



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Virgil Ellsworth Poling

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 Virgil Ellsworth Poling
Date:	1980 February 8
Identifier:	AAA.poling80
Creator:	Poling, Virgil Ellsworth, 1908-2001 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Items (sound files; digital, wav file) 30 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Virgil Ellsworth Poling, 1980 February 8, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Virgil Ellsworth Poling, 1980 February 8, 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.

Available Formats

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

Biographical / Historical

Virgil Ellsworth Poling (1908-2001) was a craftsman and art administrator from Little Deer Isle, Maine.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Virgil Poling conducted 1980 February 8, by Robert Brown, for the Archives of American Art. Poling speaks of the School of American Craftsmen in its early years at Dartmouth College; the creation of a crafts curriculum at Dartmouth during the 1940s and 1950s; and working as a field administrator of crafts and marketing programs for the Agency for International Development in Nigeria, Korea, and Indochina, during the 1960s and 1970s.

General

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 41 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Artisans -- Interviews
- Decorative arts

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- School of American Craftsmen (Dartmouth College)
- United States. Agency for International Development