

# John Franklin Garber papers

MS.034

Finding Aid prepared by Hoang Tran

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PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY  
OF THE FINE ARTS

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts  
118-128 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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215-972-2066

Updated by Hoang Tran, January 2016

## **Summary Information**

<b>Repository</b>	The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Dorothy and Kenneth Woodcock Archives
<b>Creator</b>	John Franklin Garber (1910-1993)
<b>Title</b>	John Franklin Garber papers
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1916-1993
<b>Extent</b>	4 document boxes
<b>Location note</b>	
<b>Language</b>	
<b>Language of Materials note</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	The John Franklin Garber papers consist of one box of correspondence from various family members, and three boxes of correspondence related to Daniel Garber's art. The latter series includes correspondence with museums, private collectors, dealers and other parties concerning issues of location, provenance, authentication, and conservation. His files on individual paintings include photographs, in a variety of formats, of almost every work he learned of.

### **Preferred Citation note**

[identification of item], Title of Collection, Collection ID#, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Dorothy and Kenneth Woodcock Archives, Philadelphia, PA.

## **Historical note**

John Franklin Garber (1910-1993) was the second child of the well-known American painter Daniel Garber (1880-1958). He grew up on the Garber property "Cuttalossa," near Lumberville, Pennsylvania. There, John, along with his sister Tanis and their mother, Mary, posed for many of Garber's figure paintings. He attended Penn Charter School, and graduated with a degree in chemical engineering from Lehigh University in 1933. For most of his life he worked for the Rohm and Haas Company. In 1939 he married Madelaine Bakter, and the couple lived in Morrisville, Pennsylvania. They had two daughters, Tanis and Dana.

After his father's death in 1958, John Garber became a keen sponsor and advocate of his father's work, assisting and corresponding with museums, private collectors, dealers and writers. He maintained files and notes on all known Garber paintings and etchings. He also compiled photographic records for most of the works he knew about, and continued to collect newspaper clippings and articles about his father. In 1980 he supported an exhibition of Daniel Garber's work at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, curated by Kathleen A. Foster. In 1989 he donated funds to reframe the Academy's Garber painting *Battersea Bridge* with a more period-appropriate frame. Before his death in 1993, he began corresponding with the Taggart-Jorgenson Gallery concerning a catalogue raisonné of his father's work.

## **Scope and Contents note**

The John Franklin Garber papers consist of one box of correspondence from various family members, and three boxes of correspondence related to Daniel Garber's art. The latter series includes correspondence with museums, private collectors, dealers and other parties concerning issues of location, provenance, authentication, and conservation. His files on individual paintings include photographs, in a variety of formats, of almost every work he learned of. Where only one copy of a photograph was found the researchers transferred it to the Hollis Taggart Garber research files (q.v.). John Garber cross-referenced each of his files to his father's paintings record books. There is also a small notebook in which he recorded various transfers of ownership for Daniel Garber paintings. These files were in the hands of the researchers for the Daniel Garber catalogue raisonné from about 1995 to 2006.

John Garber also collected news clippings and articles about his father. Obituaries and clippings saved from after 1958, the year Daniel Garber died, are stored with all other loose clippings in Daniel Garber's papers (q.v.).

Abbreviations used in this finding aid:

Daniel Garber (DG)

Mary Franklin Garber (MFG)

John Franklin Garber (JFG).

## **Arrangement note**

## **Administrative Information**

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

Collection is open for research.

The archives reserves the right to restrict access to materials of sensitive nature. Please contact the department for further information.

### **Conditions Governing Use note**

The collection is the physical property of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Archives. The Museum holds literary rights only for material created by Museum personnel or given to the Museum with such rights specifically assigned. For all other material, literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. Researchers are responsible for obtaining permission from rights holders for publication and for other purposes where stated.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Credit Line: John Franklin Garber Papers, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Archives, Gift of Dana Garber Applestein and Tanis Garber-Shaw, in memory of their grandfather, Daniel Garber.

### **Provenance note**

The papers were the gift of Daniel Garber's granddaughters, Dana Garber Applestein and Tanis Garber-Shaw in 2006, at the time of their gift of Daniel Garber's personal papers.

### **Processing Information note**

Finding Aid prepared by: Cheryl Leibold, 2007

## **Controlled Access Headings**

Person(s)

Corporate Name(s)

Genre(s)

Geographic Name(s)

Subject(s)

## **Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements note**

## **Collection Inventory**

<b>Folder title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Finding aid		1	1
DG to JFG (42 items) - (including 37 letters written during JFG's university attendance and residence in Allentown, Pennsylvania from the fall of 1929 to the end of 1934. JFG apparently arranged these letters by academic year.) Dates penciled in are by Lance Humphries.	1916-1939	1	2
MFG to JFG, 2 postcards; 20 letters during the school year 1929-30.	1928	1	3
MFG to JFG, while JFG traveled in Europe (10 items)	1930	1	4
MFG to JFG (19 items)	1930-1931	1	5
MFG to JFG (26 items)	1931-1932	1	6
MFG to JFG (8 items)	1932-1933	1	7
Tanis Garber Page to JFG most undated, with dates penciled in by Lance Humphries (18 items)	1929-1935	1	8
Tanis Garber Page to JFG's fiancé Madelaine Bakter (2 items); Tanis to either JFG, Mrs. JFG, or to both (18 items)	1939-1944, 1961-1963	1	9
Correspondence received by JFG from persons outside his family (17 items)	1928-1934	1	10
Memorabilia from JFG trip to Europe (6 items)	1930	1	11
Transcripts and grade sheets from Lehigh University (9 items), 2 letters of recommendation	1931-1935	1	12
Correspondence received by JFG from members of the extended Garber family (14 items)	1974-1989	1	13
Typed list of property and yard chores for Cuttalossa	undated	1	14

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Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
arranged by month, and typed list of addresses and telephone numbers for various physicians, family, friends, and service providers			
Files on DG Works: A		2	1
Files on DG Works: B		2	2
Files on DG Works: C		2	3
Files on DG Works: D		2	4
Files on DG Works: E		2	5
Files on DG Works: F		2	6
Files on DG Works: G		2	7
Files on DG Works: H		2	8
Files on DG Works: I		2	9
Files on DG Works: J-K		2	10
Files on DG Works: L		2	11
Files on DG Works: M		2	12
Files on DG Works: N		3	1
Files on DG Works: O		3	2
Files on DG Works: P		3	3
Files on DG Works: Portraits		3	4
Files on DG Works: Q-R		3	5
Files on DG Works: S		3	6
Files on DG Works: T-U		3	7
Files on DG Works: V-Z		3	8
Notebook: register of paintings (includes sale records but no price)		3	
Correspondence: MFG and JFG re inclusion of Daniel Garber in the <i>National Cyclopedia of American Biography</i>	1959-1993	4	1
Correspondence: miscellaneous	1945-1991	4	2
Correspondence: museums re: gift	1974-1992	4	3
Correspondence: distribution of works left after Garber's death, and other family owned works	1964-1980	4	4
Lists of paintings and a few lists of etchings, and other notes	Undated	4	5
Lists of paintings sold	1962-1964, 1981, undated	4	6
Lists of etchings and some correspondence re sales of etchings, n.d., 1958-82; checklist of an exhibition of etchings at the Allentown Art Museum		4	7
Correspondence: re loans of paintings	1983-1987	4	8
Correspondence: bills from framer Ben Badura	1963-1975, undated	4	9
Correspondence: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts	1960-1990	4	10
Correspondence: Newman Galleries	1964-1979	4	11

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Folder title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence: Janet Fleisher Gallery	1979-1980	4	12
Correspondence: Richard Stuart Gallery	1980-1983	4	13
Correspondence: Taggart and Jorgensen Gallery	1989-1992	4	14