

Helen Brown (1909 – 1989)

Helen Brown was born (1909) and raised in Toronto. Growing up she and her father would spend many summers and vacations in Arkona visiting with her grandparents and her many Brown relatives. She attended Malvern Collegiate in Toronto for her high school years.

Helen was a painter of some note. Using a semi-abstract style she produced paintings throughout her adult life; she attended the Ontario College of Art in the early 1930s, and later participated regularly in artistic exchanges with noted Canadian artists such as Paul Emile Borduas (in St. Hilare Quebec during the late 1940s - Helen and friends would meet monthly in Bourduas' home, and paint together), Tony Urquhart and David Partridge (Niagara region in the 1960s & 70s). In 1972 Helen was elected a member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colours.

Helen also traveled extensively later in her life; many trips to Europe to visit her son Andrew when he lived in Paris in the 1970s; also trips to Provincetown RI and to Mexico (San Miguel) for artistic inspiration. Helen was noted for her many friends of all ages and backgrounds, and for maintaining an active correspondence with these friends throughout her life span.