



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Audrey McMahon

Archives of American Art  
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# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
General.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Audrey McMahon
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.mcmaho64
<b>Date:</b>	1964 Nov. 18
<b>Creator:</b>	McMahon, Audrey, 1900?-1981 (Interviewee) Phillips, Harlan B. (Harlan Buddington), 1920- (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
<b>Extent:</b>	41 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

### Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 4210 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

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## Biographical / Historical

Audry McMahon (1900?-1981) served under Holger Cahill as Regional Director of the WPA Federal Art Project for New York and New Jersey from 1935-1939.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Audrey McMahon conducted 1964 Nov. 18, by Harlan Phillips, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

McMahon speaks of her pre-Federal Art Project experiences; her early involvement with the WPA; how it functioned; and political problems with the WPA. She recalls Juliana Force, Edward Bruce, Holger Cahill.

## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hrs., 21 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:

Arts administrators -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews  
Federal aid to the arts

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Bruce, Edward, 1879-1943  
Cahill, Holger, 1887-1960  
Federal Art Project (New York, N.Y.)  
Force, Juliana, 1876-1948  
New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project  
United States. Works Progress Administration