bolton Landing, old house
Sculpture "Personage from Stone City" made from this painting
Taken by: D.D.
Date: c. 1944
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted
2. David Smith's studio, Bolton Landing, in old wood shed
Sculpture "Reclining Figure"
Tools and forge from blacksmith's shop, Ticonderoga
Taken by: D.D.
Date: c. 1930s
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
3. David Smith's new cinder block studio, Bolton Landing
Power tools, electric welder, etc.
Taken by: D.D.
Date: c. 1945
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted
4. Smith's studio, Bolton Landing
Sculpture "Insect", also "Eagles Lair"
Taken by: D.S.
Date: c. 1945
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
5. Smith in studio, B.L., new machinery
Sculpture "Insect"
Taken by: D.D.
Date: c. 1945
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
6. Smith's studio, B.L.
Painting under table – sculpture?
Taken by: D.S.
Date: c. 1945
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative (2), 5x7 b/w print mounted (2), 5x7 b/w print (2)
7. Sculpture?
Taken by: D.S.
Date: c. 1945
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
8. Terminal Iron Works, Brooklyn at foot of Atlantic Ave. Buckhorn and Blackburn, proprietors, with friends.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
9. Old house purchased 1929, August
Taken by: D.S.
Date: 1929?

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print (2)

10. Old house after painting and repairs

Taken by: D.S.

Date: 1931

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

11. Old house, out buildings, pear tree

D.D. and aunt

Taken by: D.S.

Date: c.1937

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

12. D.D. and cat "Bohack" at farm

Taken by: D.S.

Date: 1931

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print (2)

13. D.D. at Staten Island Ferry

Taken by: D.S.

Date: c.1929

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

14. D.D. outside of old house

Taken by: D.S.

Date: c.1929

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print (2)

15. D.D. shortly before marriage to D.S.

Taken by: Alvin

Date: 1927

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

16. D.D. and D.S. in Schenectady during war, with paintings from the series "My Life on the Farm".

Taken by: Albany newspaper

Date: 1942

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

17. D.D. in front of Smith's studio, B.L. (Bolton Landing) – note electric wires (finally)

Taken by: ?

Date: 1943

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

18. D. Smith in front of studio, Bolton Landing

Taken by: D.D.

Date: 1940's

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

19. Left to right: Mme. Dubrowski [(1st wife of John Graham (painter))] in courtyard of her house in Moscow, 1936. Friends of family, Kyril Dubrowski, son of Vohu Graham, David Smith receiving flowers, Maria Dubrowski, daughter of Vohu Graham and friend. John Graham's name was Ivan Dubrowski. He changed it after his marriage to Elinor Gibson.

Taken by: D.D.

Date: 1936

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

20. Left to right: Florence Uphof (Dorothy's aunt), Lucille Corcos Levy, Dorothy Dehner and David Smith on day of departure for year in Europe.

Taken by: Edgar Levy

Date: 1935

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

21. David Smith with Bennington students at lecture

Photo courtesy of Stanley Marcus

Date: c.1960

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

22. David Smith taken at Photo-mat in theatre area – N.Y.C.

Date: c.1933

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

23. David Smith photographing "Oculus" on dock at Bolton Landing.

Taken by: D.D.

Date: c.1945

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

24. David Smith in studio. Sculpture, "Insect".

Taken by: D.D.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

25. David Smith, graduation picture, Paulding High School, Paulding, Ohio

Date: 1924

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

26. David Smith, lecture at Bennington College

Photo courtesy of Stanley Marcus

Date: ?, c.1960's

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

27. Candida and Rebecca Smith sitting on sculpture "Primo Piano", Bolton Landing. Photo sent to D.D. by David Smith with data on back. Were on visit to D.S. after divorce of second wife.

Taken by: D.S.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

28. Candida and Rebecca Smith working on horse. Armature made by David Smith in his studio in B.L. Visiting D.S. Sent to D.D. by D.S. with data on back.

Taken by: D.S.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted

29. Rebecca and Candida Smith in Paulding O. visiting mother and sister, with D.S. Sent to D.D. by D.S. with data on back of photo.

Taken by: D.S.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

30. Rebecca and Candida Smith visiting D.S. in Bolton Landing. House in B.L. Sent to D.D. by D.S.
Data on back of photo.
Taken by: D.S.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
31. Dorothy and David at the time of their marriage.
Formats: 5x7 b/w print mounted
32. Construction at Bolton Landing_01
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
33. Construction at Bolton Landing_02
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted
34. Construction at Bolton Landing_03
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
35. Construction at Bolton Landing _04
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
36. Construction at Bolton Landing_05
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
37. Construction at Bolton Landing_06
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
38. Bolton Landing studio_01
These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.
Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print
39. Bolton Landing studio_02

These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print (2)

40. Bolton Landing studio_03

These...pictures show the transformation which took place from 1931-1948. The old house was torn down and material for the new construction was stockpiled until work began in 1947 and was completed the following year.

Formats: 4x5 b/w negative, 5x7 b/w print mounted, 5x7 b/w print

Additional photographs:

41. D.D. in front of house, Bolton Landing, early years.

Taken by: D.S.

Date: 1929

Formats: 5x7 b/w print

42. D.S. in front of house, Bolton Landing, early years.

Formats: 5x7 b/w print

43. D.D., on day of departure for year in Europe.

Date: 1935

Formats: 5x7 b/w print

44. D.D. on day of departure for year in Europe.

Date: 1935

Formats: 5x7 b/w print

45. D.S. in the city, Brooklyn?

Date: 1930s

Format: 5x7 b/w print (2)

46. D.S.

Date: 1930s

Format: 5x7 b/w print