

# Jules David Prown Oral History Project recordings and transcripts

S012



YCBA Library Court. Photograph by Richard Caspole, YCBA, 2016.

Institutional Archives  
1080 Chapel Street  
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<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Center for British Art, Institutional Archives  
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1080 Chapel Street  
P. O. Box 208280  
New Haven, CT 06520-8280  
(203) 432-8395  
ycba.institutionalarchives@yale.edu  
<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

**CALL NUMBER:** S012

**CREATOR:** Prown, Jules David, 1930-

**TITLE:** Jules David Prown Oral History Project recordings and transcripts

**DATES:** March 12, 2013 - June 26, 2013, March 12, 2013 - June 26, 2013

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .209 linear feet (1 box)

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 29.7 Gigabytes : PDF, Wave, and MP3 files

**LANGUAGE:** English; English

**SUMMARY:** The project includes a paper transcript and recordings of the Jules David Prown Oral History Project. For the project, information analyst Karen E. Denavit interviewed Prown about his family, professional life, and travels. Particular attention is paid to Prown's interactions with Paul Mellon in the years 1968-1977, while the Yale Center for British Art's building and design were being decided.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.ia.S012>

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is unprocessed and may not be available for immediate access.

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### Biographical / Historical

Jules David Prown earned his Bachelor's degree at Lafayette College (1951), an MA in Early American Culture from the University of Delaware (1956), and an MA (1953) and Ph.D. from Harvard University (1961). He was a fellow in the Winterthur Program from 1954-1956. Prown was appointed the Edward R. Bacon Art Scholar at Harvard and completed his dissertation on the formative years of American painter John Singleton Copley. Prown served as Assistant to the Director of the Fogg Art Museum between 1959 and 1961. In 1961, he joined Yale University as an instructor, and he served as curator of Garvan and related collections of American Art at the Yale University Art Gallery from 1963 to 1968. He became Assistant Professor at Yale in 1964 and was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship from 1964-1965. He was a Visiting

Lecturer at Smith College from 1966-1967 and was promoted to Associate Professor at Yale in 1967. He became Paul Mellon Professor of the History of Art in 1971, and retired from this position emeritus in 1999.

Prown served as the founding Director of the Yale Center for British Art from July 1968 to January 1976. He was influential while the Center was being planned in choosing Louis Kahn as the architect.

Karen Denavit has served as the Information Analyst at the Yale Center for British Art since 2008.

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## Scope and Contents

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Art historians

### **Names**

Denavit, Karen

Mellon, Paul

### **Corporate Body**

Yale Center for British Art