

# **Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY, Gladys Marcus Library, Special Collections and College Archives**

## **Finding Aid - Hattie Carnegie sketches, 1940-1955 (SC.242)**

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Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.4.1 Printed: May 23, 2019

Language of description: English

Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY, Gladys Marcus Library, Special Collections and College Archives  
7th Avenue at 27th Street  
Room E435  
New York (N.Y.)  
United States  
10001  
Telephone: 212.217.4385  
Fax: 212.217.4371  
[Email: fitlibsparc@fitnyc.edu](mailto:fitlibsparc@fitnyc.edu)  
<http://www.fitnyc.edu/library/sparc/>  
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# Hattie Carnegie sketches, 1940-1955

## Table of contents

Summary information .....	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch .....	3
Scope and content .....	3
Arrangement .....	4
Notes .....	4
Access points .....	5
Collection holdings .....	5
SC.242.1, Hattie Carnegie Sketches, gowns to millinery (1940-1955) .....	5
SC.242.1.1, Hattie Carnegie Sketches, millinery, 1940's (1940-1955) .....	5
Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; White Hat with Large Black Satin Bow .....	6
Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; Grey Flat Top Hat with Bows and Flower .....	6
SC.242.1.2, Hattie Carnegie Sketches, garments (1940-1955) .....	6
Black Day Suit with Flared Jacket and Fitted Skirt .....	7
SC.242.1.3, Hattie Carnegie Sketches, evening gowns (1940-1955) .....	7
SC.242.2, Hattie Carnegie Menswear (1940-1955) .....	7
SC.242.2.1, Hattie Carnegie Menswear Sketch (1940-1955) .....	8

## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY, Gladys Marcus Library, Special Collections and College Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Hattie Carnegie sketches, 1940-1955
<b>ID:</b>	SC.242
<b>Date:</b>	1940-1955 (date of creation)
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Physical description:</b>	1 oversized box

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Hattie Carnegie was born Henrietta Kanengeiser in Vienna, Austria on March 15, 1889. In 1900, she immigrated with her family to the United States where they settled in New York City. She later changed her last name to Carnegie because of its association with wealth. In 1909, she bought a store with Rose Roth called "Carnegie Ladies' Hatter". Carnegie studied Parisian fashion styles which she adapted for her customers. In 1919, she bought Rose Roth's share of the business and Hattie Carnegie, Inc. was born. In 1928, Carnegie introduced her first ready-to-wear line designed by Norman Norell. By 1940, Carnegie had more than 1,000 employees producing her ready-to-wear lines, but her custom shop was the foundation of her reputation. During WWII, Carnegie became a leader in the American Fashion scene where she began to rely on American fabric designers. In the 1950's she continued to make chic and conventional dresses and suits, along with ballgowns that were adapted from French couturiers. she was also known for using a particular shade of blue in many of her garments that became known as "Carnegie blue". Carnegie died in 1956, but her business stayed open under the direction of her husband, John Zanft and employee, Larry Joseph until 1976.

### Custodial history

This collection was part of the donation to SPARC from The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Costume Institute in 2011. Officially recognized by deed of gift 2013.

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## Scope and content

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This collection is comprised of fashion sketches made for Hattie Carnegie, Inc. from 1940 - 1955. This collection contains millinery (hats) for which some designs can be attributed to Esther A. Kleeper in 1945. The remainder of the collection is ready-to-wear dresses and suits, along with evening wear, mostly ballgowns, that were adapted from French couturiers for the American woman. The sketches have been

divided into millinery, ready-to-wear, and evening wear. Many of the sketches are not dated, but based upon a survey of the collection and dates of similar physical garments made by Hattie Carnegie, Inc. it is assumed that the sketches are from the aforementioned dates.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Arrangement

collection, series, folder

### Location of originals

The Library of the Fashion Institute of Technology, Department of Special Collections and FIT Archives, 27th St. at 7th Ave., NY, NY , USA, 10001

### Restrictions on access

Access is open to researchers by appointment at the Fashion Institute of Technology Library, Department of Special Collections and College Archives. If you have any questions, or wish to schedule an appointment contact us at [fitlibsparc@fitnyc.edu](mailto:fitlibsparc@fitnyc.edu) or call (212) 217-4385.

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### Related material

Brooklyn Museum Libraries and Archives: Fashion and costume sketch collection: designer files. (4 gown designs for the Duchess of Windsor by Hattie Carnegie, Inc.) FIT Special Collections: Claire McCardell Collection, 1920-1975 Parsons Special Collections: Claire McCardell Sketches, 1931-1958

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full

## Access points

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- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
  - Fashion design--United States--History (subject)
  - 20th century--Pictorial works (subject)
  - Fashion illustration (subject)
  - Millinery--Pictorial works (subject)
  - Millinery--United States (subject)
  - Ready-to-wear clothing industry--History (subject)
- 

## Collection holdings

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### **Series: SC.242.1 - Hattie Carnegie Sketches, gowns to millinery**

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, gowns to millinery

ID: SC.242.1

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains sketches from Hattie Carnegie, Inc. ranging from gowns to millinery.

Physical description: 3 folders

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- 

### **Folder: SC.242.1.1 - Hattie Carnegie Sketches, millinery, 1940's**

Creator: Klepper, EstherCarnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, millinery, 1940's

ID: SC.242.1.1

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 5 sketches of millinery (hats) designed for Hattie Carnegie, Inc. Some of the designs can be attributed to Esther A. Klepper (1945).

Physical description: 1 folder

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- 

**Item: Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; White Hat with Large Black Satin Bow**

Title: Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; White Hat with Large Black Satin Bow

Publication status:

Published

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**Item: Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; Grey Flat Top Hat with Bows and Flower**

Title: Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; Grey Flat Top Hat with Bows and Flower

Publication status:

Published

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**Folder: SC.242.1.2 - Hattie Carnegie Sketches, garments**

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, garments

ID: SC.242.1.2

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 20 sketches of garments such as dresses and suits designed for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.

Physical description: 1 folder

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- 

### **Item: Black Day Suit with Flared Jacket and Fitted Skirt**

Title: Black Day Suit with Flared Jacket and Fitted Skirt

Publication status:

Published

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### **Folder: SC.242.1.3 - Hattie Carnegie Sketches, evening gowns**

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, evening gowns

ID: SC.242.1.3

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 10 sketches of evening gowns. Hattie's signature color "Carnegie Blue" is represented in a few of the color choices for the gowns.

Physical description: 1 folder

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- 

### **Series: SC.242.2 - Hattie Carnegie Menswear**

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Menswear

ID: SC.242.2

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains a menswear sketch for Hattie Carnegie Inc.

Physical description: 1 sketch

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- 

### **Item: SC.242.2.1 - Hattie Carnegie Menswear Sketch**

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Title: Hattie Carnegie Menswear Sketch

ID: SC.242.2.1

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This is a Hattie Carnegie Menswear sketch for her boutique on 49st in NYC. High-waisted pleated trousers with a fitted waist and relaxed fit pant leg and a pointed collar button down shirt.

Physical description: 1 sketch

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
-