

Guide to the Alice Cosgrove Papers, 1928-1971, bulk 1946-1965

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Alice Cosgrove Papers, 1928-1971, bulk 1946-1965

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1985.052

Author of Finding Aid:

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing and updated by Mylynda Gill

Creator:

Cosgrove, Alice, 1909-1971

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

2 boxes and 1 oversized folder ; 0.67 linear feet

Abstract:

Alice Cosgrove (1909-1971) was an artist and for twenty-five years she worked at the State of New Hampshire Department of Planning and Development. The bulk of the collection consists of printed materials produced as part of her job with her state. Other material in the collection includes some correspondence, original sketches, drafts for printed items, and Christmas cards. The materials date from 1928 to 1971.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Alice Cosgrove Papers were a gift of Robert Parrish in 1986.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date and reprocessed by Mylynda Gill in October and November of 2022. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date, reformatted by Korrena Cowing in May 2020, and updated by Mylynda Gill in October and November of 2022. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish material from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Alice Cosgrove Papers, 1985.052. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Alice (Ericson) Cosgrove was born in Concord, NH, to Eric and Sophia Ericson on February 16, 1909. She was the youngest child of Sonia and Eric Ericson. After high school in Concord, she attended the Museum of Fine Arts School in Boston, MA. She married Roland Cosgrove (1900-1968), also an artist, and they lived in Boston. Their daughter Joanna was born in 1931.

Work was difficult to find during the Depression so Alice and her daughter returned to the family home in Concord where Cosgrove began working for the Works Progress Administration Federal Arts Project. One of the projects she completed under this program was the Mother Goose murals at the Way School in Claremont, NH. During World War II, she worked for Hoyt Electrical Instruments drafting precision dials.

Alice Cosgrove started with the State of New Hampshire Department of Planning and Development in 1946, a position she held for twenty-five years. She designed various promotional materials for the state. One of her more well-known designs was the character of Chippa Granite, a boy she used in various projects and who became so popular that contests were held for a few years to find a real-life look-alike. She designed a postage stamp for the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the Old Man of the Mountain, which was issued June 21, 1955. She designed the clay figure used as the model for the Marine Memorial in Hampton and also designed parade floats to represent the State of New Hampshire for the Presidential Inaugurations of John F. Kennedy in 1961 and Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965. Alice Cosgrove retired in 1971 and died on December 7, 1971.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Alice Cosgrove Papers consists of few original sketches, drafts for printed items, Christmas cards, etc., but the bulk of the collection consists of printed materials produced as part of her job with the state. There is little personal information about Alice Cosgrove. The materials are dated 1928 to 1971.

Some of the items in this collection include various drafts for a New Hampshire Commemorative Stamp featuring the Old Man of the Mountain, which can be found in the New Hampshire commemorative stamps folder. Another item of note would be a letter from New Hampshire Governor Wesley Powell congratulating her on fifteen years of service to the State of New Hampshire, which can be found in the correspondence and press releases folder. Another would be a press release from the Office of James C. Cleveland discussing the inauguration of Lyndon B. Johnson as President of the United States, also found in the correspondence and press releases folder.

In the printer materials folder, there is a sketch of John F. Kennedy in a vehicle with multiple children accompanied by a quote from him. The Marine Monument folder offers a look into the creation of the Marine Memorial on Hampton Beach, NH, that Cosgrove designed. The monument honors the all of the New Hampshire men and women lost at sea during times of war. The cover of a magazine within this folder shows a picture of Alice Cosgrove with the monument. There are also materials related to her character Chippa Granite. He can be seen in many of her projects throughout the collection, and there are also materials related to the contests to find a real-life look-alike scattered through several folders.

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into folders by subject or project.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 0 Register
- Folder 1 Correspondence and press releases, 1946-1965
- Folder 2 Certificates and awards, 1960, 1962
- Folder 3 Original sketches, 1930, 1954, undated
- Folder 4 Cards, 1957-1961, undated

- Folder 5 Miscellaneous publications with examples of Alice Cosgrove's art as covers or illustrations, 1931, 1946-1960, undated
- Folder 6 New Hampshire Profiles, 1955, 1958
- Folder 7 Stationery, 1952-1956, undated
- Folder 8 Printed material with illustrations, 1949-1961, undated
- Folder 9 Geology/Minerals, 1946, 1948
- Folder 10 Industry, 1954, undated
- Folder 11 Maple syrup, 1955-1968
- Folder 12 Children, undated
- Folder 13 Nutrition and health, 1953-1958, undated
- Folder 14 Seacoast, 1960-1962, 1967, undated
- Folder 15 Schools/education/teachers, 1954-1959, undated
- Folder 16 Agriculture, 1954-1955, undated
- Folder 17 Marine Monument, 1955, 1958, undated

Box 2

- Folder 1 Social welfare and municipal association, 1948-1963, undated
- Folder 2 Wolfeboro and Weirs, 1947, 1959
- Folder 3 Camping and campgrounds, 1966-1970, undated
- Folder 4 Vacations and tourism, 1949-1967, undated
- Folder 5 Fish and Game, 1953-1968
- Folder 6 Forests, 1951-1964, undated
- Folder 7 Chippa Granite, undated
- Folder 8 Books about New Hampshire, bibliography, undated
- Folder 9 Recreation, calendars, 1946-1970, undated
- Folder 10 Autumn in New Hampshire, 1947-1969, undated
- Folder 11 Skiing, 1946-1971, undated
- Folder 12 Hotels and restaurants, 1955-1968, undated
- Folder 13 Democracy fights, pamphlet, undated
- Folder 14 Annalee, undated
- Folder 15 Chippa Granite in agriculture, 1954, 1957, undated
- Folder 16 Photographs, photocopies, 1960, undated
- Folder 17 New Hampshire Planning and Development Commission, photocopies, 1928, undated
- Folder 18 New Hampshire commemorative stamps, 1955-1956
- Folder 19 Inaugural float, 1961 January 20
- Folders 20-21 Newspaper clippings, 1947-1968, undated
- Folder 22 New Hampshire Civil Defense, undated

Separated Materials:

The original photographs for the photocopies in Box 2 Folder 16 are located in the Photograph Collection – People – Cosgrove.

The following materials were moved to Oversized Manuscript Box 'C':

- 3 sketches of the Old Man of the Mountain, undated
- New Hampshire Agriculture Service Inc. potatoes paper bag, 1955

2 Welcome to Scenic New Hampshire placemats, undated
Hotel and Restaurant News, 1960 December 17

Subject Terms

People:

Adams, Sherman, 1899-1986
Cleveland, James C. (James Colgate), 1920-1995
Cosgrove, Alice, 1909-1971
Dwinell, Lane, 1906-1997
Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969
Gregg, Hugh, 1917-2003
Johnson, Lyndon B. (Lyndon Baines), 1908-1973
Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963
King, John W., 1918-1996
Powell, Wesley, 1915-1981

Organizations:

American Institute of Architects. New Hampshire Chapter
Annalee Mobilitee Dolls (Firm)
Boston and Maine Railroad
Concord High School (Concord, N.H.)
Concord Regional Development Corporation (Concord, N.H.)
First National Bank (Concord, N.H.)
Food Marketing in New England
Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce
Lakes Region Association
Life Magazine
Merrimack Farmers' Exchange Inc
Merrimack Valley Region Association
Mount Washington Cog Railway
National Association of State Foresters
National Rehabilitation Association
New Englander
New Hampshire Academy of Science
New Hampshire Children's Aid Society
New Hampshire Good Roads Association
New Hampshire Horticultural Society
New Hampshire Maple Producers Association Inc
New Hampshire Marine Memorial Commission
New Hampshire Milk, Inc.
New Hampshire Municipal Association
New Hampshire Office of Vacation Travel
New Hampshire Profiles
New Hampshire Seacoast Regional Development Association
New Hampshire State Hospital School of Nursing
New Hampshire State Library

New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association
New Hampshire Troubadour
New Hampshire. Division of Economic Development
New Hampshire. Division of Motor Vehicles
New Hampshire. Division of Public Health
New Hampshire. Division of State Police
New Hampshire. Fish and Game Department
New Hampshire. Forestry and Recreation Commission
New Hampshire. State Department of Education
New Hampshire. State Department of Health
New Hampshire. State Department of Health. Crippled Children's Services
New Hampshire. State Planning and Development Commission
New Hampshire. State Recreation Division
Northeast Electronics Corporation
Northeastern Resources Committee (U.S.)
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests
University of New Hampshire
White Mountains Region Association
White Owl Camps
WKXL Radio

Subjects:

Agriculture
Apples
Art
Autumn
Brochures
Calendars
Camping
Camps
Children
Christmas cards
Drawing
Education
Fall foliage
Forests and forestry
Geology
Greeting cards
Health
Holidays
Hotels
Illustrations
Maple sugar
Maple syrup
Maps
Memorials
Milk

Nature
Nutrition
Parade floats
Parades
Photographs
Postage stamps
Restaurants
Skis and skiing
Summer
Tourism
Winter
World War, 1939-1945

Locations:

Allenstown, NH
Bear Brook State Park, NH
Concord, NH
Franconia Notch, NH
Franconia, NH
Hampton, NH
Jefferson, NH
Laconia, NH
Mount Sunapee State Park, NH
Old Man of the Mountain, NH
Pinkham Notch, NH
Portsmouth, NH
Weirs Beach, Laconia, NH
White Mountains, NH
Wolfeboro, NH

Occupations:

Artists
Illustrators

Related Materials

Archives

Bill Finney Photograph Collection, 2014.125
Chippa Granite "Buy NH Products" by Alice Cosgrove, 1986.104.1
Concord's Heritage Trail, 912.778b C744HT
Ephemera Collection – Cosgrove, Alice E.
Mary Louise Hancock Papers, 2019.082

Library

Anderson, Leon W. *Old Man of the Mountain : born in the creation, resides in Franconia Notch.*
Concord, NH: Evans Printing Company, 1970. Call number: 977.8a2 A5479

Cosgrove, Alice Ericson. *Several articles about Mrs. Alice E. Cosgrove, artist and draftswoman.*
Call number: 920 C834b

Johnson, David D. *Adventures in New Hampshire : annotated teacher's edition.* Concord, NH:
Village Press, [1968]. Call number: 977.8 N532j

University Art Galleries. *Alice Ericson Cosgrove : a New Hampshire artist.* Durham, NH:
University Art Galleries, 1987. Call number: 759.13 C834u

Museum

The museum has over 100 items by or related to Alice Cosgrove, including posters, engravings, greeting cards, etc. Please see our online catalog for more information. A selection of items is listed below:

Chippa Granite Says I Like Milk, Poster, 1986.104.02

Lobster Shack Prop, 1999.040.118

New Hampshire, Poster, 1986.089.02

A Pictorial Map of Scenic New Hampshire, 2006.003.17