

1-29-2019

Guide to MS669 Eugene Thurston collection

Abbie Weiser

University of Texas at El Paso, ahweiser@utep.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.utep.edu/finding_aid

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections Department at ScholarWorks@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.

Guide to
MS 669
Eugene Thurston papers

1917 – 2000s, Span Dates
5 inches (linear)

Processed by Abbie Weiser
January 29, 2019; March 10, 2020; August 31, 2020

Donated by Juan Sandoval, January 28, 2019 and Dr. Carol Miller, January 30, 2019,
March 4, 2020, and August 2020.

Citation: Eugene Thurston papers, MS669, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections
Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Biographical Sketch

Eugene B. Thurston (1896 – 1993) was an important and celebrated El Paso artist. He painted landscapes of the southwestern United States for more than 70 years. After graduating from El Paso High School, Thurston attempted to become an accountant to please his father, but his love of nature and painting soon won out. Thurston worked as an art instructor at the El Paso Technical Institute from 1940 – 1966, and he ran a greeting card business that sold cards with his artwork on them for many years. Since the late 1920s, he was active in organizing El Paso's arts community and was a founding member of the El Paso Arts Guild, Far Southwest Artists, and the El Paso Arts Association. Thurston's works are in museums, such as the El Paso Museum of Art, the International Museum of Art (El Paso), and the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, and in numerous private collections.

[Sources: *El Paso Herald-Post*, obituary, July 31, 1993; *Eugene B. Thurston: Retrospective Exhibit of Art Works*, 2003]

Series Description or Arrangement

These papers were left in the order found by archivist.

Scope and Content Notes

The Eugene Thurston papers date circa 1966 – 2003. Types of records include original sketches, printed holiday cards, photographs, articles, copies of drawings and cartoons, and an exhibit catalog. These papers contains original art by Eugene Thurston as well as materials about his life and career.

Provenance Statement

These papers were donated by Juan Sandoval on January 28, 2019. The materials were given to Juan by Dr. Carol Price Miller (granddaughter of Eugene Thurston). Dr. Miller donated additional materials on January 31, 2019, March 4, 2020, and August 2020.

Restrictions

No rights to original artworks.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Eugene Thurston papers must be obtained from

MS669 Eugene Thurston papers

the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Eugene Thurston papers, MS669, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

Original folder titles kept when present.

See also:

Oral history No. 76: interview with Eugene Thurston

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	Biographical information, cards, sketches, photos, copies of self-portrait and other art, and <i>Eugene Thurston: The Majesty of the Southwestern Landscape</i>	1917 – 2000s
1	2	Original sketches, cards, exhibit catalog, articles [donated by Juan Sandoval]	circa 1966 – 2003
1	3	Correspondence and poetry by Robert Burlingame	February, August 2001
1	4	Cards designed for fellow El Pasoans	1940s, undated
1	5	Thurston photos [copies]	1918 – 1970s, undated
1	6	Painting exhibitions	June 9, 1968, 2000s, undated
1	7	Oral histories	March 22, 1973; April 1979
1	8	Christmas cards and first exhibit by Thurston	1925, 1960s, undated
1	9	Photos of Eugene Thurston paintings [prints and slides]	circa 1970 – 1980s
1	10	El Paso Art Association records, Eugene Thurston treasurer	1949 – 1968
1	11	High School cartoonist	circa 1916 – 1990s
1	12	Photos of clouds, trees, mountains that Thurston took for future paintings	Undated
1	13	Sketches and prints by Eugene Thurston	circa 1917 – 1960s
1	14	Communal ads by Eugene Thurston	circa 1940s, undated
1	-----	<i>Password</i> [journal of the El Paso County Historical Society; includes art by Thurston and an article about him by Carol Price Miller]	Summer 1984, Spring 1989, Fall 1990, Winter 1992,
1	-----	Cassette tape, Eugene Thurston Early El Paso Artists I Have Known	circa 1980s
2	1	Correspondence, program, drawings, and other materials	
2	2	Shop and Classroom Organization and	1952

		Management – planning folder	
--	--	------------------------------	--