

The Museum of Modern Art

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ALLEN PORTER

Allen Porter, a mainstay of the staff of The Museum of Modern Art for almost thirty years, died January 21, 1987 in Rhinebeck, New York. Born in October 1902 in Albion, New York, Mr. Porter worked as a reporter for the New York Herald from 1923 to 1924, and as Assistant to the Editor of Architectural Forum from 1925 to 1927. He left a career in graphic design at General Motors (1927-30) to join the Julien Levy Gallery, where he worked from 1931 to 1936.

In January 1937 he joined the staff of the Museum. Over the years he held such positions as Exhibition and Circulation Director of the Film Library and Editor of the MoMA Bulletin. In January 1945 he was appointed Assistant Secretary.

As Russell Lynes wrote in his 1973 book, The Good Old Modern, "There seems to have been no one intimately involved in the history of the Museum who was more universally liked and respected by all levels of the staff. I have encountered no one whose face does not brighten at the mention of his name." In December 1964 he retired to his home in Barrytown, New York, where, during the seventies, he was the author of several photography publications.

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