

Guide to the Collection of historic photographs and negatives of the Yale Center for British Art

A002



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

Compiled by Meg Rinn, YCBA Staff

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Center for British Art, Institutional Archives
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CALL NUMBER: A002

CREATOR: Yale Center for British Art. Office of the Director

TITLE: Collection of historic photographs and negatives of the Yale Center for British Art

DATES: 1971-2011

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.1 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: This collection is comprised of photographic material created between 1970-2011 and documents the formation, use, and renovations of the Yale Center for British Art. Originating from the office of Constance "Cecie" Clement, Deputy Director and head of building conservation for the YCBA, these photographs are primarily 8" x 10" black and white photographs and 35mm and 120mm film negatives and document the construction, building details, elevations, of the museum as well as events, exhibitions, concerts, staff, and daily museum life.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.ia.A002>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.ia.A002>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open without restriction.

Conditions Governing Use

In Copyright

Items in this collection are protected by copyright and/or related rights.

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Preferred Citation

Collection of historic photographs and negatives of the Yale Center for British Art. Yale Center for British Art, Archives.

Biographical / Historical

Constance "Cecie" Clement worked at the Yale Center for British Art (YCBA) from 1979 until her retirement in 2020. She began as the Assistant Director for Publications and Information under the tenure of Edmund (Ted) Pillsbury and served under five directors and two acting directors. On three different occasions Clement served as acting director. Her work focused on the museum's public programs, publications, membership, special events, publicity, and exhibitions, as well as programs such as the Visiting Scholars.

Clement played an essential role in the conservation of the YCBA. In 2003, she, along with London-based architects Peter Inskip and Stephen Gee, created a conservation plan that addressed the changes made to the museum and how to conserve the building for years to come. This work was then carried out in phases throughout the 2010s, with careful attention to the original intentions of Louis I. Kahn (1901--1974) and the needs of contemporary visitors, staff, and collections.

The Yale Center for British Art was designed by the American architect Louis I. Kahn (1901-1974) and completed after his death. The museum was Kahn's final work and is located across the street from his first commission, the Yale University Art Gallery (opened in 1953). The Center has a sleek, modern aesthetic, and it is the first museum in the United States with incorporated retail space. Notable elements of the design include the juxtaposition of materials similar in color and texture, such as the glass and steel on the façade, the strong geometry of the interior, and the many windows that bathe objects in diffused natural light. In 2005, the Center was awarded the Twenty-Five Year Award by the American Institute of Architects.

Scope and Contents

This collection comprises photographic material created 1970–2011 and documents the formation, use, and renovations of the YCBA. Originating from the office of Constance "Cecie" Clement, former Deputy Director and head of building conservation for the YCBA, these photographs are primarily 8" x 10" black-and-white photographs and 35 mm and 120 mm film negatives. Also included are other formats such as CDs, Kodachrome and Ektachrome slides, and proof sheets.

In 2011, Clement, along with Peter Inskip and Stephen Gee, two architects from the United Kingdom, published the groundbreaking *Louis I. Kahn and the Yale Center for British Art: A Conservation Plan* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011). The team of Clement, Gee, and Inskip explored the design and construction of the building, and proposed a plan for its future conservation, the first plan of its kind in the United States. Clement gathered this collection of photographic items and documents in pursuit of clues

to how the building may have changed over the years. The materials document the structure, layout, and use of the space as Kahn intended. The purpose of the conservation project headed by Clement was to preserve these intentions and to create a thoughtful plan to ensure their survival in the future.

In addition to photographs focused on construction, building details, and elevations, noteworthy components include images of the shops on Chapel Street in 1970, Louis I. Kahn on site during construction, and Paul Mellon's visits throughout development, installation, and the museum's opening. Other YCBA activities are also documented, including docent tours, exhibitions, concerts, staff, and daily museum life.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into six series: Series I. Building; Series II. Credited Photograph Sets; Series III. Events and Programs; Series IV. People; Series V. General; Series VI. CD-ROMS.

Collection Contents

Series I. Building

Included in this series are images of not only of the museum throughout the years, but images of the original architectural plans, the block of Crown Street prior to Yale Center for British Art's construction, and construction of the museum building.

Photographs are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Architectural Plans		
b. 884, f. 1	Drawings	1971–1972
b. 884, f. 2	Models	1972
b. 884, f. 3	Chapel and High Streets, Entrance, Exterior	1983 August
b. 884, f. 4	Classrooms	undated
b. 884, f. 5	Constable Room	1978 October
Construction		
b. 884, f. 6	General	1973 December
b. 884, f. 7	General	1975 September
b. 884, f. 8	General	1976
b. 884, f. 9	YCBA Site	1970 July
b. 884, f. 10	YCBA Site	1970 July
b. 884, f. 11	YCBA Site	1972 July
Entrance Court		
b. 884, f. 12	General	undated
b. 884, f. 13	Information Desk	1988 February
b. 884, f. 14	Sales Desk	undated
b. 884, f. 15	Entrance Court, Reference Library, Second Floor Galleries	1985 April
b. 884, f. 16	Entrance Court, Sales Desk, Lecture Hall	undated
b. 884, f. 17	Entrance, Exterior, Fourth Floor Galleries	undated
Exterior		
b. 884, f. 18	General	undated
b. 884, f. 19	General	1975
b. 884, f. 20	General	1975
b. 884, f. 21	General	1976

Exterior (continued)

b. 884, f. 22	General	1976-1985
b. 884, f. 23	General	1977
b. 884, f. 24	General	1977
b. 884, f. 25	General	1977
b. 885, f. 1	Skylight	undated
b. 885, f. 2	Exterior and Parking, First Floor	1977
b. 885, f. 3	Exterior, Lower Court, Preview	1977 April
b. 885, f. 4	Exterior; Pierson College Gate	1975
Fourth Floor		
b. 885, f. 5	Elevator Lobby and Stairwell Doors	undated
b. 885, f. 6	Galleries and Paper Conservation Lab	undated
b. 885, f. 7	Fourth Floor Galleries, Rare Books and Manuscripts Department	undated
Galleries		
Fourth Floor		
b. 885, f. 8	General	undated
b. 885, f. 9	General	1977
b. 885, f. 10	General	1977
b. 885, f. 11	Turner Bay	1977
b. 885, f. 12	Fourth Floor, Study Gallery	1977
b. 885, f. 13	Second Floor	1985 April
b. 885, f. 14	Second Floor	1990 January
b. 885, f. 15	Study Gallery	undated
General Views		
b. 885, f. 16-17	General (2 folders)	undated
b. 885, f. 18	General	1976
b. 885, f. 19	General	1977
b. 885, f. 20	General	1986 June
b. 885, f. 21	General	1990 March
b. 885, f. 22	Visitors	undated
b. 885, f. 23	Lecture Hall	undated

b. 885, f. 24	Library Court	undated
b. 886, f. 1	Lower Court	undated
b. 886, f. 2	Lower Court	1977 August
b. 886, f. 3	Lower Court	1977 August
b. 886, f. 4	Museum Shop	undated
b. 886, f. 5	Museum Shop	1983 December
b. 886, f. 6	Museum Shop	1986 December
b. 886, f. 7	Museum Shop	1990
b. 886, f. 8	Museum Shop	1999
b. 886, f. 9	Paper Conservation Lab	undated
b. 886, f. 10	Photograph Archive, Prints and Drawings Department, Reference Library	
b. 886, f. 11	Reference Library	undated
b. 886, f. 12	Reference Library	undated
b. 886, f. 13	Reference Library	undated
b. 886, f. 14	Reference Library	undated
b. 886, f. 15	Reference Library	1991 January

Series II. Credited Photograph Sets

Photographs in this series contain interior and exterior images of the Yale Center for British Art taken by various photographers.

Arranged alphabetically by the surname of each photographer.

	Brown, Tom	
b. 886, f. 16	Contact Sheets	undated
	Cserna, George	
b. 886, f. 17	Contact Sheets	1979 February
	di Corcia, Philip-Lorca	
b. 886, f. 18	Slides	1980-04, 1981-03, 1981 March
	Marsland, Michael	
b. 886, f. 19	Slides	1999 February 15
	Smith, RD	
b. 886, f. 20	Contact Sheets and Photographs	undated
	Withers, Charles C	
b. 886, f. 21	Photographs	1979 October

Series III. Events and Programs

The Events and Programs series include photographs of docent tours, exhibitions, and performances. Also included are building previews, the initial gallery installation, and images of the opening banquet held at Commons.

Photographs are arranged alphabetically by subject.

b. 886, f. 22	Building Preview	1976 or 1977
b. 886, f. 23	Building Preview	1976 or 1977
b. 886, f. 24	Building Preview	1976 or 1977
	Docent Tours	
b. 887, f. 1	General	undated
b. 887, f. 2	General	undated
b. 887, f. 3	General	1977
b. 887, f. 4	General	1977
b. 887, f. 5	General	1978 June 9
b. 887, f. 6	General	1978 June 9
b. 887, f. 7	General	1979 October
b. 887, f. 8	General	1979 October
b. 887, f. 9	General	1980 March
b. 887, f. 10	General	1980 March
b. 887, f. 11	General	1983 May
b. 887, f. 12	General	1983 May
b. 887, f. 13	General	1983 May
b. 887, f. 14	General	1983 October
b. 887, f. 15	General	1983 October
b. 887, f. 16	General	1983 November 13
b. 887, f. 17	General	1985 April
b. 887, f. 18	General	1986 April
b. 887, f. 19	General	1986 April
b. 887, f. 20	General	1987 May
b. 888, f. 1	General Afar	1990 March

Docent Tours (continued)

b. 888, f. 2	General	1990 August 30
b. 888, f. 3	General	1998 March 3
b. 888, f. 4	Art in Context with Diana Donald: A Caricature Group	09-22
b. 888, f. 5	Art in Context with Wendy Roworth	1999 October 12
b. 888, f. 6	Betsy Ross Arts Magnet School	1988 March 8
b. 888, f. 7	The Country School Third Grade with Louise Meusel and Jane Crowley	1999 October 14
b. 888, f. 8	High School Students	1994 March
Exhibitions		
b. 888, f. 9	Cottage of Content	1977 November 2-1977 December 31
b. 888, f. 10	English Miniature	1981 December 16-1982 February 14
b. 888, f. 11	William Blake	1982 September 15-1982 November 14
b. 888, f. 12	Initial Gallery Installation	1977
Opening		
b. 888, f. 13	Banquet at Commons	1977 April
b. 888, f. 14	Banquet at Commons	1977 April
b. 888, f. 15	Reception at YCBA	1977 April
b. 888, f. 16	Reception at YCBA	1977 April
b. 888, f. 17	Reception at YCBA	1977 April
Performances		
b. 888, f. 18	An Afternoon with Mrs. Hester Lynch Thrale	05-14
Concerts		
b. 888, f. 19	General	undated
b. 888, f. 20	General	1985 April 21
b. 888, f. 21	General	1992 May 6
b. 888, f. 22	Wayland Woodwind Quintet	1983 November 13
b. 889, f. 1	The Pursuit of Happiness	1977 July
b. 889, f. 2	Unveiling of Mellon Portrait	1977

b. 889, f. 3

Unveiling of Mellon Portrait

1977

Series IV. People

Photographs in this series focus on the people associated with the Yale Center for British Art and include both formal portraits and more informal shots that focus on staff at work. In addition to images of staff and interns, photographs include Louis I. Kahn during the construction of the museum, Kingman Brewster, and Paul Mellon.

Photographs in this series are organized alphabetically by last name. In some cases, groups of people have been placed together, such as interns and staff.

b. 889, f. 4	Brewster, Kingman with unidentified	undated
	Intern Portraits	
b. 889, f. 5	Kosturko, Liz and Sugimoto, Sachi	1999 October 8
b. 889, f. 6	Kosturko, Liz and Sugimoto, Sachi	1999 October 21
b. 889, f. 7	Kahn, Louis I.	1973 February
	Mellon, Paul	
b. 889, f. 8	Bust	1994
b. 889, f. 9	City Hall	1972 February
b. 889, f. 10	Construction	1974
b. 889, f. 11	Construction	1974 October 3
b. 889, f. 12	Construction	1974 October 3
b. 889, f. 13	Construction	1974 October 3
b. 889, f. 14	Construction	1975 January
b. 889, f. 15	Construction	1975 January
b. 889, f. 16	Construction	1975 January
b. 889, f. 17	Construction	1977
b. 889, f. 18	Construction	1977 April
b. 889, f. 19	Construction	1977 April
b. 889, f. 20	Construction	1977 April
b. 889, f. 21	Construction	1977 April
b. 889, f. 22	Construction	1977 April
b. 889, f. 23	First Store Lease	1973 November
b. 889, f. 24	Interview	1975
b. 890, f. 1	Portraits	1977
b. 890, f. 2	Portraits	1977 April

Mellon, Paul (continued)

b. 890, f. 3	with bust of 1st Baron Dartrey	1977
b. 890, f. 4	with Edmund Pillsbury	1976
b. 890, f. 5	YCBA Installation, Portrait	1977
b. 890, f. 6	YCBA Opening	1977 April
b. 890, f. 7	YCBA Opening	1977 April
b. 890, f. 8	YCBA Opening	1977 April
b. 890, f. 9	YCBA Opening	1977 April
b. 890, f. 10	YCBA Opening	1977 April
Staff Portraits		
b. 890, f. 11	Alexander, Julia and Warner Malcolm	undated
b. 890, f. 12	Allen, Brian	undated
b. 890, f. 13	Clement, Constance	undated
b. 890, f. 14	Cormack, Malcolm and Wilton, Andrew	1976 October
b. 890, f. 15	Edelstein, Teri	1979 August 21
b. 890, f. 16	Fairbanks, Theresa	1987 September
b. 890, f. 17	Forrester, Gillian	1999 February 15
b. 890, f. 18	General	1977
b. 890, f. 19	General	1977 April
b. 890, f. 20	Logan, Anne Marie	undated
b. 890, f. 21	McCaughey, Patrick	undated
b. 890, f. 22	Pillsbury, Edmund	1976
b. 890, f. 23	Unidentified	undated
b. 890, f. 24	Unidentified	1976
b. 890, f. 25	Wilton, Andrew	1976 October

Names:
Wilton, Andrew

Series V. General, 1975–2011

Featured in this series are articles that include images of Yale Center for British Art, as well as photographs taken by Esto Photographics Inc., and general building photocopies and negatives.

Materials are arranged alphabetically by title.

b. 933, f. 1	Article about the Yale Center for British Art Original Construction Site	1975
b. 933, f. 2	Architectural Features About the Yale Center for British Art Publicity: Correspondence from Marshall D. Meyers and Photography Order Form ; also Includes CD-ROM (Kahn Building Images) of photos taken by Francis Dzikowski	1977 March 18– 1986 May 29
b. 933, f. 3	Esto Photographics Incorporated (Peter Aron) 2007	2007 August 15– 2008 January 31
b. 933, f. 4	Esto Photographics Incorporated (Francis Dzikowski) 2010	2010 April 26– 2011 August 24
b. 933, f. 5	The Yale Center for British Art Photocopies of the Negatives Taken in [1984?] and Correspondence	2010 August 27– 2011 August 12

Series VI. CD-ROMS, 2007–2010

This series includes CD-ROMS that contain images of Paul Mellon's Brick House, the Yale Center for British Art's (YCBA) permanent collection, and interior and exterior views of the YCBA building.

Materials are arranged chronologically.

b. 933	Brick House Images ; photographs by Steve Tucker 2016-ycba-0040_006 1 CD-R	[20--?]
b. 933	Images from British Art Center Permanent Collection 2016-ycba-0040_005 1 CD-R	[20--?]
b. 933	British Art Center Open Window Views ; photographs by R. Caspole 2016-ycba-0040_004 1 CD-R	2007 July
b. 933	Yale Center for British Art, Office of Public Relations 2016-ycba-0040_001 1 CD-R	2008
b. 933	Images of Yale Center for British Art : Disc 1: Exterior (31 images)--Interior (16 images)--People in Gallery (14 images)--Retail Space (6 images)--Turner Bay (4 images) ; Disc 2: ARCH 1=Sub Folders--ARCH 2=Exterior--ARCH 3=Last Shots--ARCH 4=Archival Images 2016-ycba-0040_009 1 CD-R	2009 March 20
b. 933	Conservation Plan: New Images from Yale Center for British Art (2 Discs)	2010 March 24
b. 933	Conservation Plan Cecie's copy new images 1 of 2 2016-ycba-0040_002 1 DVD-R	
b. 933	Conservation Plan Cecie's copy new images 2 of 2 2016-ycba-0040_003 1 DVD-R	

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

Architectural photography
Architecture, Modern -- 20th Century
Architecture -- Conservation and restoration
Art museum directors
Art museums

Corporate Body

Yale Center for British Art

Names

Brewster, Kingman, Jr., 1919-1988
Clement, Constance
Kahn, Louis I., 1901-1974
Mellon, Paul