

Inventory of the

Charles Turzak Woodcut Prints

Collection

in the

Regional History Center

RC 348

INTRODUCTION

The DeKalb Public Library donated the A History of Illinois in Woodcuts by Charles Turzak (1934) to the Regional History Center on December 11, 2015.

Copyright held by Charles Turzak. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Collection is stored in the fire-proof safe. Please call the Center at 815-753-1779 to request the item in advance of your visit.

Linear feet of shelf space: 0.5
Number of containers: 1
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 348

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The collection contains ten woodcut prints from the A History of Illinois by Charles Turzak that was published in 1934. Prints are signed by Turzak.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Turzak was born August 20, 1899, in Streator, Illinois. He studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and became a well-known Chicago based artist in the late 1920s by gaining public attention from exhibiting and selling prints of Northwestern University and Chicago landmarks. In 1929 he traveled to Europe to study the master painting and returned to the U.S. during the beginnings of the Great Depression. History of Illinois in Woodcuts, a series of ten prints done in 1934, was made at the height of the Depression and is considered to be a turning point in Turzak's career.

Turzak exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1940, and worked for the Works Progress Administration, completing a mural for the Chicago Post Office. In 1958, Turzak moved to Orlando, Florida where he focused on creating abstract works of art from the 1950s to the 1970s. He painted floral still lifes and marine scenes in the 1970s and 1980s. He died in 1985. Art from Turzak's early career is a reflection of life during the Great Depression in Chicago and Illinois.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Artists

Turzak, Charles

United States. Works Progress Administration.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Table of Contents
	2	Marquette and Joliet
	3	Robert Cavalier La Salle and Tonti
	4	Captain George Rogers Clark
	5	Fort Dearborn Massacre
	6	Young Abe Lincoln Enters Coles County, Illinois
	7	River and Canal Transportation
	8	Abe Lincoln at New Salem
	9	The Question
	10	Lincoln's Home in Springfield
	11	Grant's Home in Galena