



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Michael Spafford and Elizabeth Sandvig

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Michael Spafford and Elizabeth Sandvig
<b>Date:</b>	1992 September 2-4
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.spaffo92
<b>Creator:</b>	Spafford, Michael, 1935- (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer) Sandvig, Elizabeth, 1937- (Interviewee)
<b>Extent:</b>	99 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Michael Spafford and Elizabeth Sandvig, 1992 September 2-4, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Michael Spafford and Elizabeth Sandvig, 1992 September 2-4, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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 administrators.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Michael Spafford (1935- ) is a painter and sculptor from Seattle, Washington. Spafford married painter and sculptor Elizabeth Sandvig in 1959.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Michael Spafford and Elizabeth Sandvig conducted 1992 September 2-4, by Paul Karlstrom, at their home in Seattle, Washington, for the Archives of American Art. Spafford and Sandvig discuss their marriage and their separate careers, and the controversy and trial resulting from Spafford's "Labors of Hercules" murals at the Washington State Capital Assembly Chamber in Olympia.

## General

Originally recorded 5 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 9 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hr., 17 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:

Mural painting and decoration, American -- Washington (State)  
Muralists -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Interviews  
Painters -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings