



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Olav Hammarstrom

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Olav Hammarstrom
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.hammar82
<b>Date:</b>	1982 October 21-1983 March 10
<b>Extent:</b>	146 Pages (Transcript) 9 Items (Sound recording: 9 sound files (6 hr., 14 min.); digital, wav)
<b>Creator:</b>	Hammarstrom, Olav, 1906-2002 Brown, Robert F.
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Olav Hammarstrom (1906-2002) was an architect and designer.

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## Scope and Contents

Interview of Olav Hammarstrom, conducted by Robert F. Brown for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, in Wellfleet, Massachusetts, on October 21, 1982, December 16, 1982, and March 10, 1983.

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## Scope and Contents

Hammarstrom speaks of his architectural education in Helsinki; his wartime and post-war experience with pre-fabricated building and town planning; his work as assistant to Alvar Aalto on the construction of a dormitory at M.I.T.; his work as a member of Eero Saarinen's firm; his experiences as a teacher at Yale

and M.I.T.; his work as a draftsman and project manager for the Architect's Collaborative in Cambridge; and private, ecclesiastical and residential design in architecture. Hammarstrom also recalls Alvar Aalto, the Saarinens, Kevin Roche, and others.

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## System Details

Originally recorded on 5 cassettes.

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## General

Originally recorded on 5 audio cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 9 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hr., 14 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 -- Interviews
- Architecture -- Massachusetts
- Architecture -- Study and teaching
- City planning -- Massachusetts
- Designers -- Massachusetts -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Aalto, Alvar, 1898-1976
- Architects Collaborative, Inc.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology -- Faculty
- Roche, Kevin
- Saarinens, Eero, 1910-1961
- Saarinens, Eliel, 1873-1950
- Yale University -- Faculty