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MUSKEGON
MUSEUM OF ART



Dale Nichols (American, 1904-1995)

Untitled (Winter Rooftops), circa 1950

#muskegonartmuseum

Dale Nichols (American, 1904-1995)

Untitled (Winter Rooftops)

Oil on fiberboard, circa 1950

Gift of John and Claudia Berry in honor of the
100th Anniversary of the Muskegon Museum of Art
2012.26

David City, Nebraska-born artist Dale Nichols is often referred to as the last of the great Regionalists working in the tradition of Grant Wood, John Steuart Curry, and Thomas Hart Benton. Nichols is perhaps best known for his rural Midwest landscapes and winter landscapes, although his work also includes Western American scenes and paintings from his time spent in Guatemala.

Nichols studied at the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and later in Vienna with Joseph Binder. Nichols was an advocate for upgrading the quality of art in illustration and advertising. He published his first book, *A Philosophy for Esthetics*, in 1945. From 1930 to 1940, he served as the Carnegie visiting professor at the University of Illinois. Succeeding Grant Wood, Nichols was the art editor for the *Encyclopedia Britannica* from 1942 to 1948. During this time, he also created artwork for industrial advertising. Painted in the center of the board, with wide, unfinished margins (hidden by the frame) this original painting is likely an example of Nichols' illustration work.