



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Nina MacGregor (1870-1961)

Nina MacGregor was born in Canterbury, England in 1870 to Sarah Jane (Hatton) and Thomas E. Harvey, a traveling salesman. At two years of age MacGregor moved with her parents to the United States and settled on Skillman Street in Brooklyn. She attended Public School No. 4 on Ryerson Street where she graduated from middle school in July 1884. During the school's commencement ceremony MacGregor recited "Blue and Gray" and "Liberty Bell."¹

In 1888, MacGregor delivered a recitation during a musical recital by the students of B. Cumberland Stuart.² Later that year she recited a Catholic psalm at the Criterion Musical and Social Club held at the Residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kellogg on Lafayette Avenue.³ According to archival records MacGregor married Clarence S. Curtiss in 1892.⁴ In 1900, MacGregor, then Mrs. C.S. Curtiss, was the maid of honor at the wedding of her sister Jessie Louise Harvey to Horace Chichester. The wedding took place at the Harvey family residence on Skillman Street.⁵ It is unclear whether Clarence Curtiss died or if the marriage ended in divorce but MacGregor married a second time in 1904. Her husband Colin C. MacGregor was a musician and voice instructor born in Canada in 1866 to Anne and Neil MacGregor.⁶

Federal census records indicate that the MacGregors were residing on Valley Road in Montclair, New Jersey by 1910.⁷ In 1918, when the chairman of the Knitted Comforts Committee called for 2,000 pairs of woolen socks for the local boys heading off to war Nina got to work. She knitted 10 pairs, "entirely by hand and perfect in every detail," in just 3 weeks.⁸ In September of that year, Nina contributed a painting to an exhibition of Montclair artists held at the Montclair Art Museum. Nina's painting depicted the garden of local resident Mr. Hogan in, "a wealth of color."⁹ In 1922, Nina exhibited again at the Montclair Art Museum during the museum's annual exhibition highlighting the work of Montclair artists. She contributed two works entitled *The Beach* and *The Year at the Spring*. Notable American artist Charles Warren Eaton had 3 works in the exhibition.¹⁰ In 1923, Nina was listed as a painter in the *American Art Annual*.¹¹

¹ "Now for Sport," *Brooklyn Times Union* (Brooklyn, New York) Wed, Jul 2, 1884, 4.

² "Pupils' Musical Recital," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Brooklyn, New York) Mon, Apr 30, 1888, 1.

³ "Minor Social Events," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Brooklyn, New York) Sun, Oct 28, 1888, 3.

⁴ "New York, New York, U.S., Extracted Marriage Index, 1866-1937," "Nina Harvey MacGregor," *Ancestry.com*

⁵ "Chichester Harvey," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Brooklyn, New York) Thu, Oct 18, 1900, 4.

⁶ "Colin Macgregor," *The Morning Call* (Paterson, New Jersey) Fri, Jun 26, 1942, 14.

⁷ 1910 United States Census, Montclair Ward 1, Essex, New Jersey, "Nina Harvey MacGregor," *Ancestry.com*

⁸ "One Woman's Fine Record," *The Montclair Times* (Montclair, New Jersey), Sat, May 25, 1918, 10.

⁹ "Salt Meadows in Picture," *The Montclair Times* (Montclair, New Jersey), Sat, Jun 22, 1918, 1.

¹⁰ "Pictures by Montclair Artists on View," *The Montclair Times* (Montclair, New Jersey) Sat, Jun 24, 1922, 13.

¹¹ Florence H. Levy, *American Art Annual, Volume 20* (Washington, D.C.: American Federation of the Arts, 1923) 604.



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In 1938, Nina and Colin MacGregor resided on Cedar Grove Road in Little Falls, NJ. A member of the Little Falls Woman's club, Nina loaned paintings to hang on the walls of the clubhouse.¹² In 1942, Colin MacGregor passed away.¹³ Nina Harvey MacGregor passed away in January, 1961.

¹² "Falls Women Will Study Legislation," *The News* (Paterson, New Jersey) Fri, Feb 4, 1938, 10.

¹³ "Colin Macgregor," *The Morning Call* (Paterson, New Jersey) Fri, Jun 26, 1942, 14.