



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Nelson Aldrich

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Nelson Aldrich
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.aldric82
<b>Date:</b>	1982 January 22-1985 April 4
<b>Extent:</b>	93 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Creator:</b>	Aldrich, Nelson W. Brown, Robert F.
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives of American Art Oral History Program, started in 1958 to document the history of the visual arts in the United States, primarily through interviews with artists, historians, dealers, critics and administrators.

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## Biographical / Historical

Nelson W. Aldrich (1911-1986) was an architect from Marblehead, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Nelson Aldrich conducted 1982 January 22-1985 April 4 at Marblehead, Massachusetts, by Robert Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Nelson Aldrich discusses his childhood as the son of an architect and nephew of the great collectors Lucy Aldrich and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller; his education in architecture at Harvard University with Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer (1934-38); his architectural practice with Wallace Harrison in New York City and his own practice in Boston; his position as a Trustee of the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (1947-1960), the Boston Arts Festival (1955-62), the Metropolitan Boston Arts Center (1959-1963), the Rhode Island School of Design (1955-1962), Radcliffe College (1957-1972) and the Boston Architectural Center (1968-1973).

## General

Originally recorded on 5 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 10 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hrs., 30 min.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Architects -- Massachusetts -- Boston -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

Names:

Boston Architectural Center  
Boston Arts Festival  
Breuer, Marcel, 1902-  
Gropius, Walter, 1883-1969  
Institute of Contemporary Art (Boston, Mass.)  
Radcliffe College  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Rockefeller, Abby Aldrich