



Sketchbook 1928: West Wind Relief

Catalogue Number

SKB 10

Artwork Type

Sketchbooks

Date

1928

Dimensions

boards: 228 × 180 mm paper: 228 × 180 mm

Paper Support

off-white lightweight laid

Ownership

The Henry Moore Foundation: gift of Irina Moore 1977

More Information

Black paper-covered boards quarter-bound in black cloth 228 x 180mm; the book originally contained 52 pages of off-white lightweight laid paper 228 x 180mm in two signatures of eight and three signatures of twelve. The inside front cover is inscribed

upper right in pen and ink Henry Moore/13 Fitzroy Street/W.C. with the C crossed through and 1 added in pencil. The drawings were never signed or dated. The pages are unnumbered but were ascribed numbers by Wilkinson in the early 1970s. Blank pages or pages with only an inscription were not previously included in the catalogue raisonné or given AG numbers, though each carries an HMF archive number. Although the notebook was bound in vertical format a number of pages were drawn on horizontally and have been described and illustrated accordingly. The West Wind Relief was Moore's first major commission. At the invitation of Charles Holden, the architect of the new headquarters of London Transport, St James's Underground Building, 55 Broadway, London W1, Moore was asked to carve one of eight reliefs representing the four winds. The other sculptors involved in the project were Eric Aumonier, Jacob Epstein, A.H. Gerrard, Eric Gill, F. Rabinovitch and Allan Wyon. The sculpture and the notebook were known as North Wind until the error was corrected by Denis Farr in 1978; Wilkinson, writing a few years earlier, used the older title. In 1982 the sketchbook was reproduced in facsimile and for this Wilkinson wrote a catalogue in which he used the proper title and corrected some errors of pagination which had occurred in his thesis. Unfortunately as the thesis remained unpublished until 1984 confusion has remained until now. In the thesis pp.59/60 is mistakenly called pp.51/52, resulting in Wilkinson's page numbers being two ahead of the sketchbook pages that he is describing: p.53 is p.[51] and the numbering remains incorrect until sketchbook p.[61].