



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Robert Powell Coggins

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Robert Powell Coggins
Date:	1985 September 26
Identifier:	AAA.coggin85
Creator:	Coggins, Robert P., 1924-1989 (Interviewee) Kirwin, Liza (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Items (sound files; digital, wav file) 16 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Robert Powell Coggins, 1985 September 26, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Robert Powell Coggins, 1985 September 26, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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 others.

Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

Biographical / Historical

Robert Powell Coggins was a physician and art collector from Marietta, Georgia.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Robert Powell Coggins conducted 1985 September 26, by Liza Kirwin, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Coggins speaks of his family and educational background; growing up in Marietta, Georgia; his first purchase of English portraits and Dutch still lifes; his decision to concentrate on collecting Southern American art; his interest in various southern painters including Willie M. Chambers, Nell Choate Jones, Elliott Daingerfield,

and Thomas Addison Richards; efforts to refine and expand the collection by acquiring art that captures the "tranquil, slow, relaxed politeness of the true South"; and his continuing struggle to be accepted by art historians and museum officials.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav file. Duration is 1 hr., 4 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- Georgia -- Marietta -- Interviews
Art -- Southern States

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Chambers, Willie M.
Daingerfield, Elliott, 1859-1932
Jones, Nell Choate, 1879-1981
Richards, T. Addison (Thomas Addison), 1820-1900