



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with W. G. Constable

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

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| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives of American Art   |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Oral history interview with W. G. Constable                      |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | AAA.consta72   |
| <b>Date:</b>       | 1972 July -1973 June   |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 81 Pages (Transcript)  |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Constable, W. G. (William George), 1887-1976<br>Brown, Robert F. |
| <b>Language:</b>   | English .  |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' 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 available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

W. G. Constable (1887-1976) was an art historian and curator from Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of W. G. (William George) Constable conducted 1972 July -1973 June, by Robert Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Constable discusses his early education, his serving in World War I, and his career as a lecturer, curator, and writer in Britain, Canada, and the United States. He discusses his relationship with collectors, the development of Canadian, British, and American museums, as well as reminiscing about key figures such as art historian Roger Fry and painters Renoir and Degas.

## General

Originally recorded on 3 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hr., 45 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:

Art, American  
Museum curators -- Massachusetts -- Cambridge -- Interviews  
World War, 1914-1918

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Degas, Edgar, 1834-1917  
Fry, Roger Eliot, 1866-1934  
Renoir, Auguste, 1841-1919

### Occupations:

Art historians -- Massachusetts -- Cambridge -- Interviews

### Functions:

Art museums