WALTER SEYMOUR ALLWARD

Arranged and described

by

Shirley C. Spragge

Queen's University Archives

Kingston, Ontario

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Walter Seymour Allward (1875-1955), son of John Allward

and Emma Pitman Allward, was born in Toronto. He entered the

architectural firm of Gibson and Simpson as a draftsman but

soon turned to sculpture. He first prepared a sketch model for

the monument to the North West Rebellion in Queen's Park in 1894

and followed this with commissions for figures and busts of Dr.

Oronhyatekha, Wilfrid Laurier, Sir George Burton and others.

After a study tour in Europe and election in 1903 as Associate

of the Royal Canadian Academy, he won the competition for the

South African War Memorial, University Ave., Toronto. With this

work he developed a technique to produce figures of heroic

proportions. Success in other commissions followed, Brantford

Memorial to Alexander Graham Bell and a Memorial to King Edward

VII in Ottawa. In 1914 Allward was elected a Member of the Royal

Canadian Academy.

After World War I, he produced war memorials for

Peterborough and Stratford. In 1920 he won the competition

sponsored by the Canadian government for a memorial in Europe for

Canadians "missing" in the late War. Vimy Ridge, near Arras,

France was the site chosen. In 1922 Allward and his family moved

to England and for the next fourteen years he concentrated on

carrying out the Commission, creating a concrete monument and

stone sculptures of awe-inspiring proportions. In June 1936

the work was unveiled by King Edward VIII.

Allward and his family returned to Canada where he produced

the monument to William Lyon Mackenzie in Queen's Park, Toronto.

In the years of World War II he turned to cartooning but refused

to publish.

He received honours for his contribution to Canadian art:

Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George 1944,

honorary doctorates from Queen's and the University of Toronto

and election as a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of

Canada. The year of Allward's death, 1955, the Royal Canadian

Academy of Arts held a memorial exhibition of drawings and

photographs of his work.

In 1898 Allward married Margaret Patricia Kennedy, who died

in 1950. Architect Hugh L. Allward survived his father.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Walter Seymour Allward papers contain 1 metre of textual

records, plus architectural drawings. The main focus of the

papers in both media is the Vimy Ridge Memorial, near Arras,

France erected to World War I "missing" Canadians by the

Canadian Battlefields Memorial Commission 1922-36, with Walter

Allward as architect and sculptor. This imposing monument was

the major work in Allward's career but he created several other

monuments in Canada before, and after, World War I e.g.

Peterborough, Ottawa, Brantford.

Correspondence files 1921-1936 carefully document the

creation of the Vimy Ridge memorial with all the attendant

difficulties. The architectural drawings, photographs and

newspapers and magazines also illustrate this project to its

official completion 4 June 1936. Slight amounts of material

document other projects from 1910.

Personal files contain some family history, photographs and

genealogical material. There is a file of material of Hugh L.

Allward, a son which relates to his father and the Vimy Memorial,

1968-71. In 1970 an article by Charles Wright and G.S. Way was

published in the Department of Veterans Affairs periodical

Carillon (v.3, no.2) entitled "Building a Monument to a Nation."

PROVENANCE

Mr. Peter Allward, R.R. # 4, Uxbridge, Ont., L0C 1K0.

RESTRICTIONS

GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE PAPERS

SERIES I PROFESSIONAL CAREER

SERIES II PERSONAL

SERIES III HUGH L. ALLWARD

SERIES IV NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

SERIES V PHOTOGRAPHS

SERIES VI CERTIFICATES, AWARDS, ETC.

SERIES VII DRAWINGS

DETAILED LISTING OF THE PAPERS

SERIES I PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Box 1

Folder 1 South African Memorial, Toronto, 1910, 1947

2 Edward VII monument, 1913, 1920

3 Canada. Minister of Militia, 1917

4 Sir James Whitney Memorial, Toronto, 1919

5 Peterborough Memorial, 1920-22

6 Stratford Memorial, 1920-22

7 Vimy Correspondence, 1921-24

8 Vimy Correspondence, 1925

9 Vimy Correspondence, 1926

10 Vimy Correspondence, 1927 (i)

Box 2

Folder 11 Vimy Correspondence, 1927 (ii)

12 Vimy Correspondence, 1928 (i)

13 Vimy Correspondence, 1928 (ii)

14 Vimy Correspondence, 1929

15 Vimy Correspondence, 1930

16 Vimy Correspondence, 1931

17 Vimy Correspondence, 1932-1936

18 Vimy Correspondence, Contracts, Agreements, undated

19 Vimy Clippings, n.d.

20 Vimy Clippings, 1936

21 Bell Memorial Brantford, 1937

22 Invitations and awards, C.M.G. 1944

SERIES II PERSONAL

Folder 23 Marriage Certificates, 1860, 1898

24 John Allward

25 Family Photographs

26 Pittman Family Genealogy

27 Printed material Obituaries, clippings

SERIES III HUGH L. ALLWARD

Folder 28 Correspondence of Hugh L. Allward 1968-71

29 Wright, C.E. and Way, G.S. "Building A Monument

to a Nation" Carillon v.3, no.2 (1970); 10-12.

SERIES IV NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

Box 3 (outsize)

13 June 1936 London Illustrated News

4 June 1936 The Times (London)

4 June 1936 News Chronicle

4 June 1936 Daily Sketch

4 June 1936 Daily Telegraph

4 June 1936 Daily Herald

4 June 1936 Morning Post

20 June 1936 Saturday Night

23 June 1934 Star Weekly

Box 4 (outsize)

Damaged

25 June, 1 Aug. 1936 London Illustrated News

27 July 1936 New York Times

4 June 1936 Daily Sketch

31 May 1936 The Observer

SERIES V PHOTOGRAPHS

Box 5 (outsize)

3 Banting Photos Mounted

4 Brantford - 2 Monument - 2 Details

2 Baldwin La Fontain

1 Peterborough

1 Stratford

8 Edward VIII 2 newspaper - Memorial - 4 Glossy

Vimy 2 stone carving

2 pylons 1 front, 1 rear

3 framed overviews

3 unframed overviews

3 "sacrifice"

2 "Canada Sympathy"

3 "Breaking the Sword"

3 "Mourning"

1 "Details"

SERIES VI CERTIFICATES, AWARDS ETC.

Box 6 (phase box)

1) Dickens Fellowship Toronto Branch

- "To Walter Allward" Signed "A.E.S.S." Dated 22 April 1922

2) The Arts and Letters Club

- "Charter Member" 1908 March 1948

3) University of Toronto

- "Doctoris in Legibus", June 1937

4) Amputations Association of the Great War

- "Honorary Life Membership Not Dated

5) Order of Saint Michael and Saint George

- January 1st 1944

6) Royal Architectural Institute of Canada

- "Honorary Fellowship" February 19th 1937

7) Royal Canadian Academy of Art

- "Sculpture" May 30, 1921

8) City of Toronto

- Presentation of Silver Tray December 15th 1936

9) Queen's University

- LLD 1937

SERIES VII DRAWINGS

Metal Container I

- Tracings for pylons at Vimy (outsize)

- Plans for caretakers' office and house, Vimy 1935

Metal Container II

- Complete set of pylon drawings (one-half scale) including

entasis chart 1928

Metal Container III

- Blueprints foundations for sculpture, Vimy 1929-34

- Sketches full size details, Vimy

Metal Container IV

- Contractors drawings, Vimy, n.d.

Labelled Rolls of Drawings

Roll 1 - Vimy caretakers house and office perspectives 1935

Roll 2 - Life drawings (Location Map18)

1) Life Drawing - Signed, dated 1893

2) Life Drawing - Signed, dated 1893

3) Life Drawing - Question Signature, mispelled & writing

4) Pencil Study for Vimy Memorial & Notes

5) Life Drawing - Signed, dated, 1894

6) Life Drawing - Signed, dated, 1894

Roll 3 - Memorials: Toronto, Ottawa, Peterborough, Brantford (Location Map18)

1) Lettering for William Lyon Mackenzie Memorial, signed,

not dated

2) William Lyon Mackenzie Memorial - "Plan for Granite and

Concrete for Memorial", Signed, dated May 21st 1937, Original

Tracing

3) As 2 Above but Blueprint with Pencilled Notes and Changes

4) King Edward Memorial Ottawa (3 drawings), 3 "Reverse" Black

Line Prints

5) War Memorial, Peterborough Ontario (3 Drawings)

- Plan

- Rear Elevation, Front Elevation

- Side Elevation, cross section

signed, dated May 26 - 1927

6) Bell Memorial Brantford (2 drawings)

- Plan

- Front View, back view, side view - signed, NOTE: Ref. to

"76 Walker Ave." not dated

Roll 4 - Memorials: Ottawa, Peterborough

King Edward

1. Original on tracing paper - Rear Elevation 1/2"=1'-0"

- Section 1/2"=1'-0"

2. " " " " - side elevation 1/2"=1'-0"

- front elevation 1/2"=1'-0"

3. " " " " - Plan-top of wall 1/2"=1'-0"

- Plan-Base of wall 1/2"=1'-0"

4. Blueprints - rear elevation & section

plan-top of wall - base of wall

side elevation - front elevation

Peterborough

1. Sheet # 1 - Full size details

2. Sheet # 2 - Full size details

3. Foundation Plan 1"=1'-0" ink on linen

4. Block Plan 1/4"=1'-0"; section

Roll 5 - Vimy Memorial - proposed steel staging pylon studies,

front elevation, June 1932