

## **Charlotte Skinner: Painter of the Eastern Sierra Collection CAE2409**

### **Introduction/Abstract**

The archive *Charlotte Butler Skinner: Painter of the Eastern Sierra* includes materials from the family and artistic life of Charlotte Skinner.

### **Biographical Note: Charlotte Butler Skinner**

Charlotte Butler Skinner (1879–1963) was an artist and educator living in the Eastern Sierra of California from 1905 to 1933. She spent her early life in San Francisco, immersing herself within a community of professional artists working and exhibiting there. After moving to the remote, rural community of Lone Pine, California, her home on Brewery Street became an escape from the hustle and bustle of the Bay Area for artists and friends seeking community among the company of other artists.

Born in 1879 and raised in San Francisco, Skinner studied at the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art and the California School of Fine Arts (both institutions were absorbed into what is now San Francisco Art Institute), under Arthur Frank Matthews and Gottardo Piazzoni. It was there that she met fellow student, artist, and mining engineer, William Lyle Skinner. The two married in 1905 and moved to the Skinner family's home in Lone Pine, CA, where she would reside for almost 30 years, dedicating herself to painting the landscapes of Owens Valley as well as printmaking, and teaching. Committed to her artistic practice, Skinner exhibited extensively during her life showing works throughout the United States, including at the Stanford Art Gallery (1930), Portland Art Museum (1933), and the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum (1956). Skinner also exhibited at the Nevada Art Gallery (now the Nevada Museum of Art) in 1952 alongside illustrator and friend, Maynard Dixon, and noted California landscape painter William Wendt.

### **Scope and Content**

The archive Charlotte Butler Skinner: Painter of the Eastern Sierra includes drawings, prints, watercolors, paintings, photographs, artist sketchbooks, family photographs, and ephemera such as books and catalogues. Also included are materials by Maynard Dixon, Dorothea Lange, Sonya Noskowiak, Otis Oldfield, Roi Partridge, Gottardo Piazzoni, Ralph Stackpole, and William Wendt and William “Bill” Skinner.

**This archive is currently in process.**