



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Kenneth M. Adams

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Kenneth M. Adams
Identifier:	AAA.adams64
Date:	1964 April 23
Creator:	Adams, Kenneth M. (Interviewee) Loomis, Sylvia Glidden (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
Extent:	21 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Kenneth M. Adams, 1964 April 23, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Kenneth M. Adams, 1964 April 23, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Kenneth M. Adams (1897-1966) was a painter, mural painter, and educator from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Kenneth Miller Adams conducted 1964 April 23, by Sylvia Glidden Loomis, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Adams discusses his involvement with federal art projects in Taos, New Mexico, including easel painting and mural painting for the Treasury Relief Art Project (TRAP) and the Public Works of Art Project (PWAP).

He describes the contracts and methods of TRAP; he recalls Gustave Baumann, George Biddle, Emil J. Bisttram, Raymond Jonson, Willard Nash, and other associated with the federal projects of the WPA. He also reflects on his role as artist-in-residence at the University of New Mexico.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav file. Duration is 51 min.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Federal aid to the arts
- Mural painting and decoration -- New Mexico
- Muralists -- New Mexico -- Albuquerque -- Interviews
- Public art -- New Mexico

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Baumann, Gustave, 1881-1971
- Biddle, George, 1885-1973
- Bisttram, Emil, 1895-1976
- Federal Art Project (N.M.)
- Jonson, Raymond, 1891-1982
- Nash, Willard Ayer, 1898-1943
- New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
- Treasury Relief Art Project