

Henry Billings

Dates: 1901-1985

Residency: Bronxville, New York. Sag Harbor, New York

Bio: Henry Billings was the grandson of Civil War Surgeon and first director of the New York Public Library, John Shaw Billings. Born in Bronxville, New York, Billings attended St. Paul's School in Concord New Hampshire and was a member of the Art Students League. Billings was an established artist with work in the Whitney Museum of American Art and at Rockefeller Center. He was a painter, illustrator, muralist, and art teacher at Bard College from 1935 to 1953. Billings was chosen as a post office muralist for FDR's Federal Art Project in 1940. The artist painted two Murals in the Wappinger's post office. Both murals depict the gorge and falls on Wappinger Creek, which is only a short walk from the building itself. Billings was friends with fellow post office muralist Olin Dows. Dows painted Billings as a "socially conscious modern painter" in his post office murals in Rhinebeck, New York. Henry Billings was active for most of his career in New York City where his work is in the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art. He died in 1985 in Sag Harbor, New York.

Major Accomplishments: Wappinger Falls post office Murals.

Exhibit at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

http://www.askart.com/askart/b/henry_j_billings/henry_j_billings.aspx