

**Guide to the Harold Van Buren Magonigle
Manuscripts & Archives Division
New York Public Library**

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RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 38 M 77

Location 27-f-1/2 (L)

Title Harold Van Buren Magonigle Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1894-1939 (bulk dates: 1919-1930)

Date of receipt 1938

Received from Edith Marion Day Magonigle

Volume on arrival unknown

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 10 AB, 1 oversize folder; 4 l.f.

Condition generally good; clippings are brittle, paper clips & fasteners need to be removed

Restrictions None

Description

See attached

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) sketches

Temporary catalog card added entries

see attached

Accessioned by FP

Date 8/15/88

HAROLD VAN BUREN MAGONIGLE PAPERS

Scope & Content

The papers of Harold Van Buren Magonigle span the years 1894-1939 and consist of correspondence, subject files, writings, architectural and art works, miscellaneous papers, printed matter, clippings and papers of Edith Marion Day Magonigle. The bulk of the collection dates from 1919 to 1930 and reflects Magonigle's professional career and organizational affiliations.

Correspondence is divided between the General Correspondence and Subject Files and Correspondence. The bulk of the correspondence is in general correspondence. There is some overlap between the two series.

The General Correspondence dates from 1894 to 1934 with many gaps. It is mainly related to Magonigle's work and includes correspondence with colleagues, publishers, editors and clients. There is a small amount of personal correspondence. Notable among the correspondents are: Thomas Hastings, Paul Phillippe Cret, W.H. Crocker, Leslie Devereux, Walter Ross Baumes Willcox and Harry F. Waltman.

The Subject Files and Correspondence (1901-1932) is for the most part devoted to organizations, committees and juries in which Magonigle participated. The largest file documents Magonigle's tenure as president of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (1926-1928). Among the papers are minutes of the Executive Committee meetings (1926-1928), minutes of regular monthly meetings (1926-1928) and committee files. Correspondents include Egerton Swartout, Grosvenor Atterbury, C. Grant La Farge and Cass Gilbert. Also included are files for the Alumni Association of the American Academy in Rome (1912-1916), made up on correspondence (1912-1916), minutes (1914-1915) and miscellaneous papers including membership lists and information related to fundraising, scholarships, exhibitions and prizes. Correspondents in the American Academy files include Ralph Adams Cram, C. Grant La Farge and Graham Phillips Stevens. There are also files for the Mc Kinley National Memorial Association (1901-1907) and "The Nature, Practice & History of Art" (1922-1929), a book by Magonigle.

Magonigle's Writings include typescripts and manuscripts of articles, essays, book reviews and plays. The entire typescript of The Nature, Practice and History of Art can be found in this series. Also included are lectures and addresses presented by Magonigle to professional organizations, various clubs and student groups.

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Architectural and Art Works include original sketches, facsimiles of Magonigle's work, catalogs of exhibits in which his paintings were exhibited and correspondence, printed matter, miscellany and photographs pertaining to particular architectural projects. The sketchers are mostly unidentified. A few bear descriptions and dates including: "Washington, D.C., 1921", "Siena, Sept. 11, 1921" and "London, 1921". Architectural projects include the World War Memorial in New Britain, Connecticut, the Arsenal Technical Schools in Indianapolis, the United States Embassy in Tokyo and the Congregational Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. These files do not contain any original architectural plans.

Miscellaneous papers include invitations, membership cards, memorabilia, certificates, programs and some biographical information. Oversize miscellany is stored in a separate folder.

Printed Matter is made up of articles, clippings, journals, reprints and reports. The clippings are for the most part about Magonigle, his architectural projects and exhibits of his work.

The papers of Edith Marion Day Magonigle include correspondence and a few miscellaneous items. The correspondence (1916-1939) includes both personal and business letters relating to the sale and exhibition of her paintings, her work on the frieze for the Kansas City Memorial and her involvement in the Liberty Loan Campaign and the National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors. Correspondents include Arthur Tappan North, Troy Kinney, Ivan Feodorovich and Walter Ross Baumes Willcox. There is one letter from Charles Dana Gibson (undated). Correspondence related to Edith Magonigle's work for the Art War Relief (1918-1919) is filed separately and makes up a significant portion of the correspondence.

ADDITIONAL MAGONIGLE PAPERS ARE LOCATED AT:

- 1) Art, Prints and Photographs Division (Room 308). 12 boxes of photographs of Magonigle's works. Call number : 3-MQZ +++ (Magonigle)
- 2) Columbia University, Avery Architecture and Fine Arts Library, Drawings and Archives Collection. A collection of Edith and Harold Van Buren Magonigle Papers including sketches, graphic designs, architectural drawings, photographs, manuscripts and ephemera.

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Biographical Sketch

Harold Van Buren Magonigle (1867-1935), architect, artist and author, was born in Bergen Heights, New Jersey. In 1881 he began his architectural apprenticeship in the offices of Vaux and Radford. He continued his professional studies in the offices of Charles C. Haight (1883-1888), McKim, Mead and White (1888-1891) and Rotch and Tilden (1891-1893). In 1889 he was awarded the Gold Medal for draftsmanship and design of the Architectural League of New York and in 1894 he won the Rotch Traveling Scholarship for travel and study in Europe. Upon his return to the United States he was associated with several New York firms, but, beginning in 1904 and for the rest of his professional career, he practiced alone.

Magonigle's major architectural works include the National Maine Monument and the Firemen's Memorial, both in New York City, the McKinley Memorial in Canton, Ohio, the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, the Arsenal Technical Schools in Indianapolis and the American Embassy in Tokyo. He achieved his greatest success as a designer of monuments, including his winning design for the National Watergate in memory of Robert Fulton, which was to have been built on the Hudson River in New York City.

Magonigle's artistic talents extended to sculpture, painting, writing and graphic design. Two of his sculptures were used for the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City and his paintings were exhibited in shows throughout the country. He wrote books, articles and reviews, generally on architectural and artistic topics and he was also a playwright. His professional affiliations included the American Institute of Architects, the Alumni Association of the American Academy in Rome and the National Sculpture Society. He was also a member of the Macdowell, Century and Digressionists Clubs.

Magonigle married Edith Marion Day (1877-1949) in 1900. Edith Magonigle, a painter and sculptor who worked often with her husband, first exhibited her work in 1908. During World War I she served as Chairman of the Painter's Committee of Art War Relief. The committee painted "designation targets" used for the training of recruits. She also served as president of the National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors from 1920 to 1922. Her works included paintings, murals and the execution of a large frieze for the decoration of the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City.

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Container List

Box Number	Contents
1	<u>General Correspondence</u>
2	<u>Subject Files & Correspondence</u> American Institute of Architects, New York Chapter 1926-1929
3	American Institute of Architects, New York Chapter 1926-1929 Mc Kinley National Memorial Association, 1901-1907
4	American Academy in Rome (Alumni Assoc.), 1912-1916 Civil War Monument Jury, 1932 "The Nature, Practice and History of Art" 1922-1929 Scholarships, 1920-1932 Union Square Forum, 1919 University of Nebraska, Honorary Degree, 1931
5	<u>Writings</u>
6	<u>Writings</u>
7	<u>Architectural & Art Works</u>
8	<u>Architectural & Art Works</u>
9	<u>Miscellaneous Papers</u> <u>Printed Matter & Clippings</u>
10	<u>Printed Matter & Clippings</u> <u>Edith Magonigle, 1916-1939</u>
Oversize folder	<u>Miscellaneous</u>