



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Laurence E. Schmeckebier

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.

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
General.....	2
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 Laurence E. Schmeckebier
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.schmec74
<b>Date:</b>	1974 June 7-July 15
<b>Creator:</b>	Schmeckebier, Laurence Eli, 1906-1984 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	3 Items (tape reels (5 hr., 7 min.)) 75 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Laurence E. Schmeckebier, 1974 June 7-July 15, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Laurence E. Schmeckebier, 1974 June 7-July 15, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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

Laurence E. Schmeckebier (1906-1984) was an art historian and sculptor from Lyme, N.H.

---

## Scope and Contents

Interview of Laurence E. Schmeckebier, conducted by Robert Brown, for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, in Lyme, New Hampshire on June 7 and July 15, 1974. Schmeckebier speaks of his education; his training as an art historian in Germany; the influence of Heinrich Wölfflin on his art historical training; his interest in art history and art criticism; his books *Art in Red Wing* and *John Steuart Curry's Pageant of America*; and his career as a professor, administrator, and collector at the University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, Cleveland Art Institute, and University of Syracuse. Schmeckebier also recalls Oskar Hagen, Carl Horst, José Clemente Orozco, John Steuart Curry, George Grosz, Jean Charlot, and others.

## General

Originally recorded on 3 tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 5 hr., 7 min.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Sculptors -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Occupations:

Art historians -- Interviews