



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Paul Vanderbilt

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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# 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 Paul Vanderbilt
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.vander64
<b>Date:</b>	1964 November 10
<b>Creator:</b>	Vanderbilt, Paul (Interviewee) Doud, Richard Keith (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
<b>Extent:</b>	27 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Paul Vanderbilt, 1964 November 10, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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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 3697 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

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## Biographical / Historical

Paul Vanderbilt (1905-1992) was a librarian and archivist from Madison and Middleton, Wisconsin.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Paul Vanderbilt conducted 1964 November 10, by Richard Doud, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Vanderbilt speaks of his background and education in art history at Harvard, his work with books and in libraries before getting involved with the Farm Security Administration project; starting with the FSA and developing a plan to get its work organized; the goals and philosophies of the FSA, and the realities of

its accomplishments; what the photographs produced by the project say about America; and the project's relevance to current times. He recalls Edwin Rosskam and Roy Stryker.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 38 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:

Archivists -- Wisconsin -- Madison -- Interviews  
Documentary photography  
Librarians -- Wisconsin -- Madison -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project  
Rosskam, Edwin, 1903-1985  
Stryker, Roy Emerson, 1893-1975  
United States. Farm Security Administration. Historical Section