10-31-2014

Marsden Hartley Correspondence

Marsden Hartley 1877-1943

Edmund Marsden Hartley 1877-1943

Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

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HARTLEY, Marsden
Lewiston, Maine, January 4, 1877-
d. 1943.
Hartley, Marsden

Mr. Hartley's parents, although born in England, are now naturalized citizens of the United States.

At the age of fifteen, after completing a grammar school education, he started his art studies at the Cleveland School of Art. Later he went to New York on a scholarship where he spent his first year in the Chase School studying under Luis Mora and William Chase. The following four years were spent at the National Academy of Design as a contemporary of Maurice Sterne and others.

Through the Swiss impressionistic realist, Segantini, he first learned how to begin painting the Maine mountains at Center Lovell and North Lovell.

In Europe he spent four years in Berlin and various intervals in France, returning to the United States in 1930. His reason for painting is "clarification of self."

Mr. Hartley is represented in the following collections: Phillips Memorial Gallery, Barnes Foundation, Ferdinand Howald, Alfred Stieglitz, Paul Rosenfeld, Mrs. Alma Wertheim, Herbert Seligmann and others.

From: MODERN AMERICAN PAINTERS by Samuel M. Kootz
August 10, 1959

Mr. Marsden Hartley  
c/o Falmouth Book House  
12 Monument Square  
Portland, Maine  

Dear Mr. Hartley:

With delight we read of your forthcoming volume of poems, ANDROSCOGGIN, and we look forward with eager anticipation to reading the book.

Of course we shall order a copy for the general lending section of the library, but we are writing at present to you regarding the Maine Author Collection, which comprises about a thousand volumes, most of which are inscribed and presented for purposes of exhibit only.

Its present interest gives promise of the future value it will hold for students and researchers, and we are always glad when it is possible to include another name in our literary roster, and another volume to its shelves.

We hope you will want to inscribe a copy of ANDROSCOGGIN for this collection, and we assure you that it would give us great pleasure to claim you not only as an artist, but also as a writer of Maine.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

hm  SECRETARY
West Brooksville, 
Maine-
September 10-1959.

M aine State L ibrary, 
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sirs:-

Your very kind letter sent to me care of the Falmouth Book House in Maine, had been forwarded to me and reached me two days ago.

In reply, I will say that I shall be most pleased to forward to The Maine State Library a copy of my poems entitled "Androscoggin"—as soon as it is off the press and of course autographed as per request for the private collection of the State Library of books and writings by Maine writers.

I am also sending under separate cover as I had earlier intended, a group of ten or so photographs of Maine paintings done by me during the last three summers, all of which can be taken as fairly good portraits of the places, and since they were recognized clearly by natives, I feel safe in calling them portraits, and also with the photos a remarkable record of my career in an issue called Index of Twentieth Century artists, meaning of course American artists—ever since I started out at the age of fifteen from Lewiston to make my way, and to establish a career in art, which has now been proven, such as it is.

And the word DIRIGO seems so appropriate, describes it all, I feel, it is the quality that gets a persistent Maine-iac where he thinks he wants to go, and as I recently said to my publisher Leon Tebbets of the Falmouth Book House, the middle name of almost anyone who goes out to do things is "OBSTACLE" since a Maine man or woman usually has to buck up against a lot to get there, and you of course know the tragic struggle of our great and wonderful poet, Edwin Arlington Robinson—greatest I think next to perhaps Whitman, but so profoundly expressive of the Maine mind and the Maine spirit.

I am sentimental about Maine for the obvious reasons, and I believe it to be a primitive urge to return to one's native earth just as Emma Hames and Lillian Nordica did. There was never a time during my ten years sojourn in Europe
in pursuit of art education in France, Germany and Italy, that my mind was ever negative about, my homeland, and the more I saw of anything else the more strongly I felt I wanted to come home to Maine and paint my own incomparable country again.

And the truth is, that the very first pictures I ever exhibited in New York, shown as far back as nineteen eleven, were pictures of Maine, taken over on the west border in Center Lovell and North Lovell where I lived and painted over a space of ten years, in long summers, and once a whole winter through, and got my first recognition in art from pictures of Maine scenes as felt by a Maine son, and outside of Winslow Homer who was not a Maine born man, I suppose I am the first one to be allowed to take credit for showing Maine scenes to the outer world, and outside of my friend Waldo Pierce, who does not give the same attention that I have done and am now doing entirely, I know of no one who gives the subject the same attention, that is to do what I like to think I may call State portraiture, and I was very pleased that at both of my last two exhibitions in New York, Waldo came and left me a note at the first one saying, "I am on my way to Maine, but I don't see why I have to do, it is all here," and last year he left me a note saying, "More power to you for giving birth to Maine," both of which notes I highly prized as Waldo is a Maine man and feels the native emotion, naturally.

It is inspiring to be proud of one's native country, and for many years when coming north, I never felt local emotions until I got to Kittery and then when South Berwick came, I began to think at once of that lovely person and gifted author, Sara Orne Jewett who has so graced the record of the State of Maine with her beautiful stories of it. Maine is always think something else than just America, it is for us who were born here, America localized, and it suppose this idea has the same effect on anyone who is born elsewhere when he enters his own birth locality.

And so it is a matter of great pride to me to fulfill the request of the State Library of Maine by giving it the souvenir material it asks for.

My father was an Englishman who came over here in the early eighteen sixties, and headed for Lewiston where there was already some sort of an English colony of cotton workers from the Lancashire England country, and liking it, he sent for my mother who came over in a sailing vessel taking six weeks for the journey—they married at once and settled down and my father immediately became a citizen of Lewiston and remained so for sixty five years, until his death in nineteen fifteen. I have now only nieces, nephews and cousins who survive and are residents of Lewiston and Auburn, and the most conspicuous of these was the late Charles Horbury whom my father brought over as a boy, and by some strange means unknown to me now,
became interested in the theatre, and operated the now defunct Music Hall of Lewiston for over forty years, and with this as a business and investments in real estate, acquired something of a fortune, and at his death left fifty thousand dollars to build a new wing to the then new hospital in Lewiston.

My sisters eventually moved to Cleveland after the death of my mother, they married Cleveland men and settled down to establish their own families, and it was there with them in Cleveland that I began my studies in art, on a scholarship offered me by one of the trustees of the old Cleveland Art school.

The rest of the information will be found in the Index of Twentieth Century American artists, a copy of which I have also given to the Lewiston Public Library as a local record. I returned to Maine three years ago, spending the summer at Georgetown Maine, and there painted a number of Maine portraits, and then last summer I was at Vinalhaven, where I did another series of Maine paintings, and I am now at work on several others at this time, all of which will be shown at my Twenty sixth or seventh annual show, all of which have taken place in New York, always, and from which my reputation as an American artist as well as an artist from Maine, has radiated. I also had shows in Berlin, London, Munich, Paris, Breslau and Dresden—alas how different now all that world is, and the meaning and spirit of art so crushed out of existence.

And so it pleases me greatly to receive your request for the recognition that comes with it, as well as reasons of sentiment. And if the State Library is agreeable to the idea, I will be glad to forward any further material that may be kept on file for future use.

I have three short essays on painting coming out in I believe the next issue of a very solid magazine called Twice a Year and the essays are all on painting, the subjects being Leonardo da Vinci, Hans Memling, and Gaston Lachaise, who was a very gifted sculptor who died three years ago, who was until his death a resident of Georgetown, Maine, where his widow still maintains the country home and has been coming to Maine herself for thirty years, always to Georgetown.

Accept my heartiest thanks then, for your kind letter of recognition of me as a painter of Maine from Maine, and as a writer as well, and the new poems to come out have a lot of Maine thoughts, feelings, and pictorial effects in them. And I shall hope of course to have an official letter of
acceptance of the photographs and the record of me in the Index of Twentieth Century artists to keep on file among my publicity material and for private satisfaction chiefly.

I feel like a little boy who has been presented with his first State flag.

Very Sincerely yours,

Marsden Hartley

West Brooksville, Maine.
c/o Evans.

Until Sept. 20th.

Marsden Hartley,
West Brooksville, Maine.
c/o Evans.

I will know by then where I shall be settled in Bangor, and am planning to go up to Mt. Katahdin and stay a week to get some portrait material of that wonderful mountain, and I think it most laudable that Ex. Gov. Baxter should feel with such high dignity, the value of giving that inspiring mountain back to itself, a very great and noble gesture, since now it can regain its original strength and beauty.

Direct with your ambitious desire to warm recognized by an active letter.
September 13, 1939

Mr. Marsden Hartley  
West Brooksville  
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Your generous response to our letter of request leaves us overwhelmed with gratitude, and a sense of our inadequacy to express our appreciation.

Your intensely interesting letter, setting forth your devotion to Maine in a paean of acclaim, is like your paintings: strong and colorful; and we are of course delighted to find such enthusiasm for Maine.

We do officially accept your lavish gift of the photographs of paintings, which you so thoughtfully labelled. Of course a black and white photograph can only hint at the glory of an oil painting, but we are very grateful to you for the privilege of possessing these likenesses. These, together with the article in the Index, will be incorporated in a booklet, for safety and convenience in consultation.

ANDROSCOGGIN will, we feel certain, justify our pleasurable anticipation; we are especially eager to read the poems after having your letter!

Thank you again, very, very much, for the letter, your fine cooperation, your kind promise of an inscribed copy of ANDROSCOGGIN for the Maine Author Collection, and for the biographical and photographic material which you have already sent. Any additional material, which you suggest and care to send, will naturally be received most warmly. We are indeed rich in boasting your name as a Maine artist-author.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY  
BY

hm  
SECRETARY
West Brooksville,  
Maine—  
Sept.16th., 1939.

Maine State Library,  
Augusta, Maine. ,  
Miss Hilda McL eod, Secretary.

Dear Miss McL eod.

Since your letter received yesterday has a personal tone besides the official one, I shall take the liberty of addressing you this time.

I am of course delighted that the material I forward to the State Library is so acceptable, and the letter you sent me brings me great satisfaction, and I shall of course be glad to send you anything else that may be of historical value, like catalogues, critiques, etc.

I wonder if you could now help me with information on the subject of getting up to Katahdin Lake, which I am told offers the best view for painting purposes of the great mountain. I have written to Caleb Sribner the game warden who lives at Patten, but as he may be slow in answering, I think it a good idea to address you also.

I hear there is only one place to live which is convenient to the best view of the mountain and that is Cobb's Camps which is very expensive, but if I must do it that way, and there is no other, I shall have to do it that way. But if you have, and you might easily have, useful information that would help me to make the grade, I should be very glad of it.

I would have to go of course to Millinocket, and I suppose if I went to the Chamber of Commerce in that town, they would tell me how to get there, and since it is all very expensive I need to know if there is any way of getting there less than the Cobb Camp price, which is $7.00 one way, which is awful, but you wouldn't be likely to know about things like that probably, though if you have booklets or tourist information, that would help some too.

I won't be going up there from Bangor before early October, as I want it to be cold enough to avoid rains, as of course sitting
around at $5.00 a day waiting to get a look at the mountain is a pretty high price, bad enough if the mountain is clear every day.

However, anything you can think of to assist in this venture, I shall be very grateful for, as I have wanted all my life to paint this mountain not only to satisfy personal emotions, but to do a kind of official portrait of the mountain, as I feel I am now the "authorized" painter to do that painting, as Waldo Pierce and myself are the two outstanding Maine painters, and Waldo's interest is not as keen as mine, and by virtue of the prodigal's return idea, I am doubtless keener than he is on the subject, and he has painted it from the Togue Pond side which Caleb Srribner game warden says is not the good side, but that the best view is from Katahdin Lake where Cobb's Camps are.

I mean later on also to make a visit to the State Library after I am settled in Bangor where I plan to stay for possibly two months, and I never feel quite happy in New York although all or most all of the people I know are there. I want eventually to reverse the order, stay in Maine ten months in the year and go down to N.Y. for two during exhibition time and all that.

Waldo feels the same as I do too, as both of us having lived a lot in the great outer world, feel satisfaction in getting back into the home lot, and strengthening our natural love for the home acres -- and I am hoping that a lot more Maine-iacs will encourage feeling too, as I think we should be loyal to our "DIRIGO" country.

Many thanks for your official letter, which will be of great value to me from now on, and I am proud to possess such a document.

Very Sincerely yours,

Manda Hartley
September 19, 1939

Mr. Marsden Hartley
West Brooksville
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Thank you for a most interesting and engaging letter!

We wish we might be of more assistance to you, but although we have made persistent inquiries, the information is remarkable for its paucity. The Maine Development Commission has only the enclosed pamphlet to offer, and the date is uncertain, but they state that it is probably 1938. As you will see, under Millinocket, on page 34, there are several establishments listed, and a few are less than Mr. Cobb's prices. It might be more helpful for you to write to the Chamber of Commerce at Millinocket and make inquiries there.

We trust that your arrangements may be satisfactorily made, and we wish we might be of more service to you than seems possible.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm
Encl--1

SECRETARY
Dear Miss MacLeod,

I had a visit the other evening from Caleb Scribner, chief game warden of the Ktaadn country, who was so good to me recently and helped me in my "sacredly" impersonal purposes in getting in to the base of Mt. Ktaadn so I could paint it at its best—a most remarkable person, one of the finest men I have met in a long, long time.

He incidentally tells me that you lent him a copy of my early book—Adventures in the Arts—which was very kind of you, but I am most intrigued as to how the State Library obtained a copy of it, as it is so hard to get now, being over twenty years old, and my first appearance in print. It was my old friend Walter Lippmann, the political writer who set me off in writing, and printed the first essay on art that I ever wrote.

I would have sent a copy of it long ago to the State Library if it had been available, but do let me know how you got hold of it, as I should so much like to know.

I gave a copy to the library at Lewiston some time ago when it was easier to acquire, and I had hoped also to get one for the Coram Library at Bates, because though I am not a graduate of it or any other college, I take great pride in the development of Bates, and one day when it is feasible, I want to give a lecture on art there, as a kind of testimonial to the charming university, and besides that Prof. Pomeroy is one of my oldest and best friends there in Lewiston, a most capable and thoroughly fine person.

But do tell me how you got the book, just to satisfy my curiosity. I should so like to run down to Augusta for the day and call on you all, and perhaps I can do that before I go down to N.Y. in January. I plan now to go north again for Xmas to stay with Caleb Scribner, as he wants to help me get other views of Ktaadn in snow.

Best wishes to all, and my noble state. I love it and admire it tremendously.

Very Sincerely,

Marjorie Hartley
Mr. Marsden Hartley
27 Broadway
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

You have been very fortunate in securing the aid of Mr. Scribner, in your aims to reach Katahdin. We trust that the weather was favorable for your purposes, and that you will continue in good fortune upon your next trip.

Our copy of ADVENTURES IN THE ARTS was secured through a very assiduous book-hunter, who advertised for it, Mr. Charles E. Campbell, of Campbell's Book Store, 604 Congress Street, Portland, Maine. We do not know where Mr. Campbell found the copy, but it was in good condition, and as we had been waiting for it some time, we immediately purchased it. This copy, however, is being used in the lending section of the library, so the Maine Author Collection is still lacking a copy: and if you, therefore, do discover a copy anywhere that we might have for the exhibit, do please let us know.

If you are in Augusta, we hope you will come in to see us. A visit from you would afford us pleasure.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY
Dear Mr. Macleod,

There is a high grade magazine that now called 'Twice a Year.' Perhaps you have heard of it - if not, in any case, the new number is November. I've three little essays in it. The State Library might like to have it.

Unfortunately, I cannot secure presentation copies as I should like to do. But it costs me $1.00 - and you would have few the library three pieces that have been kept 'Skeen' Y in New York.

I am happy to see it because the publishing is very good at this time.

I spoke with Mr. Raukeff, librarian of the Benson Library about a book I want to write about called 'The Arrowroot Woods' by Charles F. Twelv.

No sure he is willing, 'cause 'he long.

Of course, a long way to Rome, or one to read more thereof.

I shall be... 

Caleb Scribner's home in Porter, and as I am sure he is vell... 

3. No more words. I should like to...
I write an easy wit, as I knew already
drawn on "Pencroft Man" by
Fanny Hardy Edgeworth. Written also in
unwritten contents below Boston.
I'm writing in West together a set
of papers on Maine subjects to
writers, and it would be valuable. I
think the general liberty of the state-

It would be nice too, when the material
is assembled, to find a Maine
publisher—now perhaps you are informed
such people in the State.

Leon Tellsier of Talcott Hill Book House
published who is doing 3 poems
"Author's Couch" would be the mean, but
Lem is harassed by the face of
writing capital, and it is very brave
of him to attempt. Lem, my poems.

But Lem is a rare heron. He is courageous
one as well.
My heir, just issued the book of poems
called "Hold Off the Sun" by Kuhlen
Reichwitz. In South Paris. Marched
of Dante's daughter. Thelibrary will
accept this book for—she is a capable
friend with two poems. Read, are
saw.

How I dream also of another Maine
Do you know the name of Shulamith Christianity in Brunswick — he wrote me to ask if I will lend him a copy of a poem he is collecting material for a work of American anthologies from over 50 years ago? He says his name is not reliable — once he was in New York on a business trip and was in a hotel in New York — and he saw a10. 3

newspaper article about a poem by someone who was coming to print a book — and the city held an agreement to buy copies of the book — I present him the same thing in Maine — he then in an actual poetry racket song and now all over
This country. I must have received at least ten of these letters, which are very amusing
and are hand-written, by hand.
I have no news about Sheldon Christian.
Do you know the name? If so, tell me anything
of him. I would like to hear from anything
of him, I understand his good name. I
wonder if he is.
I hope to hear from Charles T. near boast soon.
I will come soon or if it is rainy, it is.
I have to hear some news of it up in
Caleb Scribner's. It may be a WR.
Now can you let me a WR.
If you have any news of Mr. Hildreth
I must eventually give an answer to.
I am to have a way of being
furnished with
You say.
Thank you—
Sincerely
Marvin Hartley

The address of
Twice a year
in 509 Madison Ave.
Room 1710 New York City.
Mr. Marsden Hartley
27 Broadway
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Thank you for calling our attention to the magazine TWICE A YEAR; and we will be very happy to secure a copy of the November issue, in order to have your articles in the Maine Author Collection.

Your enterprise of writing essays regarding Maine subjects is interesting, and we certainly hope it may attain publication. Of Maine publishers, the Falmouth Book House is known to you. There is also the Southworth-Anthoensen Press in Portland, which of course does beautiful publishing and printing. The Stephen Daye Press in Brattleboro, Vermont, is not in this state; but the editor, John Hooper, is a Maine man and has issued a number of books by Maine writers.

You might consult the list of publishers in the Maine Register, where you will find a number of smaller concerns, as well as the customary print shops of newspapers.

We learned about Miss Richardson's book some time ago, and have written to her about it. And we do know Miss Adams' work; we have the BREAD LOAF ANTHOLOGY which you mention.

Mr. Christian, about whom you inquire, is pastor of the First Universalist Church in Brunswick, and has a lively interest in literature, having written some things himself. We know of him only through correspondence, and the usual library channels. Mr. Christian has always observed the library rules satisfactorily, and has presented an inscribed copy of each of his publications to the Maine Author...
Mr. Marsden Hartley
November 27, 1939

Collection. He was born in Denmark, we believe. This information may not be very helpful to you, but it is about all we can supply. Our relations with him have been pleasant always.

The West book went forward in the usual manner, under direction of the Circulation Department, and we trust that by now you have received it and are enjoying perusal of its pages.

Thank you for sending us occasional information about your writing and activities. We look forward to seeing your articles, and we hope that your essays may be available in book form in the future.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY
Dear Miss McLeod,

I suppose you know I am here, due a show of 5 lectures in connection with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Hall.

The responses have been very good, all excellent, allowing for some few errors in the following:

C. S. Mounton Dec 21, 1935
D. E. Transcript Sat Dec 23/35
D. Sunday Shelter Jan 7 - 40
D. Sunday Herald Dec 31 - 40

I have also a piece here in the Barnes Daily Commercial about the piece chiefly about the classics. Here is the Barnes Art Colony.

I shall send you a copy of the Symphony programme with a short story of the management.

I want to keep the pieces I have if they become cut but if you have formed them, you can have them.

I shall write to them any library libraries. I am quite ready with the results. and if there is a temporary sale, I will get

repeated but not declared.

I shall stop over in Boston and arrange with

1st stop was in Boston in 3 or 4 days.

P.S. I hope you both are well, Mrs. various dates, March 11th at the Hudson Valley Festival, 38 & 57 1st - 14th, New York. I know for the Boston will have a successful reception for the Boston in

Muriel Hartley
January 20, 1940

Mr. Marsden Hartley
27 Broadway
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Thank you for your letter of January 19, telling us of the Boston exhibit and the notices.

The library subscribes to the Bangor Daily Commercial and the Christian Science Monitor, so the clippings from those papers will be included in our files. If, however, you have the others from the Boston papers, and do not care to keep them, we would be very glad to add them to the other material.

We are always very pleased to hear from you and learn of the various exhibits and successes which come to an outstanding son of Maine, and trust that some day you will find it possible to call at the library.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY
SECRETARY

hmj
Tues. 10 Feb
Dear Miss McLeod, Baump.
I am facting 12 to 13 N.Y. Feb.
next show March 1171.

'There am only what if
Twice a year with
3 essay in it. I will
Shall now it is the
library if no human if
Staff let me know which
Shall now it is not - as
I do not wish to join it and
Carnall: and as it was
2:00 - 4th day hence
It - let me know when
at once. Put in a card -
as I want to know it better.

Sincerely

Harram Hartry
27 Bron Blog
Baump.
February 23, 1940

Mr. Marsden Hartley
27 Broadway
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Thank you very much indeed for your kindness in offering us a copy of TWICE A YEAR which contains your essays.

It will not be necessary for you to present it to us, inasmuch as we did, upon your suggestion, purchase a copy for the library.

Your courtesy in writing to us about it, however, is appreciated.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

SECRETARY

hmj
Dear Miss Macleod:

I shall be sending you probably tomorrow a very rare copy of my first book of poems called TWENTY FIVE POEMS—the book is long since out of print, and I myself possess only sixty copies which were printed by the Contact Press in Paris—which was directed by Robert McAlmon, himself a poet and at that time had the use of money with which to print good Writing.

I will autograph the same for the Library and assume it will be placed in the Maine dept. of Maine authors. I must however make one demand, that the library have it bound with some sort of stiff covers, so that it will stand more or less usage, and am pleased to present the same.

My new book ANDRO COGGIN is on the press so there is hope now that it will be out soon, and that I will forward also as a gift as soon as I have it in hand.

Also, I should like to ask your co-operation on the matter of getting some lectures in the small towns of Maine, where there is likely to be a literary or cultural unit.

I have prepared two lectures to be delivered later on at the Cooper Union in New York—one has the title THE SOCIAL AND PRACTICAL VALUES OF ART—and the other is called MODERN POETRY AND THE CHANGE IN TECHNICAL FORMS and the latter would of course have readings from the most modern among the poets, including Auden, Oscar Williams, Ruth Pitter, Abbie Huston Evans, a Maine poet and a very good one, with one or so of my own, and small touches from Marianne Moore, William Carlos Williams, Wallace Stevens, Kenneth Fearing, Kenneth Patchen, and the like. (I have previously given lectures at the Museum of Modern Art, of New York—the Art Student's League of N.Y., the Chicago Arts Club, the Denver Art Museum, and had the honor of reading my own verses to the poetry club of Mt. Holyoke College, and was house guest of President Woolley and Jeanette Marks, who was then prof. of English there—and have just recently received an inquiry from them as to how they can procure my three books as they are making a collection of the works of those poets who have read their verses in times past.

Possibly you are in the know as to what towns have clubs of this
sort in Maine, and can afford to pay a nominal sum for such a lecture for which they could of course sell the tickets and cover their expense.

I have just written to Amy Belle Adamé the Maine poet who teaches English at Lincoln High School, Lincoln Maine, as they have had Robert Coffin up there—and also to the University of Maine, who also give a course of lectures.

I want the state of Maine to be as aware of me as possible, and besides enjoying the lecturing, it will give me a chance to be better aware of the forces and charms of my native state for which I have such love and admiration.

Do let me hear from you on this subject, and I shall be grateful.

The rare book I speak of will go tomorrow, and the other just as soon as it is out will be forwarded both as a gift to the Maine authors collection.

I do so want to go over to Augusta, and meet the library dept, and must try and do so before long.

I had a remarkable exhibition during last Xmas holidays at Symphony Hall in Boston in connection with the concerts, and the Widen er Library of Harvard loaned them their copies of my early poems and the prose called "ADVENTURES IN THE ARTS" With preface by Waldo Frank—from their "Treasure Collection" if you please; I was very set up by it.

Very sincerely yours,

Marvin Hartley

Canaan, Maine
Dear Mrs. MacLeod,

I am reading your book today with aCopy of a most remarkable story—a kind of Scotch writing's depicts in a way—very strange, powerful—and very well done.

Clarice Queen is a Scotch-American. She is married to John Evans—The son of Mabel (Dodge) Luten who has written several very personal books—Lorenzo in Taos—Turkin.

Mrs. Luten was responsible for letting D.H. Lawrence out to Taos. New Mexico where she has lived 20 yrs. The Evanses are now permanent residents of Maine—at their Brooksville and are proud owners of a go acre farm on the Banks of the Bagaduce River opposite Castine.

Mr. Evans's novel created big praise—was out of print. Sincerely,

Marston Hartlay.
December 20, 1940

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Once again we are pleasantly impressed with your interest in the Maine Author Collection, and with your generosity in making gifts to the exhibit of TWENTY-FIVE POEMS and ANDROSCOGGIN, also Miss Spencer’s book.

We notice that you request that TWENTY-FIVE POEMS be rebound in stiff covers. We are always glad to comply with the requests of authors in regard to their own books; but we do want to suggest that the books in the collection do not, of course, leave the library. They may not be borrowed, being a permanent exhibit; and while a great many people come in to see them, they do not receive the general wear and tear of our other books which may be borrowed and taken from the library.

Frequently the inherent value of a book is lessened, if not destroyed, by binding in other than the original covers. Would it meet with your approval (providing you consider a re-binding essential to the preservation of the volume) if we should send it to our regular library binders, with instruction to re-bind in the original covers? These binders are expert and skilled, and really accomplish amazing results with books that to a layman to be hopelessly tattered. We have all our rare and valuable items re-bound in original covers, and have always been satisfied with the work.

We will take no steps whatever until we hear from you again about the matter.
As to your proposed lectures in Maine, we are not, unfortunately, "in the know" about this situation. We can make a few suggestions, but we do not know definitely that any of these organizations entertain speakers, or afford a remuneration.

You might address inquiries to the following organizations:

Department of Education (Dr. Bertram E. Packard, Commissioner of Education), State House, Augusta, Maine

Maine Teachers Association (Dr. Richard B. Kennan, Executive Secretary), 6 Melville Street, Augusta, Maine

Maine Poetry Fellowship (Mrs. Jessie Freeman, President), Pittsfield, Maine

Maine Library Association (Mr. N. Orwin Rush, President), Colby College, Waterville, Maine

Maine Branch, National League of American Pen Women (Mrs. Eleanor D. Marton, President), Hinckley, Maine

Maine Congress of Parents and Teachers (Mrs. Burton Goodwin, President), Ridlonville, Maine

Maine Federation of Women's Clubs (Mrs. Eva C. Mason, President), Dover-Foxcroft, Maine

Professor Herbert C. Libby, Colby College, Waterville, Maine


William H. Niehoff, Southern District Governor, Lions International, Waterville, Maine

Hugh J. McGuire, Northern District Governor, Lions International, Presque Isle, Maine
Mr. Marsden Hartley
November 20, 1940

We do not have a list of the Kiwanis Clubs in Maine, but the President of the Augusta Kiwanis is Howard Davies, Jr., and possibly he could furnish you with a list of cities which have Kiwanis Clubs.

We wish that we might be more helpful to you, but we do not, of course, have the means to secure speaking engagements for persons. It is possible that various Chambers of Commerce would be of assistance to you.

It is not known to us what cities or towns afford payment of speakers; it would very likely depend upon the organization and the affluence (and interest!) of its members.

We look forward to receiving the books you mention, and assure you that upon the publication of ANDROSCOGGIN we will purchase a copy for lending purposes. It will be an honor to receive the gift copy for the Maine Author Collection.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj
SECRETARY
Dear Mrs. Jacob—

I saw today an autographed copy of a book of poems, "Anemoscopia," which is just off the press, and I was much pleased.

I am sending the copy of Thayer's "Fire" Poems. I did not want to send a copy of your poem, "When Two," because I thought it is not worth it. I will be kind and in course I have sent you. That is what I would advise.

The new book as you write was in beautifully done and I am proud of it.

You have received the copy of W. F. Panis and Blair Simpson's book, "Fellow Americans."

How lovely, on the long list of clubs interested, "The Kiwanis" was prominent. Today, we are interested because it is 1907. You know I have prepared a talk, but clinical wide interest clubs are of course I must be re-embarked as, cannot even for lectures. I am within 1000, of course, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, of course, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, of course, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little. I have written W. Hann, because it is too little.
December 4, 1940

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Thank you for your letter of December 2. We did receive your graciously inscribed copy of TWENTY-FIVE POEMS, and also Miss Spencer's book. We are of course particularly proud to be able to add the poems to the Maine Author Collection, and take note of what you say regarding the binding. We will see that a serviceable and attractive binding is put on to protect the little book against time and visitors.

How delightful to know that ANDROSCOGGIN is finally really off the press! We are again placing the title on our order list, and this time, assured by you who have held a copy in your hands, we feel certain that we will be able before long to include a copy for lending purposes in the State Library.

We hope to have an inscribed one for the Maine Author Collection. Will that be possible?

We anticipate with pleasure reading your latest work, and we take this opportunity to congratulate you upon its publication. May it live long and enjoy popularity!

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

SECRETARY

hmj
December 4, 1940

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

ANDROSCOGGIN has come to the library, and with the greatest of delight and pleasure, we say thank you very, very much: for your generosity, and for paying this lovely tribute to that section of Maine.

It is, as you suggest, a beautiful book, and a durable one; a book to excite a reader for its own appeal, and to satisfy owners with its sturdiness in protecting the leaves.

Permit us to join in congratulating you upon the publication of ANDROSCOGGIN, and to wish it a most hearty success.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm:j

SECRETARY
Dear Mrs. Jacobs—

Maine State Library,
#&### Augusta, Maine;-

Assuming that you are still connected# with the State Library, I write to ask you if the library has a copy of the book called the "Port of New York" by Paul Rosenfeld of N.Y.—the book is quite some time since out of print, the several copies I have acquired are in perfect ### condition, and there is a long and florid chapter on myself, with a superb photo portrait of me by Alfred Stieglitz, a copy of an original of which is registered in the print dept. of the Boston Museum, and one also in the print ### dept. of the Metropolitan Museum of New York, and which Mr. Stieglitz considers as the best portrait he ever took of anyone, and that is saying a great deal.

If the library does not have this book, I shall be glad to present a copy of it, but I need first to know if it has a copy, as I do not want to give out my few copies in the wrong spots. Do let me know about this, as I want to get the matter done with, and will also write to the Lewiston Library, to see if they have it;

There is a two-man show of myself and Stuart Davis coming off at the Museum of Modern Art in Cincinnati, any day now for a month, and I will send you a copy of the catalogue, for the "archives".

Very Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
October 11, 1941

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

It is certainly extremely kind of you to remember us with the generous offer of a copy of Paul Rosenfeld's book, PORT OF NEW YORK. We do not have a copy in the library, and it would assuredly be a fine addition.

In this connection, we suggest that the Farmington Library would probably be delighted to obtain a copy of the book. There is much study in that town of art and individual artists, and no doubt the chapter about you would hold vital interest for them.

It is always pleasant to hear from you, and we continue to wish you well.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
Dear Mr. Jacobs:

Thanks for your letter. I am sending this to you after again of the Port of New York. Now by all means come to Farming the as I loved the little place when I went with a friend who was doing business there. I went up of my own to see the Hudson, Horsethead. What I have written in my new book of prose—called "The Sponge of Experience"—I am to present three weeks with Atlantic Monthly Press in Boston when I go down in Dec. I hope they will be aired if at least one of them. The other two are poems. I mean to try twice to stop over at Augustus on the way down from Bangor in Vermont. I need feel I must do it. The presence there of the library I keep so far away and read there. Have you been to Aug. a bit? You never knew a town until you knew Wishaw's street—all stones and stones. I do like it can engross me. I can.

Thanks for your courtesy and the book.

Sincerely,

Hannah Hartly.
October 21, 1941

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Your generosity overwhelms us! Delighted as we are to accept the gift of PORT OF NEW YORK, we are almost as pleased for the Farmington library. We are sending on to them a copy, and enclosing a copy of our letter to them. Thank you very, very much indeed.

Your letter holds interesting news, too, and we shall hope for a call from you in December, as you suggest.

Is THE SPANGLE OF EXISTENCE published yet? We try not to miss such important items, and if this book has escaped our attention, we shall have to plead human fallibility. Of course we intend to order it for the lending section, as we do all non-fiction books by Maine authors; and we shall hope for your continuing graciousness in the matter of the Maine Author Collection.

Our best wishes for your visit to the Atlantic Monthly Press.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

by

hmj

Secretary

Encls.
November 12, 1941

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

It was extremely kind of you to remember us with the art exhibition catalogues, and we appreciate your thoughtfulness. Please accept our thanks, and also the enclosed refund of postage on the shipment.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

hmj
Encl--9¢

SECRETARY

(Catalogues referred to MCF for VF)
Dear Mrs. Jacobs;

Thanks for your letter, and it gives me great pleasure to build up the "archives" about myself as a "Maine Celebrity". I will send you of course anything at other times as it comes along, and be very glad to do so—and I shall try desperately to stop over at Augusta on my way down to Portland, Boston and New York, but having just learned from my doctor that I have a dangerous blood pressure, and must keep as quiet as possible, I may not be able to have the pleasure of the stop over, but I do so want to do it, to be aware of the State Library and its functions, as well as to meet you, and I hope, the Librarian also.

I have in mind a plan which is logical and pleasant to me to think of, and I disclose it to you, but with the strictest confidence as one never knows how things men or will work out, and the plan is, to present a number of my Maine paintings to the State Library of Maine to be placed on permanent view there, and for my personal pleasure, I should want them to be placed where they could be seen at all times, not necessarily together in a separate room, though that would be nice, but probably not feasible for official convenience—but there is no other place in Maine that I should want them, and I feel very earnestly about the idea, and I would no doubt give one picture to the Lewiston Public Library, and one or two, if they would have them, at the Coram Library of Bates College, though I am not a college man.

But this is a preliminary whisper only on the subject, and if you think you could feel out the matter with the Librarian herself, then you could tell me whatever the results are, as to the idea.

I am of course very proud of being born in Maine, and have its interests at heart always, and because of that, consider myself twice American, as I am by reason of birth a citizen of the State of Maine, though not of any place in it, as my life seems to call for going places, on account of my art pursuits.

If I can manage to get off at Augusta over night, and spend a few hours there, I would like to talk it over with at least yourself, but until the idea takes definite shape, please do not publicize it in any way, as I want the idea to be earnestly accepted, if it is to be accepted at all. Personally I think it is a fine idea, and I would feel happy to know that a group of my Maine pictures reposed permanently in the State of Maine headquarters.

Now, You can I think help me a little— I regret to say I do not know
the legend of the Martyrdom of Saint Sebastian, and I need to know it for something I am writing, and have no access to library service here naturally.
Would you be kind and look up this for me or have someone do it in the Reference department, and send me what you have been able to find. I can of course get it at the Main Public Library in N.Y. or at the library in Boston, but I am not sure how much time I will have then, so take the liberty of asking you to do this for me, and will thank you for the same.

Many thanks again for your kindly interest in my affairs. The Falmouth Publishing House is doing a second book of my verse which is being rushed to come out for the Xmas trade, and as soon as I get my personal copies, I of course will be glad to supply the Library with an autographed copy for their private collection of Maine authors.

Very sincerely,

Maud Hartley
November 15, 1941

Mr. Marsden Hartley
Corea
Maine

Dear Mr. Hartley:

Each of your letters seems to contain good news, and your most recent one, mentioning the possibility of presenting some of your Maine paintings to the State Library, is indeed an especially delightful one.

We shall regard this mention as you ask, as a "preliminary whisper." The State Librarian, however, is joyfully impressed with the idea; and we certainly do hope that such a rare privilege may be ours. If you call at the library, you will be able to see where the pictures might be hung. Of course we should want at least one in the Librarian's office, and we assure you that this office is a public place, and not a sanctuary forbidden to the world!

You are more than kind to have us in mind for an exhibit copy of the new book, and we shall watch for it eagerly.

Your request for the Saint Sebastian material has been referred to our Research Librarian, who will doubtless write to you about available data.

Please do not doubt our enthusiasm about the paintings. We are glad that you feel as you do about Maine, and we promise you that should this wonderful event be possible the paintings will assuredly be placed where they may be seen at all times. We would be very proud to accept the gift, and to hang them in the State Library.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj
SECRETARY
HARTLEY, Marsden

b. Lewiston, Maine, 1877

d. 1943
September 19, 1945

Mrs. F.W. Jacob,
Maine State Library,
Augusta,
Maine.

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

In the correspondence of my uncle, Marsden Hartley, I have found letters from you discussing the paintings which he intended to present to the Maine State Library.

I was very happy to find these letters for they verified my claim that it was his desire to have some of his work represented in some of the institutions of Maine.

It has been my desire to carry out his wishes to the letter, but in the absence of a will I have had to assemble whatever evidence I could under the circumstances, and present it to the other heirs for their consideration.

If you could send me copies of any letters that you may have from him it would be a great help to me in verifying the statements he made to me verbally in some of my visits with him in recent years.

As the estate is to be turned over by the administrator very shortly, I shall appreciate a prompt reply from you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

24 Clearway Street, Suite 11
Boston 15, Mass.
Miss Norma Berger  
24 Clearway Street  
Suite 11  
Boston 15, Massachusetts  

Dear Miss Berger:  

Your letter of September 19 inspires anew our feeling of friendship and appreciation of your uncle, Marsden Hartley. His death was a loss to the world of art and culture, and to the State of Maine, to which he was remarkably devoted.

The chief message of your letter is one for which we cannot adequately express our gratitude. You will notice from the last letter we received, November 14, 1941, that Mr. Hartley felt quite strongly that some of his paintings of Maine should be presented to the library. You doubtless have our reply to the suggestion. We were profoundly appreciative of the idea, of the motivating spirit, and of the privilege of having as permanent library possessions such beautiful testaments of Mr. Hartley's love for Maine, and his skill in portraying that love.

The copies of the letters which you have requested are enclosed. Those of November 24, 1939; January 19, 1940; February 20, 1941; November 19, 1940; December 2, 1940; and October 19, 1941, are in his handwriting wholly; the others are signed by him, with postscripts and some inserted notes in his hand.

There seems promise of an addition to the State House, a new office building, or some manner of reconstruction that will permit us additional room within the next few years. We are hopeful of a special room for the Maine Author Collection and other Maine items, such as our maps and certain items of historical interest which have been presented to the library. It seems to us that this room would be a most suitable place for any of Mr. Hartley's paintings that might come to us.

He was very much interested in the Maine Author Collection, to which he generously presented his books. Before his death, we wrote about a book entitled THE SPANGLE OF EXISTENCE, which we have never seen; was it published? We are still trying to secure a copy of his early ADVENTURES IN THE ARTS for this special collection, so that we may have all his books.
Miss Norma Berger  
September 20, 1945  
-2-  

No matter where the paintings may be placed, however, they will be a constant source of pride, a real treasure to be cherished for their own worth and beauty and for the Maine painter who was moved to present them to the State Library. If it is possible for this wish of Mr. Hartley's to materialize, we shall be exceedingly grateful to you as well.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
October 1, 1945

Mrs. F. W. Jacobs
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jacobs:

The day your letter arrived I was preparing to go out of town and so was not able to answer it immediately.

The copy of the letter written to you by my uncle, Marsden Hartley, and dated Nov. 14, 1941 is very helpful to me and I am delighted to have it, as well as the others. It verifies my claims that he intended to present some of his paintings to some Maine institutions. He had told me of this the last time I talked with him in Ohio, but to have something in his own handwriting serves as authentic evidence.

I have been putting forth every effort to establish the facts about his wishes in regard to his estate and have succeeded in securing the signatures of seven of the heirs agreeing to carry out his plan. They have also agreed to turn over his collection of art objects and personal things to an institution to be kept as a memorial collection if these things should be acceptable. This part of the problem has still to be worked out. But I am very grateful to have been able to save them from being sold or scattered promiscuously. They are safe in the warehouse in New York. Since he has written of many of his little possessions in his manuscripts, I feel that they are doubly valuable for historical record.

Professor Green of Colby College agreed with me on this point and we had some interesting conversation about the matter when he called on me here in Boston at the time he came to see the manuscripts which I have here. (I now own the entire collection of manuscripts) There are thousands of pages of them and are in both prose and poetical form.
The book you speak of "The Spangle of Existence" is among the manuscripts in the trunk and was submitted to a publisher, but rejected at the time. I hope that it may be published in the not too distant future.

A book of poetry written by my uncle is to come off the press this month. It is titled "Selected Poems" and is a collection of his best work. It was edited by Dr. Wells of Columbia University. As soon as I obtain some copies of the book I will be happy to present a copy of it to the Maine State Library in my uncle's name.

Thankyou very much for your prompt reply to my letter and request for the copies of my uncle's letters to you. They afford me more evidence than I had expected. Not only of his intentions concerning the Library but also Bates College and the Lewiston Library.

I am more than grateful for this information.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Norma Berger

P.S. If you or any representative of your Library would be interested in seeing the manuscripts or in talking over plans for the paintings I should be very happy to receive you here in Boston. I had hoped to get up to Maine this summer but was not able to manage it.

N.B.
Miss Norma Berger  
24 Clearway Street  
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

Thank you for your letter of October 1, with its hopeful news and the information about SELECTED POEMS. You are very kind to present a copy to the Maine Author Collection, and we look forward eagerly to seeing the book. We are of course adding it to our order list as well, so that another copy may be available for lending.

It seems unlikely that anyone from the library will be in Boston in the near future. If, however, Miss Stuart, the State Librarian, or another of the staff should visit Boston, we will try to make an appointment with you.

Your mention of a memorial collection is certainly fine, and we hope that something of this nature may be arranged. At present, we do not have adequate facilities for displaying such material, though several presentations have been made against the day when a Maine room may be available. Plans are in progress to enlarge the State House, or construct a new office building. The library is promised additional space, and we intend to have a Maine room, especially for exhibits such as you mention. Until then, however, we must regretfully confess that although we can care for books, and have sufficient wall space to hang a number of paintings, we cannot exhibit (with the protection to which they are entitled) manuscripts.

The matter is, we understand, not to be settled immediately; and perhaps some happy solution will present itself. Meanwhile, we are grateful for your interest, and hope to have in the library one day some of your distinguished uncle's painting: possibly studies of Katahdin, or other equally Maine-flavored work. We speak of the Katahdin not alone because some of his finest painting was of this mountain, but also because several of his most interesting letters were written to us while he was contemplating the project, arranging his schedule and seeking information about the country.
Miss Norma Berger  
October 2, 1945  
-2-  

Again thank you for your kindness and interest;  
and if we can help you in any way in this matter,  
please let us know.  

Sincerely yours  

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection
Maine State Library
Augusta Maine
Miss Hilda McLeod, Secretary

Dear Miss McLeod:

I am mailing you the copy of the new book, "Selected Poems" by Marsden Hartley, which I promised to send for the collection of Hartley books in your library.

By this time you probably have seen the book which came off the press last month. I am sorry not to have sent it off to you sooner but it was necessary for me to be in New York for a short time and that delayed me.

Those in New York who have seen the new edition of Hartley poems are very enthusiastic about it and I myself am more than pleased with it.

Please accept it with my compliments.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

November 13, 1945
November 19, 1945

Miss Norma Berger
24 Clearway Street
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

The book is lovely! It arrived today, and we are delighted and again grateful to you for making it possible to include SELECTED POEMS BY MARSден HARTLEY in the Maine Author Collection.

It is a beautifully composed memorial to a man of genius whose loss to the world of art and literature is still great and still deplorable. It was an exceedingly happy thought to combine his two remarkable talents by including reproductions of some of his paintings.

Please accept our thanks for your kindness in presenting the book to the collection.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj
November 3, 1947

Miss Norma Berger  
24 Clearway Street  
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

You will probably recall that two years ago we corresponded about your uncle, Marsden Hartley, and his paintings. Although we understood at the time that nothing would be definitely settled immediately, we wonder whether any decision has been reached yet.

We hope that his wishes may prevail, and that the state of his birth may be enriched by his paintings. We should be very glad if you would keep us in mind, and let us know what the ultimate decision is.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  

hmj  

Maine Author Collection
Hilda McLeod Jacob  
Maine State Library  
Augusta, Maine  

Dear Miss McLeod:

In answer to your letter of November 3rd
I can only say that I have not forgotten our correspondence
in regard to the paintings which my Uncle, Marsden Hartley,
planned to give to the Maine State Library but as the
estate is still unsettled I can give you no definite
statement as to whether things will work out that way.

Since my main purpose in obtaining legal
counsel was to protect the estate from being disposed of
without regard to my uncle's wishes, you may be sure that
I will make every effort to have the paintings placed in
the Maine State Library and am still hopeful that something
may be done toward that end.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Hartley Paintings
To Be Shown Here

Paintings by Marsden Hartley will be shown in Gallery B of the Portland Museum of Art from today through Friday.

Hartley was born in Lewiston, Jan. 4, 1877, but was at one time a resident of Portland. He was a pupil of Frank Vincent DuMond and the Chase School.

In 1930 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. His painting hang in the Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington, D.C.; the Whitney Museum of Modern Art, New York; Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia; Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts; the Cleveland Museum of Art, and the Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe.

The Portland exhibit will include 11 painting, "Arroyo Hon­do, New Mexico, 1918," loaned by Miss Gertrude Teinier, Cundy's Harbor, and nine paint­ings from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laurent, Ogunquit.

A portrait of Hartley by Peggy Bacon, loaned by the Hamilton Easter Field Foundation, will be displayed.

The show will represent the early Maine, Berlin, Ogunquit, New Mexico and Gloucester peri­ods of the artist.
May 28, 1954

Miss Norma Berger  
24 Clearway Street  
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

Several years ago we corresponded with you regarding the disposition of some paintings of your uncle, Marsden Hartley.

Since this correspondence is still in our unfinished file, on which we check from time to time, we are writing to inquire whether or not the matter was ever settled.

We appreciate that such business often requires considerable time, and we appreciate your attitude regarding Mr. Hartley’s wishes.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection
Mrs. F. W. Jacobs
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine,

Dear Mrs. Jacobs:

I must apologize for not replying to your inquiry about the disposition of the Hartley paintings sooner but I have been so busy that I have not had time to sit down to write letters.

It was my sincere desire to have my uncle's wishes carried out in regard to the gifts of paintings he had planned for some of the institutions in Maine and it has been heart-breaking to me to have been frustrated in this matter. My sisters, Mrs. Gloria Carrier, and Mrs. Emilie Perry, joined me in the attempt to obtain the consent of the other heirs and at first, the Maine heirs agreed to stand with us. Later on however, at the suggestion and insistence of their legal counselor, Harry Manser, (Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Maine) who is a relative of theirs by marriage, they withdrew their consent to having paintings given to the Maine institutions. Not only that but they refused to allow my sisters and me to take some of the paintings as part of our distributive share of the estate. And so the paintings have been literally tossed into the laps of the New York "sharks" and we all lose out.

If there were anything I could do about it I would be glad to but so far as I know the matter is settled. It is rather ironical that the Maine relatives should be the ones to rob the state of Maine of the gifts which should rightfully have been placed as a memorial to Marsden Hartley and for the benefit of future generations.

Thank you very much for your cooperation in the past in proving my claims that Marsden Hartley had planned to give these paintings to his native state.

Sincerely yours,

Norma Berger
June 22, 1954

Miss Norma Berger
320 Tappan Street
Brookline, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

It was a letter of appreciation we had hoped to be able to write to you one day, not one of sympathy. We share with you the deep regret that it seems impossible now that any of the Hartley paintings will be hung in his native state. You must, however, have a feeling of satisfaction in having done all you could to carry out his wishes.

A similar instance occurred some years ago when a valuable collection of Maine maps, old and new, went out of the state. Eventually, some of them were returned through purchase, but the collection as a unit was broken.

This week, as you perhaps now, the Portland Museum of Art is showing paintings by your Uncle.

Thank you for your interest, and for trying to include the library. We wish we might have had at least one of Mr. Hartley's paintings, and we know that you wish so, also. Let us hope that whatever their disposition, it will be to an appreciative collector, and perhaps some public building or museum, where they may be shared by many art lovers.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
320 Tappan Street
Brookline, Massachusetts
September 18, 1954

Mrs. F.W. Jacob
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I have in my possession some things that have been closely associated with the life and work of my uncle, Marsden Hartley. It has occurred to me that you might like to have them for your library since some of them are mentioned in his writings and could be used on occasions for exhibition purposes.

As I have been recently assembling these things with the idea of disposing of them I would appreciate hearing from you immediately in regard to the matter. I mean of course to offer them as a gift.

Sincerely yours,

Norma G. Berger
September 21, 1954

Miss Norma G. Berger  
320 Tappan Street  
Brookline, Massachusetts  

Dear Miss Berger:  

It is certainly kind of you to remember us, and to offer the Marsden Hartley items. We are grateful.  

We are, also, chagrined: we shall have to ask the nature of the proposed gifts for reasons of space. Sometimes we are offered, for instance, swords and bedspreads, china mugs and whale oil lamps -- interesting and valuable, but needing proper display and storage facilities.  

It would be an injustice were we to accept something for which we could not properly care. Books, some papers, paintings -- such as these we could probably handle suitably.  

Do you understand? And would you be willing to give us an idea of the nature of the gifts? We do so very much hope that we can have them.  

Recent visitors to the Maine Author Collection were Mary Wyman and Abbie Huston Evans. Miss Evans immediately asked for Mr. Hartley's poems, and was most interesting in discussing her conversations with him.  

Sincerely yours  

hmj  

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection  

Encl--1
Dear Mrs. Jacobs:

In spite of my tardy acknowledgement of your prompt answer to my inquiry concerning the Hartley items I wish to place, I do appreciate your letter. Briefly, my idea is to place the small collection I have where they may be used for display in connection with the life and work of Marsden Hartley - the sort of display which means so much to young children who are manifesting an interest in the arts and those who have made their mark in the field of the arts. Such displays in libraries brought much joy to me as a child and I know that is what my uncle had in mind when he began the collection he had - "for the boys and girls in Maine." He told me, with tears in his eyes, that he had had nothing to study or to see, when he was a child, which would have been an inspiration to him, and would have enriched his life.

The collection I have is small, but significant. It includes some of his sketch books; photographs and snapshots of him and of some of his friends; His own copy of his book "Adventures in the Arts" - Two small oil sketches, sent to [in 1912(?)] the framed photographed of the teacher whom he adored and who turned the tide of his life by giving him a copy of Emerson's Essays; (Nina Waldeck) A framed photograph of Walt Whitman - autographed - a framed letter written by Walt Whitman with a card below it written by M.H. explaining that the person it was written to was a friend of his - etc. Several things that he was most eager to have preserved were in his childhood home and had been in our home from the time my mother was married. They include the "Corn pitcher" and the "Wheat pitcher" mentioned in his writings - the cups and saucers which he mentions also - one "A Souvenir from Staley Bridge" and the other from Blackpool. An Italian wine bottle; several pieces of pottery and a few other things I can't recall at the moment. I might even consider giving the most beautiful Japanese Buddha which he gave me years ago. It is only six inches high and carved of sandalwood, enclosed in a case with double doors. It is a very rare piece.

If you wouldn't have room or use for all these things to be used as I have had in mind, I would prefer not to send any of them for I want them to be kept intact as a single collection. I assure you I understand perfectly what your problem is as to storage space and would not be in the least offended should you have to refuse them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Miss Norma Berger  
320 Tappan Street  
Brookline, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Berger:

You are very kind to write in detail about the collection which should certainly be a unit, and should certainly be displayed, not stored. Fairness obliges us to admit that at present these items of Mr. Hartley's would have to be stored.

A new State House office building is under way, and a number of changes in location of offices and departments will take place when the building is completed; but right now only an excavation exists. It is, of course, our hope that when the moves are made, the library will have at least a modest-sized room in which to display prized possessions -- books, pictures, maps, and several previous gifts to us. But -- we dare not promise yet, and we can not yet tell when the building will be ready for occupancy.

Considering this difficulty, and the desirability of having the most interesting collection on display without a period of tiresome and discouraging storage, we believe that our regretful but honorable course must be to decline to accept them. We earnestly hope that an appreciative and welcoming museum can be found, and we express again to you our gratitude that you thought first of us.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection