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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Sidney E. King

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Sidney E. King
Date:	circa 1980-1983
Identifier:	AAA.king80
Creator:	King, Sidney E., 1906-2002 (Interviewee) Pennington, Estill Curtis (Interviewer) Collins, Herbert (Interviewer)
Extent:	15 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Sidney E. King, circa 1980-1983, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Sidney E. King, circa 1980-1983, 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.

Biographical / Historical

Sidney E. King (1906-2002) was a painter and muralist from Caroline County, Va.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Sidney E. King conducted circa 1980-1983, by Buck Pennington and Herbert Collins, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

King speaks of growing up in Boston, Mass.; working under John Singer Sargent at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Mass.; searching for a job during the Great Depression; travelling the United States by car with a friend; prospecting for gold in Spotsylvania County, Va.; painting signs for the National Park Service; developing a technique to make painted signs weather the elements well; painting the murals, "The Life of Christ" and "Creation," for the Mormon Church; meeting his wife, Peggy, and her cousin, Mary; researching historical scenes for murals; teaching at Rappahannock Community College; speculating on the future of

the arts in America. King also recalls John Singer Sargent, Lawrence Kocher, Ronald Reagan, Elizabeth Pitts, Peggy King, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 52 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art, American

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Names:

Pitts, Elizabeth McCord, b. 1880

Reagan, Ronald

Sargent, John Singer, 1856-1925

United States. National Park Service

Occupations:

Painters -- Virginia -- Interviews