



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Carroll F. Wales

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Carroll F. Wales
Identifier:	AAA.wales92
Date:	1992 November 10-1993 February 11
Creator:	Wales, Carroll F., 1918-2007 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
Extent:	9 Items (sound cassettes Sound recording) 203 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Carroll F. Wales, 1992 November 10-1993 February 11, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Carroll F. Wales, 1992 November 10-1993 February 11, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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

Biographical / Historical

Carroll F. Wales (1918-2007) was a restorer from Boston, Massachusetts.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Carroll F. Wales conducted 1992 November 10-1993 February 11, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Wales discusses his childhood as an orphan in Maine; work as a designer for Cheney silk works, Manchester, Connecticut; World War II service in North Africa and Europe; education at Harvard in fine arts under Chandler Post, Frederick Deknatel, and John Coolidge; art conservation training under Morton Bradley,

Frank Gettens, and Richard Buck; fellow students Evan Turner, Elizabeth Jones, John Maxon, and Dore Ashton; first jobs restoring Roman mosaic at Worcester Art Museum, Italian paintings in the Jarvis Collection at Yale, and early 19th century murals at Wesleyan University; extended work (1952-1959) through the Byzantine Institute on Byzantine frescoes in Istanbul, George Stout's work on particularly difficult projects, and the division of preparatory work among Greek Christians (figural paintings) and Turkish Moslems (decorative areas); and friendship with British archaeologist Max Mallowan and his wife, author Agatha Christie, while conserving ivories during excavations at Nimrud, Iraq.

General

Originally recorded on 9 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 17 digital wav files. Duration is 12 hr., 20 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Conservation and restoration
Restorers -- Massachusetts -- Boston -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Stout, George L. (George Leslie)

Occupations:

Art restorers -- Massachusetts -- Boston