

#### Robert Taft correspondence related to frontier artists, Dickerman - Foote

**Section 3, Pages 61 - 90** 

A series of research correspondence from the Robert Taft collection relating to frontier artists. Robert Taft (1894-1955) was a professor of chemistry and author on the subjects of photography and art. The artists included here are Sumner Dickerman, E. Didier, Maynard Dixon, William H. Dougal, William Herbert Dunton, John Durkin, Thomas Eakins, Lawrence C. Earl, Thomas Martin Easterly, Seth Eastman, Elk Eber, Frederick von Egloffstein, Henry A. Elkins, Henry W. Elliott, George H. Ellsbury, W. A. Emory, Henry F. Farny, Father Nicholas Point, Harry Fenn, and Mary Hallock Foote.

Date: 1930-1955

Callnumber: Robert Taft Coll. #172, Box 21

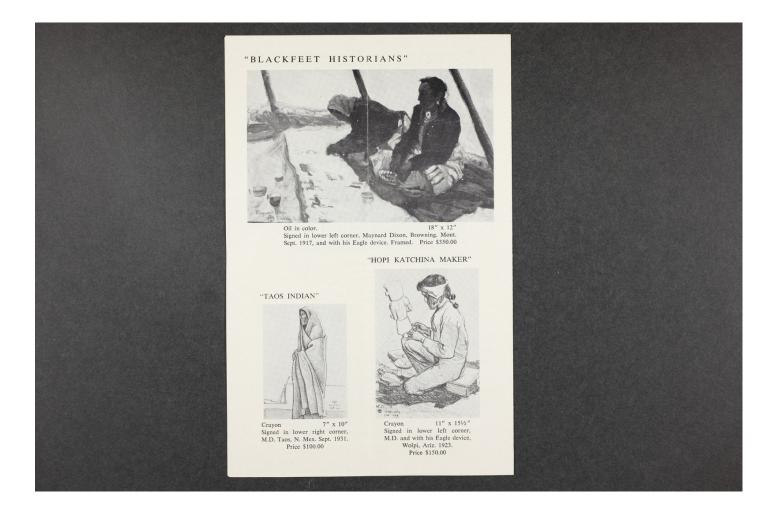
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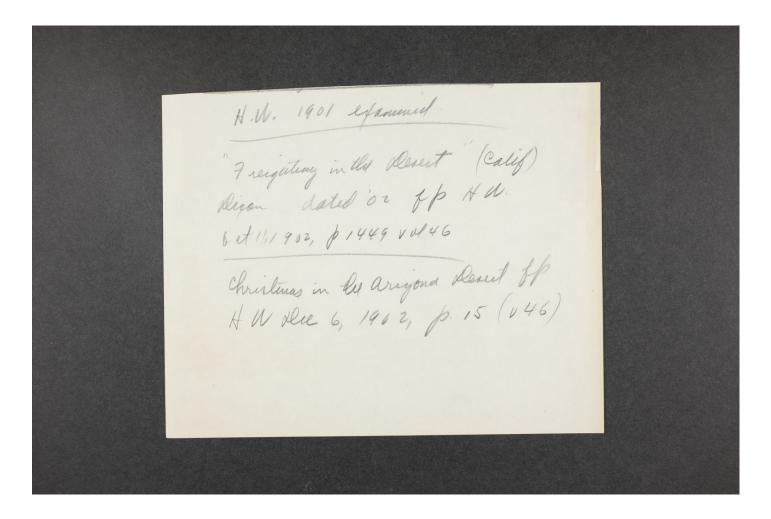
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# KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

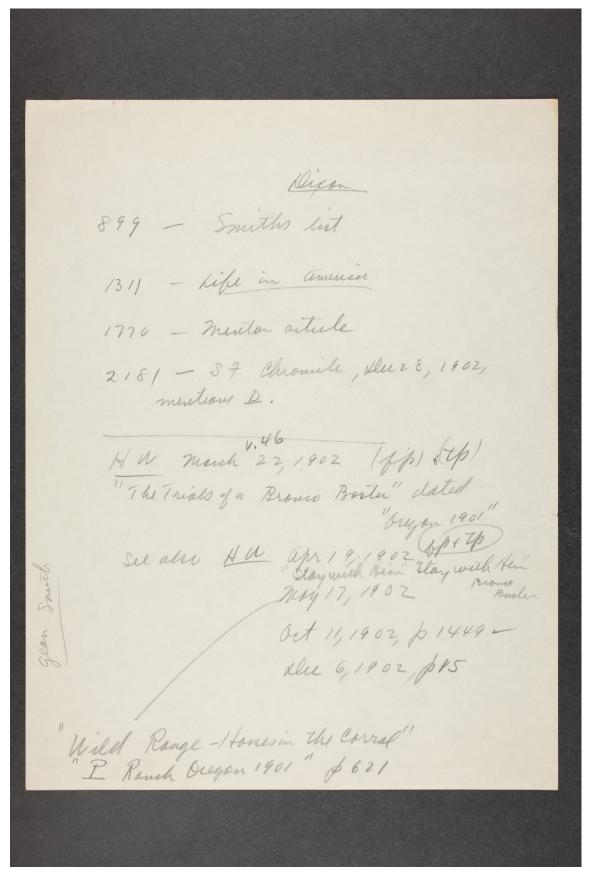




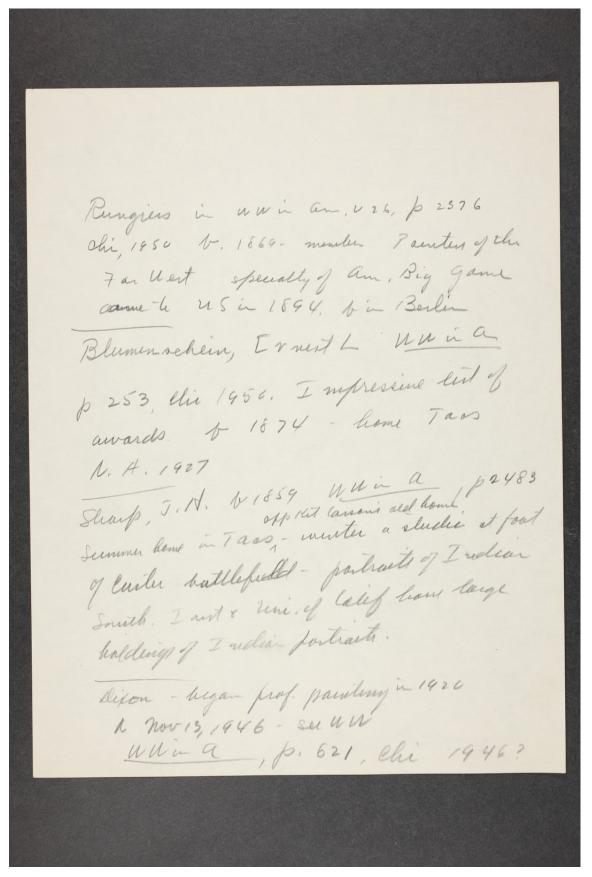




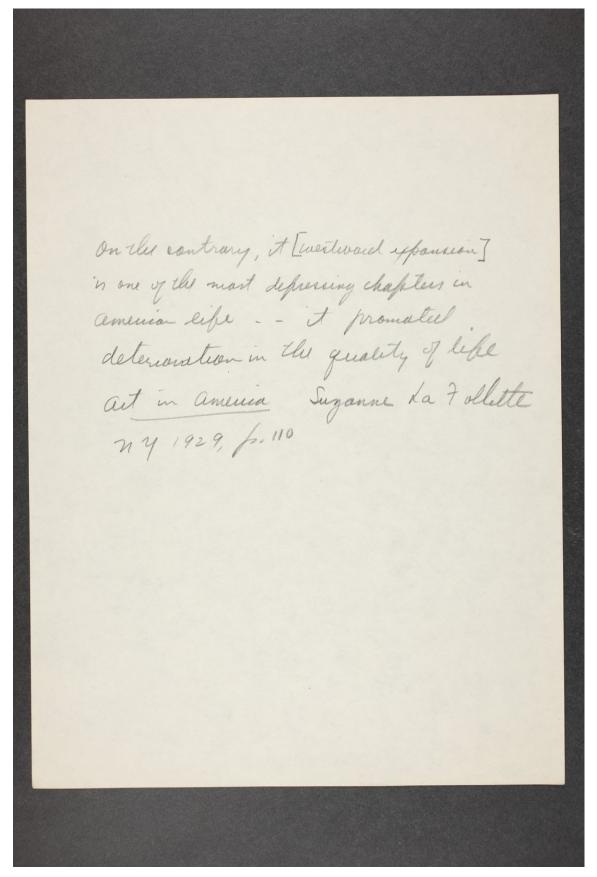




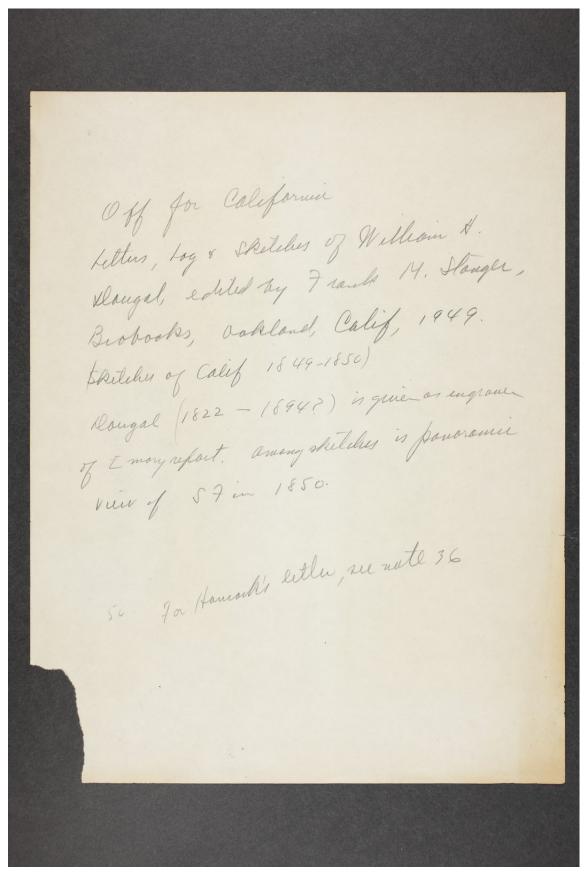




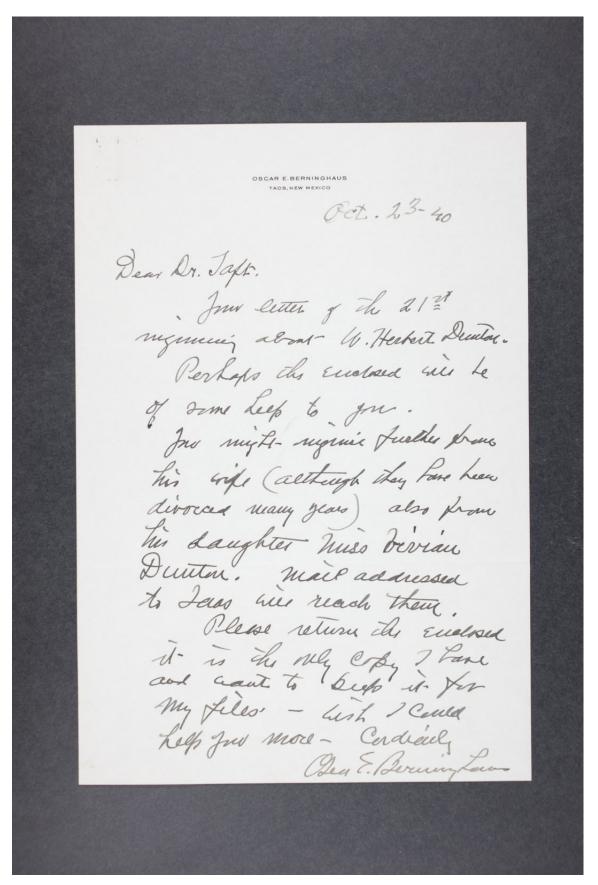




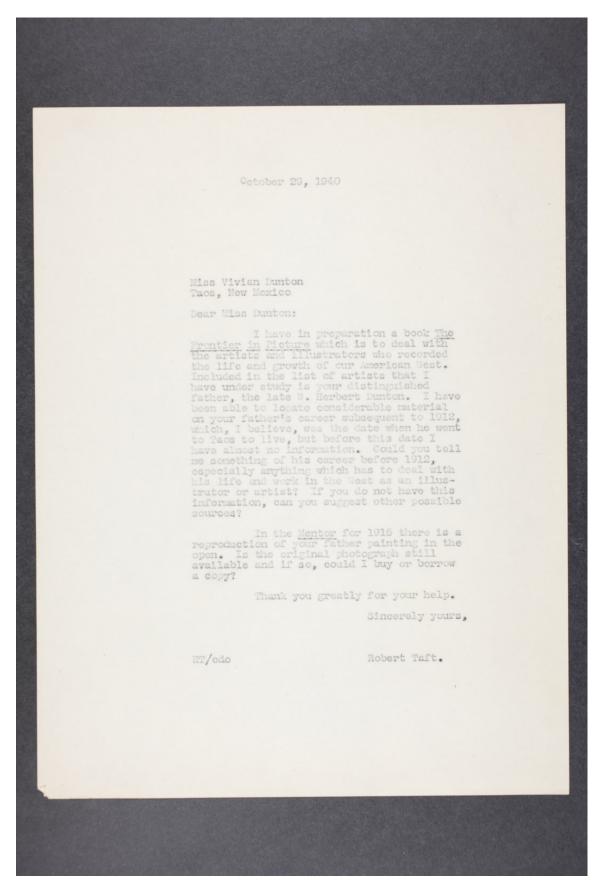




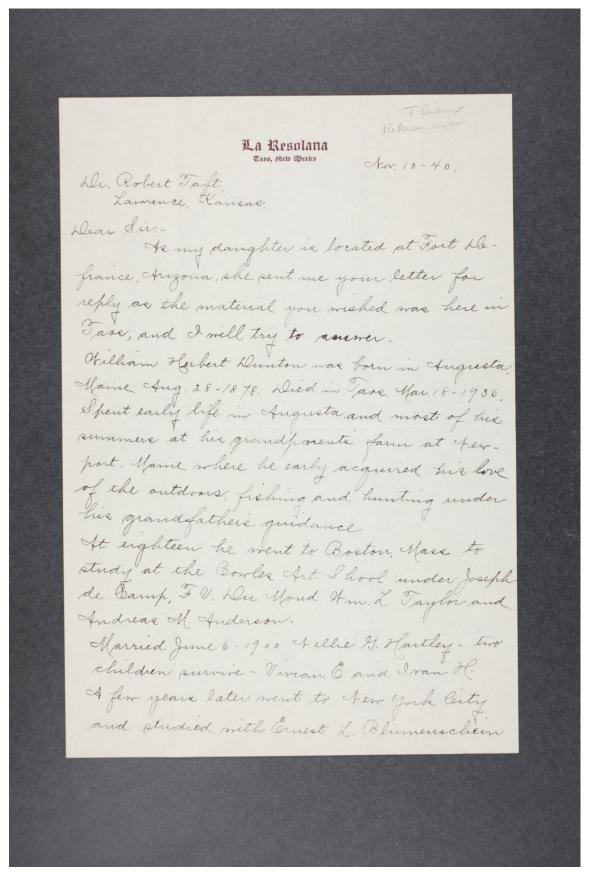




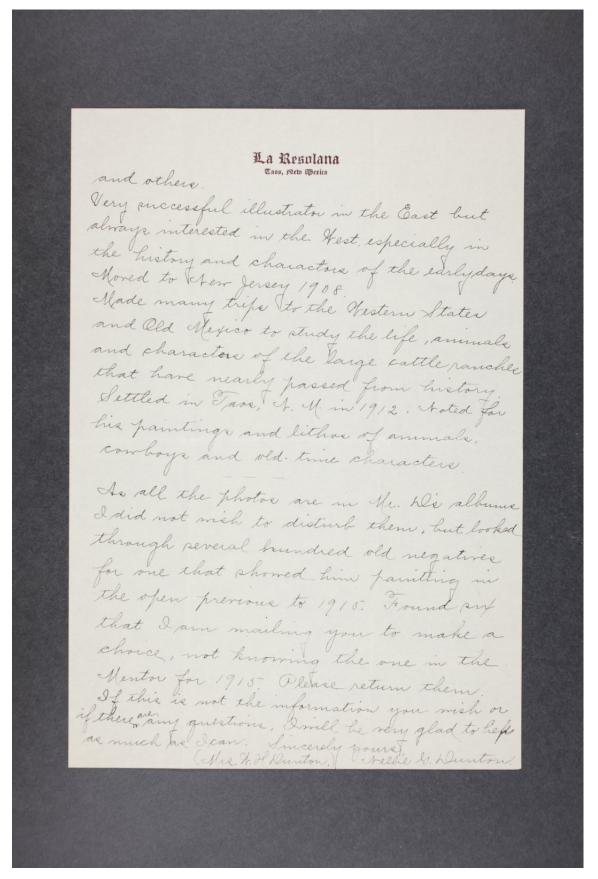














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MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO

present:

E. IRVING COUSE

W. HERBERT DUNTON

A Retrospective Exhibition

June 14 to June 30

This collection of paintings which the Museum of New Mexico has the honor to present sets forth a retrospective exhibition of the work of E. Irving Couse N.A., and W. Herbert Dunton. The exhibition covers a long period of production reflecting lives indefatigably and industriously spent in a search for achievement.

The one continuous chain of thought which pervades the subject matter of each artist reveals personalities in decided contrast, even though each sought and found the source of his inspiration in the same locale - the Southwest. To Couse it was the cultural, poetic and legendary life of the Indian. To Dunton it was the romance, history, and wild life of the Great West. Everything we know of the personal characters of these men adds to our appreciation of their sincerity. Both were accomplished technicians and craftsmen, holding steadfast and true to their convictions, neither allowing himself to be influenced by the vogue or trend of the times. To them art was not a plaything; it was serious, vital, robust, something real.

It is not amiss to state that both were no exceptions to the experiences of non-prosperous periods, but by dint of industry and devotion, supported by deep faith in their convictions, each won a large and appreciative audience who have responded substantially as well as with applause.

It was devotion and omnipotent love for their art, rather than an acquired momentum, that enabled them to continue their work even unto the last hours of their passing, Mr. Dunton, on March 18, 1936, and Mr. Couse, on April 24, 1936.

With works placed permanently in museums, state buildings, galleries, and private collections too numerous to mention, and with lives led fully and actively, they now have crossed the borderland to become in time forbears of a traditional art in the Southwest, leaving a heritage that is entirely their own.

O. E. Berninghaus

#### E. IRVING COUSE

E. Irving Couse was born in Saginaw, Michigan, September 3, 1866. He studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, then at the National Academy of Design in New York, and at the Julien Academy in Paris. Returning to



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Museum of New Mexico O. E. Berninghaus -2-

the United States he became interested in the Indian and native life along the Columbia River in Oregon, where he spent several years.

While maintaining a studio in New York City, he also established a summer studio in Taos, New Mexico, in 1902. For a number of years he divided his time between his New York and Taos studios, finally settling permanently in the latter place in 1928. It is from Taos and the surrounding country that many of his paintings received their inspiration, and his models were from his many Indian friends at the Pueblo

He was an active charter member and for several years president of the Taos Society of Artists, one of the first artists' societies of the West, which had much to do with establishing the fame of Taos as an art colony.

His paintings typify the cultural, the poetic and the legendary life of the Indian. For these he is particularly noted and his work has brought him many honors here and abroad. Among these may be mentioned the Shaw prize, Salmagundi Club, 1899; Proctor prize, 1900; Second Halgarten prize, 1900; First Halgarten prize, 1902; Honorable Mention, Paris Exposition, 1900; Buffalo Exposition, 1901; Bronze Medal, St. Louis Exposition, 1904; Isador Medal, 1911; Carnegi prize, 1912; Altman prize, 1916; Silver Medal Panama Pacific Exposition, 1915; Isador prize, Salmagundi Club, 1917; W. Lippencott prize, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, 1921; Ranger Fund purchase prize, National Academy of Design.

He is represented in the permanent collections of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences; Smith College; Museum of St. Paul; Grace M. E. Church, Harrisburg, Penn.; Detroit Museum of Art; National Gallery, Washington, D. C.; Montclair Art Museum; Omaha Gallery; Metropolitan Museum; New York City; Santa Barbara Museum; Fort Worth Museum; Toledo Museum; Milwaukee Art Institute; National Art Association; Lotus Club; National Arts Club; Butler Art Institute; Cleveland Ohio Museum; Nashville Museum; San Diego Museum; Topeka Museum; three lunettes Missouri State Capitol, Jefferson City, Mo.

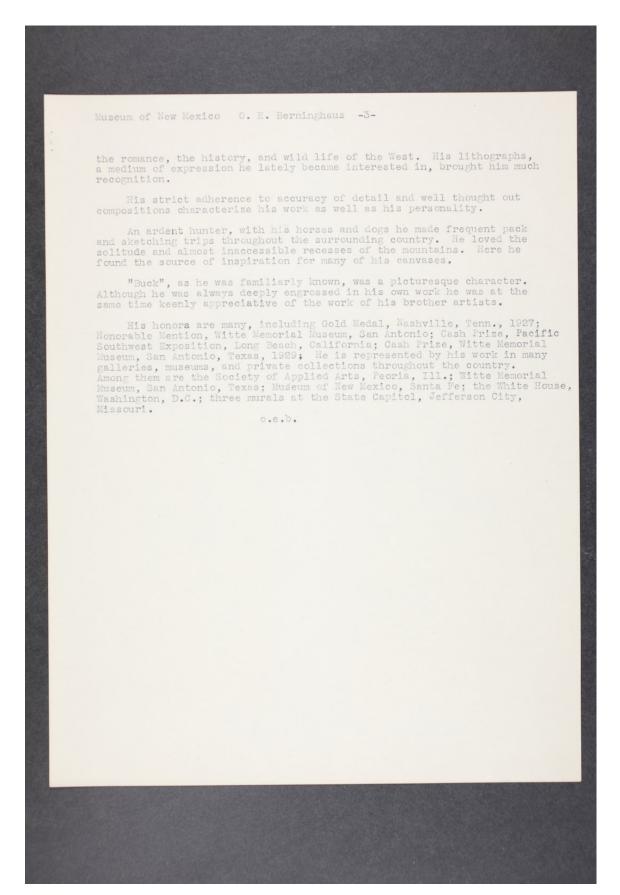
He was elected an Associate of the National Academy in 1902 and a National Academician in 1911.

#### W. HERBERT DUNTON

W. Herbert Dunton was born in Augusta, Maine, on August 28, 1878. He studied art at Cowles Art School in Boston and the Art Student's League in New York. While still in his early teens he wrote and illustrated many stories which found acceptance in various New York magazines. As an illustrator he became eminently successful. His work was sought by such magazines as Everybody's, Recreation, Harper's, Scribner's, and numerous others.

e Very early in his career he became impatient with the East and sought the outdoor life and cattle country of the West. Becoming deeply interested in painting as an art he permanently located in Taos in 1912. Here he gradually abandoned illustrating to devote his life to depicting







Museum of New Mexico O. E. Berninghaus	4-3-
by E. IRVING COUSE, N.A.	by W. HERBERT DUNTON
1 Taos Pueblo, Moonlight	27 My Children
2 The Love Call	28 Aspens and Grizzly (1933)
3 The First American	29 Buffalo (1931)
4 Columbia River Camp (1900)	30 Green Tree (1930)
5 Young Chief Warbonnet	31 The Bob Cat Hunter (1923)
6 Sheep in France (1898)	32 Crow Indian Warrior (1920)
7 Sand Painting	33 Foothills, Winter Afternoon (1930)
8 Pottery Decorator	34 October Aspens (1932)
9 Moon Song	35 Portrait of Singing Rain (1934)
10 Walpi Snake Chief (1904)	36 Illustration for Scribner's
11 Arrow Maker, Firelight	37 Illustration for McClures
12 Turkey Hunter	38 Study for "Emigrants Leaving Westport' (Missouri State Capitol)
13 Quite Pool	39 Study for First Train Arriving at
14 River Camp, Moonlight	Tipton (Missouri State Capitol)
15 Flute Song, Moonlight	40 Study for Pony Express Leaving St. Joseph (Missouri State Capitol)
16 Head of Leandro	41 The Prospector
17 Mountain Stream	42 Old Pioneer
18 Study for "Moki Snake Dance" (1904. A.T.and S. Fe.)	43 Texas Bronco Twister
19 Study for "Vision of the Past"	44 Bronco Buster
(1916. Youngstown, Ohio, Museum)	45 Crest of the Rockies
20 French Girl (1894)	46 Elk
21 Head of Klikitat Chief (1900)	47 Prong Horn Antelope
22 The Blanket	48 Mule Deer
23 Watching the Fish	49 Taos Pueblo Indian Boy (1928)
24 Pueblo Fireplace, Firelight	50 Taos Pueblo Indian Woman (1928)
25 The Quiver, Firelight	51 Southern Cowhand (1928)
26 Photograph of E. I. Couse	52 Madame Kastner
	53 Photograph of W. Herbert Dunton



Painters of Taas am. M. art 13:247 ag22
by W. Herbert Dunton - light + calor
the luce of Taos myun + Indian like
The american artest + His Times
Homer Saint-gandens, N. y. 1941. makes no mention of Taas on any of it
probably because he Ruew him.
american arts - Rella E Tackman,
Cherago, 1928 The Tacs artest?"  pp 2 66 - 274 - Alseninain melicles
7. R. + Carl Rungius (1869 - wild animals of Rachies & carobays).











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#### AMERICAN ART RESEARCH COUNCIL

TEN WEST EIGHTH STREET, NEW YORK

JULIANA FORCE, Chairman

LLOYD GOODRICH. Director

HERMON MORE, Associate Director

November 18, 1943

Dr. Robert Teft University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Taft:

The sketch, "Cowboy Riding" by Thomes
Eakins mentioned in your letter of October 29th shows a
cowboy riding a horse at a gallop or a quick trot. There
are several other pictures by Eakins that show horses in
motion. The most important is "The Fairman Rogers Fourin-Hand" reproduced in my book, Pl.20. Following this
item in my catelogue you will find other sketches for the
picture which include moving horses; and there are also
four small wax figures of horses in motion, No.503 in my
catalogue. You might be able to get photographs of some of
these from the Babcock Galleries, 38 East 57th Street, New
York City, who are agents for the Eakins estate.

 $\,$   $\,$  If I can be of any further assistance to you please let me know.

I am interested to hear that you are doing a biography of Remington. Are you planning to include a catalogue of his work? If so, could you tell me something about how extensive the catalogue will be? My reason for inquiring is that the American Art Research Council is making an informal survey of writers who are conducting research in the American field.

I am enclosing a booklet on the Council which will tell you something about our work.

Sincerely yours,

Sloya Goodiel
Director

LG:RI Enc.1







