



Violet Oakley, Helen Daniel Taylor

Title

Mrs. Norman Taylor

Medium

Pastel on paper

Date

1950

Dimensions

19 1/2 × 15 1/2 in. (49.5 × 39.4 cm)

Accession number

78.4.2

Credit Line

Gift of Dr. and Mrs. David W. Wood, 1978

Web Description

The elegant Helen Daniel Taylor is the subject of two portrait sketches by Violet Oakley. In both, the artist uses toned paper and light-colored pastels, which dramatically highlight the figure. Not an artist herself, per se, Taylor made a career in the art world as a color consultant and was a co-author of the 1950 *Descriptive Color Names Dictionary*, an industry standard in the commercial use of color. The graceful gown she wears in this full-length study is a color very close to one called "bright lavender" in Taylor's book.