



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Mary L. Haines (1866-1951)

Mary Lamborn Haines was born in 1866 in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She was the eldest of five children born to Ruth Esther Dickinson and Isaac Newton Haines, a farmer, and coal and lumber dealer. The Haines' were part of a large Quaker family whose English ancestors arrived in America in 1683. They were early settlers of West Chester.

In 1889, Mary attended the School of Design for Women in Philadelphia under the directorship of American artist Emily Sartain (1841-1927). At the end of the school year, Mary received an honorable mention for “greatest progress and close and constant study.” During the spring exhibition, she was awarded for the best still life done in oil and received a paint box stocked with oils, brushes, and a sketching stool.¹ The following year, Mary received the Hertsmann scholarship to continue her studies at the school.² In 1891, Mary attended the opening reception of the 61st Annual Exhibition at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.³ She may have been a guest of her former principal, Emily Sartain, who was also in attendance.

Mary held a teaching position in 1897 at Swarthmore Grammar School where she taught painting, drawing, and penmanship.⁴ In 1899, she went on a sketching trip to Shinnecock Hills, Long Island.⁵ Her drawing, *Southampton, NY* depicts a well-worn path between sand dunes and beach vegetation to a summer cottage whose roof is visible just above the landscape. Mary likely

¹ “Women in Art,” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Fri, Jun 14, 1889

² *Educational News: A Weekly Journal of Education*, Vol. VI, No. 26, Philadelphia, PA, June 28, 1890, p. 412

³ “Many Pleasing Criticisms,” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Thu, Jan 29, 1891, p. 5

⁴ “Friends’ Intelligencer and Journal,” Howard M. Jenkins (Editor), April 30th, 1898, P. 315 and September 10, 1898. P. 653,

⁵ “Society,” *The Times* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Sun, Aug 6, 1899 Page 27



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studied under William Merritt Chase at The Shinnecock Hills Summer School of Art. The same curved path and rooftop can be seen from distant vantage point in Chase's painting titled *Shinnecock Hills*.



Mary L. Haines, *Southampton, NY*
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William Merritt Chase, *Shinnecock Hills*
Private Collection

According to available archival records, Mary continued teaching until at least 1910. She is listed as an artist in a 1918 West Chester City Directory. She never married and lived in her family's home at 511 High Street until her death in 1951.