Finding aid to the Velma Adams Papers, Photographs, and Artwork MS.244

Braun Research Library Collection
2013
234 Museum Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90065-5030
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URL: https://theautry.org/research/libraries-and-archives
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Braun Research Library Collection
Title: Velma Adams Papers, Photographs, and Artwork
creator: Adams, Velma
Identifier/Call Number: MS.244
Identifier/Call Number: 1691
Physical Description: 1.25 Linear Feet (2 document boxes, 1 flat box)
Date (inclusive): 1919-1972
Date (bulk): 1929-1948
Biographical note
Velma Adams was born April 4, 1902 in Fruita, Colorado. She studied at the Otis Art Institute (Los Angeles County Art Institute), the Grand Central School of Art, and the Art Students League of New York. Her instructors included George Biddle, F. Tolles Chamberlin, and Loren Barton. She was a member of the California Art Club, Print Makers Society of California, California Society of Etchers, Southern Printmakers Society, Women Painters of the West, and the Los Angeles Art Association. Her work was displayed at the Southwest Museum, the Appalachian Museum of Art in Mt. Airy, GA, the Los Angeles County Museum of Science and Arts, and in private collections. She received several awards for her lithography, watercolor, sculpture, and prints. In the 1930s, Adams accompanied Dr. Frederick W. Hodge on a camping trip through Southwest Indian country. During this trip, Adams sketched many Indian individuals and landscapes, as well as the symbols used throughout Indian arts and crafts. She developed a chart of these symbols which was widely distributed to trading posts across the Southwest. This chart was sold through Southwest Indian Symbols with the help of Jack Dodge. Velma Adams lived on South Oxford Avenue in Los Angeles, CA.

Scope and Contents
Papers and photographs from Velma Adams. Some of the photographs are of the Gallup Intertribal Ceremonials. Contains 5052.G

Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org.

Use
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Preferred citation
Velma Adams Papers, Photographs, and Artwork, 1919-1972, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS244; [folder number] [folder title][date].

Acquisition
Donated 2011 March 21

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Indian art
Indian arts
Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial Association
Indians of North America
Navajo Indians
Signs and symbols
Artwork
Correspondence
Clippings
Indians of North America -- Music
Arizona -- Description and travel