Register of the Burbank (Elbridge Ayer) Papers & Pictorial Works, 1890-1949

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Register of the Burbank (Elbridge Ayer) Papers & Pictorial Works, 1890-1949

Collection number: Mss37

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Burbank (Elbridge Ayer) Papers & Pictorial Works,
Date (inclusive): 1890-1949
Collection number: Mss37
Creator: Herb S. Hamlin
Extent: 8 linear ft.
Repository: University of the Pacific. Library. Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections
Stockton, CA 95211
Shelf location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.
Language: English.
Access
Collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation
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Biography
Elbridge Ayer Burbank (1858-1949), western artist and illustrator, studied in Chicago (1874) and in Munich (1886-1892). He was a nephew of Edward E. Ayer, first President of the Field Columbia Museum and collector of a substantial library on Native Americans which he later donated to the Newberry Library, Chicago. Ayer suggested to Burbank, upon his return from Europe, that he go West and paint Native Americans. This Burbank did for nearly fifty years. He had the good fortune to begin work at a time when many of the famous chiefs were still available to sit for portraits. Burbank also left a considerable pictorial record of Native American habitations and of Western scenery from a comparatively early period of American settlement. Herbert Hamlin (1890-1969), owner of the Pony Express Museum, San Rafael (Calif.) and publisher of the Pony Express Courier, collected Burbank's papers and pictorial works. He commissioned many of the artist's works during the final twenty years of the latter's life.

Scope and Content

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The Burbank collection consists primarily of 53 oil paintings and an equal number of pencil drawings by Elbridge Ayer Burbank of Western landscapes, buildings and individuals (1890-1949). There is also a small body of correspondence (1942-1947) between Burbank and his patron, Herb Hamlin.

**BOX 1: BURBANK-HAMLIN CORRESPONDENCE; BURBANK CALIFORNIA PAINTINGS**

[N.B.--works are oil paintings unless otherwise indicated]

1.1-1.10: Correspondence, Burbank-Hamlin, 1942-1947. 10 items.
1.11: [Indian pueblo](framed) 11.7 x 11.7 cm.
1.12: Piute Indian home at Carson City, Nevada. (framed) 12 x 12 cm.
1.13: Mission San Juan Bautista. 12.5 x 17.8 cm.
1.14: Mission Santa Clara de Asis. 12.5 x 20.3 cm.
1.15: House where Helen Hunt Jackson wrote "Ramona." (framed) 11.3 x 17 cm.
1.16: Ramona's house near Oceanside, Calif. 11.3 x 15 cm.
1.17: Ramona's home near Oceanside. 10.5 x 16.2 cm.
1.18: Home of Governor Alvarado, Monterey, 1836. 10.5 x 15.4 cm.
1.19: Mission Asistencia San Antonio de Pala. 12.6 x 17.6 cm.
1.20: San Antonio de Pala [another version] 11.4 x 17.6 cm.
1.21: San Miguel Arcangel California. 12.5 x 17.8 cm.
1.22: Mission Santa Cruz. 13.2 x 5 cm.
1.23: Wawona Mariposa Big Tree grove. 12.7 x 5.4 cm.
1.24: Ruins of Mission San Antonio de Padua. 12.7 x 17.6 cm.
1.25: Interior of a cave...Hopi Indian. 15 x 15.5 cm.
1.26: Attractive Ranch house near Taos. 10.5 x 15.5 cm.
1.27: Bell in San Juan [Bautista] mission. 12.3 x 15.5 cm.
1.28: Site of the Sutter Mill. 12.2 x 16.7 cm.
1.29: Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. 10.5 x 15.3 cm.
1.30: [Lincoln portrait] Pencil drawing, 31 x 20.3 cm.
1.31: Ghost town of Panamint, Death Valley 10.4 x 17.8 cm.
1.32: A fallen giant, Humboldt State Redwood Park. 12.8 x 5.4 cm.
1.33: Winding through majestic California Redwoods. 10.3 x 15 cm.
1.34: Redwood trees. 10.2 x 6.4 cm.
1.35: General Sherman Tree, Sequoia National park. 12.8 x 5.4 cm.
1.36: World famous Tree house, Lilley Redwood Park. 11.5 x 18 cm.
1.37: Indian Village at Zia, New Mexico. (framed) 1.9 x 16.8 cm.

**BOX 2: BURBANK LANDSCAPES**

2.1: [unidentified seascape](framed) 11 x 21.6 cm.
2.2: [unidentified landscape](framed) 10.3 x 19.2 cm. [extensive deterioration of painting surface]
2.3: Northern Cheyenne dance hall at Lame Deer, Montana. (framed) 11.7 x 16.8 cm.
2.4: Death Valley, Inyo-County, California. (framed) 12 x 17.1 cm.
2.5: Hopi Indians house at Palcea Arizona. (framed) 7.1 x 11.8 cm.
2.6: [unidentified seascape](framed) 10.4 x 17.8 cm.
2.7: Death Valley. (framed) 9.3 x 14.2 cm.

**BOX 3: BURBANK PLANT & ANIMAL PAINTINGS**

3.1: Cactus in the desert. (framed) 12 x 16.8 cm.
3.2: Giant cactus in the desert. (framed) 11.7 x 16.7 cm.
3.3: [dog portrait](framed) 17.4 x 11.7 cm.
3.4: Fido [dog portrait](framed) 22 x 17 cm.
3.5: Ginger [dog portrait](framed) 22 x 17 cm.
3.6: [Scrub jay](framed) 12 x 17 cm.
3.7: [unidentified harbor and sailing ships] 15.1 x 20.4 cm.
3.8: [clipper ship](framed) 22.1 x 17.11 cm.
3.9: [Puppy getting bath] Pencil drawing, 23.9 x 19.9 cm.
3.10: [Cat portrait] Pencil drawing, 25.4 x 25.6 cm.
3.11: [Chimpanzee] Pencil drawing, 27.2 x 20.2 cm.
3.12: The old Hall of Records at Monterey California. Pencil drawing. 23.3 x 27.8 cm.

**BOX 4: BURBANK INDIAN PORTRAITS**

4.1: I take the Pony Express Courier [portrait, male] Pencil drawing, 33.5 x 24.9 cm.
4.2: Old cart at Acometa N.M. Pencil drawing. 15.4 x 37.3 cm.
4.4: Stufa at Isleta, N. M. Pencil drawing, 21.5 x 31.6 cm.
4.5: Weasel-tail, Southern Cheyenne, 1898. Brown Pencil drawing, 30 x 25.8 cm.
4.6: Standing Bul, Southern Cheyenne, 1898. Brown Pencil drawing, 30.4 x 25.9 cm.
4.7: Chief Stinking-Bear, Sioux, 1899. Brown Pencil drawing, 30.7 x 25.7 cm.
4.8: Zuni shrine He-Patina. Pencil drawing, 19.5 x 28.3 cm.
4.9: Old adobe building some 20 miles from the Pima Indian reservation at Sacaton, Ariz. Pencil drawing, 18.8 x 36.4 cm.
4.10: Mojave cremation and stack of fuel for cremation. Pencil drawing, 20.3 x 26.5 cm.
4.11: Chief Pokagon, Potawatami, 1898. Brown pencil drawing 30.4 x 25.3 cm.

**BOX 5: MORE BURBANK INDIAN PORTRAITS**

5.1: Fanny, Hoopa Valley [Calif.] 1900. Brown pencil drawing, 30.5 x 26 cm.
5.2: Chief Seattle. Pencil drawing, 30.4 x 25.5 cm.
5.3: No-flesh, Sioux, 1899. Brown pencil drawing, 30.5 x 25.5 cm.
5.4: Chief Moses (Yeto-Mo-Set) Eastern Washington. Photoprint, 13.7 x 8.8 cm.
5.5: Ke-Ne-Wa-Na (Sioux squaw) ca. 1893. Lithograph, 36.8 x 26.2 cm.
5.6: Northern Cheyenne Indian tepees at Lame Deer, Mont. (framed), 18.9 x 27 cm.
5.7: Elk Creek Indians dance hall at Elk Creek Calif. (framed), 11.5 x 16.7 cm.
5.8: Sitting Bull's grave, Ft. Yates, Missouri River, S. Dakota. (framed), 17.9 x 23.1 cm.
5.9-10:[Magazine illustrations: owl and horse].Pencil drawing and oil painting. 2 items.
5.11-.12: [Printed reproductions of Golden Gate Bridge, Painted Desert, a hen, Teddy Roosevelt] 5 items.
5.13: Stufa, where the Pueblo Indians hold their counsels at Zia Pueblo, N. M.(framed), 12.8 x 21.8 cm.
5.14: Rain-in-the-Face, Sioux, 1890. (framed), 35 x 26.8 cm.
5.15: Rain-in-the-Face. Lithograph, c. 1893 by Place & Coover. [used by Burbank to paint 5.14 above]. 38 x 27.7 cm.
5.16: [unidentified Indian male portrait] Lithograph, 25.2 x 20.2 cm.
5.17: Chief Joseph, Nez Perce, 1898. (framed) 35 x 26 cm.
5.18: Chief Black Coyote, Arapahoe, 1899. (framed), 34 x 26.3 cm.
5.19: Blackfeet Indian tepees. (with 5cm. frame),25.2 x 38.2 cm.
5.20: Chief Geronimo, Apache, 1897. Brown pencil drawing, 30.8 x 25.8 cm.
5.21: Chief Geronimo, Apache, 1898 [1897?] (framed), 33 x 27.8 cm.
5.22: Curley Crow, 1897. Pencil drawing, 30 x 26.6 cm.
5.23: Curley Crow, 1897. (framed), 30.5 x 28 cm.
5.24: Chief Wolf Robe, N. Cheyenne, 1900.(framed), 30.5 x 28 cm.

**BOX 6: BURBANK PORTRAITS, WHITES & INDIANS; MISCELLANY**

6.1-.2: [Portraits of Buel August] Pencil Drawing and Pen and ink drawing. 2 items.
6.4: Chief Sitting Bull, Sioux, 1882. Brown pencil drawing, 36 x 29 cm.
6.5: Future Champs' chow time [dogs eating] Pencil drawing, 30 x 37.3 cm.
6.6: [Horse Portrait] Brown pencil drawing, 37 x 29.2 cm.
6.7: The cowboy artist, Charles M. Russell. Lithograph of pencil drawing, 31.5 x 26.8 cm.
6.9: Col. H. Edwin Mootz--"fighting Bud." Pencil drawing, 36.5 x 28.5 cm.
6.10: Bret Harte cabin. Pencil drawing, 27.2 x 35.2 cm.
6.11: General McArthur, 1947. Pencil drawing, 35.5 x 28 cm.
6.12: [Unidentified woman portrait] Pencil drawing, 36 x 28 cm.
6.14: Chief Gray Hair, Crow, 1897. Brown pencil drawing, 31.5 x 25.8 cm.
6.15: Old Concord coach at Colfax, Calif., in 1900. Pencil drawing, 36 x 28.5 cm.
6.15: [same as 6.9] (in 5 cm. frame) 29 x 38 cm.
6.16: Chief Red Cloud, Sioux, 1899. Brown pencil drawing 36.5 x 28.7 cm.
6.17: Navajo Indian girl, 1897, Ganado, Arizona. Brown pencil drawing, 36 x 28.5 cm.
6.18: [same as # 6.12] Pencil drawing, 31 x 25.5 cm.
6.20: [same as 6.14] Litho of pencil drawing, 31.5 x 26.5 cm.
6.23: [Buffalo head] Pencil drawing, 37 x 28.2 cm.
6.25: Will Rogers. Pencil Drawing, 36.5 x 27.7 cm.
6.26: Taos [make Indian] Pencil drawing, 30.5 x 25.4 cm.
6.27: [Portrait of man in dress military uniform] Pencil drawing, 36 x 29.3 cm.
6.28: [same as 6.22] Pencil drawing, 36 x 28 cm.
6.29: [Portrait unident. woman] Pencil drawing, 35.5 x 27.8 cm.
6.30: Navajo Indian girl, St. Michael's, Ariz., 1940. Brown pencil drawing, 36 x 28 cm.
6.31: [same as 6.25] Brown Pencil drawing, 31 x 25.8 cm.
6.32: E-wa, Apache, 1898. Brown pencil drawing, 35.7 x 28 cm.
6.33: Pocahontas, Virginian Tribe, 1595-1617. Brown Pencil drawing, 30.5 x 29.5 cm.
6.34: Princess Angeline, Daughter of Chief Seattle. Brown Pencil drawing, 34.5 x 30 cm.
6.35: [improved grubbing hoe] Pencil drawing, 35.7 x 28 cm.
6.36: [preliminary artist's layout for advertisement of Carson Western Library and Pony Express Museum]. Pen & ink-lithograph combination, 35.5 x 29 cm.