



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Grace Morley

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.

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical / Historical .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	1
Names and Subjects .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Grace Morley
<b>Date:</b>	1982 Feb. 6-Mar. 24
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.morley82
<b>Creator:</b>	Morley, Grace, 1900-1985 (Interviewee) McCray, Porter A., 1908-2000 (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	31 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Grace Morley, 1982 Feb. 6-Mar. 24, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Grace Morley, 1982 Feb. 6-Mar. 24, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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 line.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Grace Morley (1900-1985) was a museum director in both California and India. Morley was the director of the San Francisco Museum of Art in 1934-1958 and was involved in the establishment of the National Museum of India in New Delhi.

---

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Grace McCann Morley conducted 1982 Feb. 6-1982 Mar. 24, by Porter McCray, for the Archives of American Art.

## Scope and Contents

Morley speaks of her career in museums, beginning with the Cincinnati Art Museum as a curator; becoming the director of the San Francisco Museum of Art; the San Francisco Museum of Art's history and efforts to show contemporary art; the San Francisco Art Association and its support of artists; her involvement in the Golden Gate International Exhibition in 1939; her involvement with Unesco as a consultant on the efforts to recover artworks confiscated by the Germans during World War II; and going to India to help establish their National Museum.

---

## General

Originally recorded on 3 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 6 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hrs., 9 min.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Museum directors -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Cincinnati Art Museum  
National Museum of India  
San Francisco Art Association  
San Francisco Museum of Art  
UNESCO

### Functions:

Museums -- India -- NewDelhi