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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Philip Hofer

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Philip Hofer
Date:	1984 Apr. 24
Identifier:	AAA.hofer84
Creator:	Hofer, Philip, 1898-1984 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
Extent:	1 Item (sound cassette (90 min.) Sound recording) 37 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Philip Hofer, 1984 Apr. 24, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Philip Hofer, 1984 Apr. 24, 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 administrators.

Available Formats

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

Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Philip Hofer (1898-1984) was a book collector, curator, and art historian at Harvard University. Hofer founded the Department of Prints and Graphics at Harvard University in 1938.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Philip Hofer conducted 1984 Apr. 24, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Hofer speaks of his childhood in Cincinnati, Ohio; attending boarding school at the Pomfret School in Connecticut; attending Harvard University; becoming friends with Theodore "Tubby" Sizer; taking a job at the Cleveland Museum of Art; returning to Harvard to study art history in graduate school; collecting illustrated books in his sparetime with his own money; moving to New York City to work as the assistant director of the Morgan Library; traveling through Europe for the Spencer Collection; working for Belle da Costa Greene at the Morgan Library.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings