



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Mary Loring Warner (1860-1950)

Mary Elizabeth Loring Warner was born in 1860 in Sheffield, Massachusetts¹ to Pamela (Reasoner) and Almon R. Loring.² An educated young woman, Warner graduated from Mt. Holyoke College in 1882. In 1891 she married Charles W. Warner of Middletown, Connecticut. A secretary-treasurer for the William H. Chapman Company, Warner also served as a representative in Connecticut's General Assembly. Their son, Winthrop Loring Warner, was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a prominent naval architect.³

Warner studied in New York City at the Cooper Union and at the Art Students League. Her instructors included J. Alden Weir, George DeForest, Charles Yardley Turner, and Charles Warren Eaton. She further studied under Franklin DeHaven in Milford, Pennsylvania and painted in the artist's studio. She attended the classes of Charles W. Eaton in Thompson, Connecticut, painted with John Redmond in Provincetown, and spent her summers in Gloucester studying under Eben Comins.⁴

According to archival city directories, Warner was living and working as an artist in New York City for the years 1891, 1892 and 1889. In 1892, Warner exhibited *A Gray Day* at the Third Annual Exhibition of the New York Watercolor Club.⁵ In 1895, she contributed a still life entitled *Grapes* to the Sixth Annual Exhibition of the New York Watercolor Club.⁶ In 1898, she was residing in Middletown, Connecticut when she exhibited *At the Wharf* and *Marsh at Annisquam* at the New York Watercolor Club's Ninth Annual Exhibition.⁷

In 1914, Warner exhibited with the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts in the annex of the Wadsworth Atheneum.⁸ In 1917, she contributed *Gloucester Harbor* to the academy's annual

¹ "Mrs. Warner, 89, Dies in Middletown," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Mon, Jul 17, 1950, 3.

² Charles Henry Pope, *Loring Genealogy* (Cambridge, Mass: Murray and Emery Company, 1917) 300.

³ "C.W. Warner, 70, Dies, Prominent Middletown Man," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Tue, Apr 23, 1940, 4.

⁴ "Mrs. Warner, 89, Dies in Middletown," 3.

⁵ *Catalogue of the Third Annual Exhibition of the New York Water Color Club* (New York: New York Water Color Club, 1892)

⁶ *Catalogue of the Sixth Annual Exhibition of the New York Water Color Club* (New York: The Gilbert Printing Co., 1895)

⁷ *Catalogue of the Ninth Annual Exhibition of the New York Water Color Club* (New York: The Gilbert Printing Co., 1898) 32, 34.

⁸ "Connecticut Academy Exhibit Opens Today," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Mon, Jan 19, 1914, 3.



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exhibition.⁹ In 1921, She exhibited *Old Gloucester* with the academy. Other artists of note in the exhibition included Theresa F. Bernstein, John F. Carlson, Harriette Bowdoin, Beatrice Whitney VanNess, and Guy C. Wiggins.¹⁰

In 1930, the Colonial Galleries in Hartford's Steiger Building held an exhibit comprised of 34 of Warner's pastels. Made up of Connecticut landscapes and seascapes, the exhibit highlighted Warner's skill in capturing sunlight and shadow.¹¹

During her lifetime, Warner exhibited with the New York Watercolor Society, The National Academy of Design, the Connecticut Academy, and the Paint and Clay Club of New Haven. She was a member of the Middletown Literary Club, the University Club, the Dorcas Society, as well as the local Garden Club.¹²

Mary Loring Warner died in Middletown, Connecticut in 1950. She was 89 years old. Today, her work can be found at the Mystic Seaport Museum and the New Britain Museum of American Art. The naval designs of her son can also be found at the Mystic Seaport Museum in the Winthrop L. Warner collection.

⁹ "Pictures Seen At Academy Exhibit," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Wed, Feb 21, 1917, 3.

¹⁰ "Ringius Portrait is True to Life," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Mon, Apr 18, 1921, 4.

¹¹ "Middletown Artist Shows Pastels AT Colonial Galleries," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Thu, May 1, 1930, 9.

¹² "Mrs. Warner, 89, Dies in Middletown," 3.