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SCAISBROOKE LANGHORNE ABBOT (1908-1985) PAPERS

The collection includes correspondence, photographs, sketches, and paintings of Lynchburg artist, Scaisbrooke Langhorne Abbot. Also included are notices of the artist's painting exhibitions, as well as notices of his performances in the Lynchburg Little Theatre and the Floyd Ward Revue.

[Detailed finding guide available with the collection.]

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- BOX 1**
- 1-1 Article – *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*
 - 1-2 News articles
 - 1-3 Drawings – High school
 - 1-4 Virginia Episcopal School (1920-1922)
 - 1-5 Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts
 - 1-6 Interstate Fair Association (Lynchburg) – Awards 1921-1924
 - 1-7 Passports (1924, 1957), Driving license (1957)
 - 1-8 Studio – 704 Church Street (1927)
 - 1-9 Mural – Lynchburg City Hall
 - 1-10 Little Theatre (programs, news articles, photographs)
 - 1-11 Set designs (photographs and photocopies)
 - 1-12 Miscellaneous performances (programs and news articles)
 - 1-13 Floyd Ward Revue (programs and news articles)
 - 1-14 Inventory of paintings
 - 1-15 Exhibitions
 - 1-16 Class lists (Lynchburg Fine Arts Center)
- BOX 2**
- 2-1 Correspondence 1920-1929
 - 2-2 Correspondence 1930-1939
 - 2-3 Correspondence 1946-1949
 - 2-4 Correspondence 1950-1959
 - 2-5 Correspondence 1960-1969
 - 2-6 Correspondence 1970-1976
 - 2-7 Correspondence 1977-1979
 - 2-8 Correspondence (Undated)
- BOX 3**
- 3-1 Correspondence (1942 – Jan-Apr)
 - 3-2 Correspondence (1942 – May-Dec)
 - 3-3 Correspondence (1943)
 - 3-4 Correspondence (1944)
 - 3-5 Correspondence (1945)
 - 3-6 Correspondence (1942-1945 – Transcriptions & computer file)

(Continued)

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SCAISBROOKE LANGHORNE ABBOT (1908-1985) PAPERS, Cont'd.

- BOX 3** 3-7 Military records
 3-8 Sketchbooks from hospital in New Zealand
- BOX 4** 4-1 Katherine Ketcham – Painting and correspondence
 4-2 Miscellaneous hospital “theatricals”
 4-3 Hospital snapshots, Auckland, New Zealand (Identified)
 4-4 Photographs of chalk drawings – U.S. patients in hospital in
 Auckland, New Zealand
 4-5 Diphtheria slides
 4-6 Medical drawings
 4-7 Miscellaneous photographs (1940s – New Zealand)
 4-8 Wooden medal box (World War II)
 4-9 Drawings – American soldiers 1944-1945
 4-10 *Your Victory* (History of the Pacific War)
- BOX 5** 5-1 Correspondence 1980-1989
 5-2 “Get Well” cards and letters (1983 Hospitalization)
 5-3 “In Memoriam” (1985)
 5-4 Funeral prayer, editorial, will (1985)
 5-5 Letters of condolence (1985)
 5-6 Memorials (1985-1986) – Calling cards, memorial flower cards
 5-7 Floral note cards (1987-1988) – Correspondence
 5-8 Miscellaneous correspondence
 5-9 Garden plans (1942)
 5-10 Garden plans (1977-1979) – with photographs
 5-11 Garden plans – Miscellaneous
 5-12 Garden photographs (1980)
 5-13 Garden photographs (1982)
 5-14 Garden photographs (1983)
 5-15 Garden photographs (Undated)
 5-16 Garden sketches
- BOX 6** 6-1 Floral arrangements and canvases
 6-2 Miscellaneous sketches
 6-3 Dix, William S. – Painting and correspondence
 6-4 Murasso, Ralph (1922-1977) – Photographs and sketches
 6-5 Lancaster, Nancy – Addresses & telephone numbers in USA
 6-6 Valentine to Abbot by Queena Stovall
 6-7 Miscellaneous photographs, cards, magazine articles
 6-8 *Portraits and other works of art* (American Philosophical Society
 1961)

(Continued)

SCAISBROOKE LANGHORNE ABBOT (1908-1985) PAPERS, Cont'd.

- BOX 6** **6-9** *Explanation of the works of painting, sculpture, architecture, engraving, and lithography (1925)*
- BOX 7** Portraits – Slides, photographs of works in progress, completed works
- BOX 8** Miscellaneous sketches and paintings; Sign painted by Abbot for studio at 704 Church Street (1927); Large photographs of camp and hospital personnel (World War II)

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SCAISBROOKE LANGHORNE ABBOT (1908-1985)

Scaisbrooke Langhorne Abbot was born in Lynchburg 16 January 1908, the son of William Richardson Abbot and Lucy Lewis, and grandson of Elizabeth Langhorne Lewis (Mrs. John H. Lewis). He studied with Sallie Lee Blount Mahood and her daughter Carrie Mahood. Through the efforts of his grandmother and his aunt, Elizabeth Lewis Otey, he was encouraged to pursue an art career and was able to tour major museums and galleries in Europe. After attending Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg, he went to Paris at age fifteen to study art under André Victor Edouard Devambez. At age 17, he entered the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia.

At age 19, Abbot opened a studio in Lynchburg on the third floor of Jenny's Tea Shop on Church Street. In 1934, he was commissioned to paint a mural, "Going Down to Lynchburg," in the new municipal building in Lynchburg. The mural depicted a tobacco planter and a team of oxen drawing a covered wagon loaded with tobacco. A slave driving the team is also depicted in the mural.

Abbot enlisted on 14 February 1942 for service during World War II. Following basic training at Camp Lee, Virginia, he served with the 89th Field Artillery. He was wounded at Guadalcanal and was sent to New Zealand for hospitalization. He spent part of the war as a medical illustrator for the 39th General Hospital.

When he returned to Lynchburg, "Brookie" resumed his artistic career and became the most popular portrait painter in the area. He was also involved with theatrical productions in Lynchburg, both as set designer and actor, and was known for his wit and humor. Of special mention are his floral paintings and his garden designs for his home in Lynchburg.

Scaisbrooke Langhorne Abbot died on 29 July 1985 in Lynchburg and was buried in the cemetery at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Forest, Virginia.

[Scaisbrooke Langhorne Abbot Papers, MS1268, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA]