



**Description & Finding Aid:
Wyatt Eaton Fonds
CA OTAG SC003**

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Wyatt Eaton fonds

Dates of creation:

1878–1911

Physical description:

16 cm of textual records (2 volumes)

Biographical sketch:

Charles Wyatt Eaton (1849-1896) was a Canadian painter, illustrator, author and teacher who spent much of his life in the United States. Born in Philipsburg, Canada East (now Quebec), he left to study in New York at the National Academy of Design around 1867 and subsequently (1872) in France at the École des beaux-arts in Paris. There, he was influenced by Jean-François Millet and the Barbizon painters. Returning to Philipsburg in 1876, Eaton began painting portraits locally and in Montreal. From 1877 to 1882 he taught drawing and portraiture at the Cooper Union in New York and helped found the Society of American Artists, of which he was president in 1883. He married Charlotte Collins of New York in 1887. During and after this period he produced portraits of American authors and poets (notably pen-and-ink drawings for *Century Magazine*) and prominent Canadians along with well-received genre pictures of the Quebec countryside in the manner of Millet. In 1895 he went to Italy to recover from illness and surgery. He returned to the United States the following year and died in Newport or Middletown, Rhode Island. He is buried in Philipsburg.

Scope and content:

Fonds consists of scrapbooks assembled by Canadian artist and author Edmund Morris (1871-1913) of autograph manuscripts of Wyatt Eaton, chiefly on art (especially Italian Renaissance art), and literature. Also included are correspondence of Edmund Morris, Charlotte Eaton and others regarding Wyatt Eaton, and material related to the Society of American Artists.

Custodial history:

The material forming the Wyatt Eaton fonds was donated by Charlotte Eaton and Edmund Morris in 1911. A letter dated 3rd April 1911 from the president of the Art Museum of Toronto to Charlotte Eaton acknowledging the gift may be found on p. 47 of Volume 1 of this fonds.

Notes:

Variations in title:

Previously known as the Wyatt Eaton scrapbooks.

Physical description:

Scrapbooks (2, commercially available ca. 1911) ; 36 x 27 x 8 cm

Physical condition:

Pages of scrapbooks are warped and brittle.

Immediate source of acquisition:

Donated by Charlotte Eaton and Edmund Morris in 1911.

Restrictions on access:

Open. Access to Special Collections is by appointment only. Please contact the reference desk for more information.

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication:

Material in this fonds is in the public domain. Permission of the Art Gallery of Ontario is required for publication.

Associated material:

The New England Historic Genealogical Society library in Boston, Mass. holds Wyatt Eaton papers (reference: SG EAT 15).

Accruals:

No further accruals are expected.

Related material:

Correspondence of Edmund Morris can be found in the Edmund Morris fonds (CA OTAG SC007).

General note:

The 1885 portrait by Wyatt Eaton of wood-engraver Timothy Cole (1852-1931), subject of correspondence of Edmund Morris and others in this fonds (p. 12 ff) was purchased by subscription and given to the Art Museum of Toronto (now the Art Gallery of Ontario), probably in 1911. (A letter from Charlotte Eaton in this fonds [p. 17] mentions the arrival of the work in Toronto in April, 1911. Edmund Morris announced the donation of the portrait at the meeting of the Art Museum of Toronto on November 20, 1911 [Art Museum of Toronto Minute Book, p. 63].)

Provenance access points:

Eaton, Wyatt, 1849-1896

Morris, Edmund, 1871-1913

VOLUME 1**Title**

Wyatt Eaton Vol. I

Dates of creation

1878-1911

Extent

259 p. of textual records and graphic material

Scope and content

Volume comprises manuscripts of Wyatt Eaton on the 19th c. New England poets and on his journey to Italy in 1895, as well as correspondence of Edmund Morris and others regarding the artist after his death. Also included are an exhibition catalogue (1878) and constitution and by-laws (1880) of the Society of American Artists.

Notes

Title from inscription on front endpaper.

Volume comprises 300 pages including 41 blank pages.

All items pasted in except where noted.

Volume 1

Pages	Contents	Dates
1	"Warner's medallion of Eaton" [engraving by] Timothy Cole	[19--?]
2	letter from RW Gilder, editor of the <i>Century Magazine</i> (New York) to Edmund Morris (EM)	1902-06-02
3	letter from RW Gilder to EM	1911-01-04
4	"Wyatt Eaton (The medallion by Olin Warner, by permission of The Century Co., N.Y.)"	[19--?]
5	"Brief sketch [biographical note] of Eaton"	[190-?]
6	"Wyatt Eaton" / W. Lewis Fraser (" <i>The Century's</i> " American artists series)	[190-?]
7	letter from Sir William Van Horne to EM	1910-03-03
8	letter from William Macbeth (Macbeth Gallery, New York) to EM	1911-01-17
9	letter from Mrs [Helena De Kay] Gilder to EM [Note: loose sheet (note handwritten by EM)]	1911-04-08
10	letter from Mrs Gilder to EM	1911-01-12
11	"Works of Wyatt Eaton in possession of the Century Co., New York" [typescript list]	[190-?]
12	letter from Margaret Ward Cole (MWC, daughter-in-law of Timothy Cole) to EM	1911-03-05
13	letter from MWC to EM	[1911]
14	letter from MWC to EM	1911-03-15
15	letter from MWC to EM	[1911]-03-27
16	letter from MWC to EM	[1911]-04-08
17	letter from MWC to EM	[1911]-04-28
18	letter from MWC to EM receipt for sale to EM of a portrait by Wyatt Eaton of Timothy Cole	1911-04-29 1911-04-29
19	letter from T Cole (TC) to EM	1911-01-04

Pages	Contents	Dates
20	letter from Alphaeus P. Cole to EM	[1911]
21	letter from TC to EM	1911-01-31
22	letter from TC to EM	1911-04-03
23–24	letter from TC to EM	1911-04-11
25	letter from TC to EM	1911-04-28
26	letter from EM to Robert Underwood Johnson, editor of the <i>Century Magazine</i>	[1911]
27	letter from RU Johnson to EM	1911-04-27
28–30	letter from AW Drake, director, Art Department, the Century Co.	1911-04-25
31	letter from AW Drake to EM	1911-07-06
32	letter from James Henderson to EM	1911-05-29
33	letter from Henry W. Mickle to EM	1911-04-28
34	letter [signature illegible] to EM	1911-05-29
35	letter from Vincent Massey to EM letter from Sarah Warren to EM	[1911-04-09?] 1911-04-10
36	letter from Vincent Massey to EM letter from Vincent Massey to EM [Note: one sheet detached from page]	[1911-04-13?] [1911-04-12?]
37	letter from Lillian M. Treble to EM card of donation from CD Massey	1911-04-22 1911-04-21
38	blank	
39	letter from HW Mickle to EM	1911-07-21
40	letter from JS Willison to EM	1911-04-11
41–44	letter from Charlotte [Collins] Eaton (wife of Wyatt Eaton) to EM	[1911]-01-29
45–46	letter from Charlotte Eaton to EM	[1911]-03-21
47	letter from Sir Edmund Walker on behalf of the Art Museum of Toronto to Charlotte Eaton	1911-04-03
48	"Notes on the New England poets by Wyatt Eaton written on his death-bed in the Spring of 1896 [prefatory note signed] Charlotte Eaton"	1911-04
49–198	notes on the New England poets by Wyatt Eaton	1896
199	blank	
200	Season ticket for Wyatt Eaton and family to the first exhibition of the Society of American Artists "Catalogue of the first exhibition Society of American Artists at Kurtz Gallery, New York" [13 p.] [Note: catalogue detached from page]	[1878] 1878
201	"Constitution and by-laws of the Society of American Artists" [7 p.]	1880
202	"Unfinished note on Italian journey of 1895 with notes on the early Italian masters written at that time, and copied by me, they being too illegible for preservation [prefatory note signed] Charlotte Eaton"	[1911?]
203–256	notes on Italian journey by Wyatt Eaton	1895
257–284	blank	
285–289	"Index"	[1911?]
290–300	blank	

VOLUME 2**Title**

Wyatt Eaton MSS Vol. II

Dates of creation

1886–1911

Extent

200 p. of textual records

Scope and content

Volume comprises manuscripts by Wyatt Eaton on art (including the early Italian masters, Pre-Raphaelite and Impressionist movements and American art) and other subjects. Also included is correspondence of Charlotte Eaton and Edmund Morris.

Notes

Title from inscription on front endpaper.

Volume comprises 398 pages, including 198 blank pages. A further 8 leaves are loose. One photograph is included.

All items pasted in except where noted.

Volume 2

Pages	Contents	Dates
1	"Index"	[1911?]
2	"Unfinished notes by Wyatt Eaton on the Pre-Raphaelite and Impressionist movements, probably intended to be finished as a lecture [prefatory note signed] Charlotte Eaton"	[1911?]
3–60	"On the future of American art, or, Popularising of art"	[189-?]
61	blank	
62	"Notes on the early Italian Masters by Wyatt Eaton—written during the Summer of 1895,—and transcribed by me [prefatory note signed] Charlotte Eaton"	[1911?]
63–68	"Giotto"	[1895]
69–74	"Massaccio"	[1895]
75–83	"Fra Angelico"	[1895]
84–86	"Orcagna"	[1895]
87–89	"Botticelli"	[1895]
90–91	blank	
92–95	untitled notes	[1895]
96–97	blank	
98–107	continuation of previous notes	[1895]
108–118	"Titians [sic] Danae—The Topers by Velasquez"	[1895]
119–131	"Titian and Correggio"	[1895]
132–135	"Bust of Dante"	[1895]
136–140	"Figure with Drapery"	[1895]
141–146	"Pompeian Frescoes"	[1895]

Pages	Contents	Dates
147–149	“Millefs [sic] Boyhood”	[189-?]
150–157	“Millet as an etcher”	[189-?]
158–161	letter from Wyatt Eaton to RW Gilder	1886-03-19
162–170	“Botticelli”	[188-?]
171	blank	
172–174	“Originality in art”	[189-?]
175	blank	
176–179	“Item [?] on money—as an incentive—treating of Rembrandt”	[189-?]
180	blank	
181–182	continuation (?) of previous notes	[189-?]
183	untitled notes	[189-?]
184–193	“Describing the effects of ether after an operation”	1895-03-02
194–204	untitled notes	[189-?]
205	photograph (albumen print) of <i>La morte della Vergine</i> from La Maestà del Duomo di Siena (1308-1311) by Duccio, di Buoninsegna (Siena, Museo dell’Opera del duomo)	[189-?]
206–210	untitled notes	
211–274	blank	
275	letter from Charlotte Eaton (CE) to Edmund Morris (EM) letter from CE to EM letter from CE to EM letter from EM to CE letter from EM to CE letter from EM to CE [Note: all sheets (8) loose]	1911-10-15 [1911]-03-26 [1911]-06-05 1911-04-11 [1911] 1911-10-28
276–398	blank	