

# Jules David Prown collection of Louis I. Kahn Interviews by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz

S004



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

Compiled by YCBA Archives staff

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  
Institutional Archives  
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:** S004

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

**TITLE:** Jules David Prown collection of Louis I. Kahn Interviews by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz

**DATES:** 1969-1970, 2014-2015

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .417 linear feet (1 box) : Paper

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** This collection consists of verbatim transcripts from the interviews of Louis I. Kahn conducted by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz between July 15, 1969 and April 5, 1970. It also includes the hardcover book produced from these interviews: *Louis I. Kahn in Conversation: Interviews with John W Cook and Heinrich Klotz, 1969-1970* edited by Jules David Prown and Karen E. Denavit, published in 2014, and signed by both editors on April 15, 2015. Also present are Denavit's annotations to the interviews.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.ia.S004>

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## 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.S004>.

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

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open without restriction.

## Preferred Citation

Jules David Prown collection of Louis I. Kahn Interviews by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz. Yale Center for British Art, Archives.

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## Related Materials

The original audiovisual recordings of the Louis I. Kahn Interviews by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz are housed in Yale University's Manuscripts and Archives, located within Sterling Memorial Library. The online Finding Aid for these recordings can be accessed at the following address: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1873>.

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## Biographical / Historical

Louis I. Kahn (1901-1974) was selected as architect for the Yale Center for British Art by Jules Prown in October 1969. Kahn designed the Yale University Art Gallery in 1953, and Prown selected Kahn for his ability to incorporate light into his designs and his strong urban planning background.

Heinrich Klotz was a German architectural historian, and at the time of the interviews, he was a visiting professor at Yale in the History of Art Department.

John W. Cook is a Professor Emeritus of Religion and the Arts Divinity School at Yale. At the time of the interviews, he was a graduate student in the History of Art Department, teaching architecture at the Yale Divinity School.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of verbatim transcripts from the interviews of Louis I. Kahn conducted by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz between July 15, 1969 and April 5, 1970. It also includes the hardcover book produced from these interviews: *Louis I. Kahn in Conversation: Interviews with John W Cook and Heinrich Klotz, 1969-1970* edited by Jules David Prown and Karen E. Denavit, published in 2014, and signed by both editors on April 15, 2015. Also present are Denavit's annotations to the interviews.

## Collection Contents

### Series I. Book

This series consists of *Louis I. Kahn in Conversation: Interviews with John W Cook and Heinrich Klotz, 1969-1970* signed by Jules David Prown and Karen E. Denavit.

b. 1269, f. 1      Hardcover book, *Louis I. Kahn in Conversation: Interviews with John W Cook and Heinrich Klotz, 1969-1970*      2014  
Autographed by Jules David Prown and Karen E. Denavit.

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## Series II. Transcripts

This series contains the transcripts for each interview conducted by John W. Cook and Heinrich Klotz with Louis I. Kahn. An index that includes timestamps highlighting remarks relevant to the Yale Center for British Art and related correspondence has been placed at the end of the series.

Material are arranged in chronological order by recording date, along with sides 1 and 2 of the original audio cassettes. Indices are arranged to provide an overview and introduction, followed by detailed information.

b. 1269, f. 2	Verbatim Transcript Tape 1 Side 1	1969 July 15
b. 1269, f. 3	Verbatim Transcript Tape 1 Side 2	1969 July 15
b. 1269, f. 4	Verbatim Transcript Tape 2 Side 1	1969 July 15
b. 1269, f. 5	Verbatim Transcript Tape 3 Side 1	1969 November 6
b. 1269, f. 6	Verbatim Transcript Tape 4 Side 1	1969 December 7
b. 1269, f. 7	Verbatim Transcript Tape 4 Side 2	1969 December 7
b. 1269, f. 8	Verbatim Transcript Tape 5 Side 1	1969 December 7
b. 1269, f. 9	Verbatim Transcript Tape 5 Side 2	1969 December 7
b. 1269, f. 10	Verbatim Transcript Tape 6 Side 1	1970 April 4
b. 1269, f. 11	Verbatim Transcript Tape 6 Side 2	1970 April 4
b. 1269, f. 12	Verbatim Transcript Tape 7 Side 1	1970 April 5
b. 1269, f. 13	Verbatim Transcript Tape 7 Side 2	1970 April 5
b. 1269, f. 14	Verbatim Transcript Tape 8 Side 1	1970 April 5
b. 1269, f. 15	Verbatim Transcript Tape 8 Side 2	1970 April 5
b. 1269, f. 16	Verbatim Transcript Tape 9 Side 1	1970 April 5
b. 1269, f. 17	Container List and email Correspondence	2015 April 20
b. 1269, f. 18	Introduction	2015 March 10
b. 1269, f. 19	Complete Index	2015 March 19

## **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**

Architects -- Interviews  
Architecture, Modern -- 20th Century

### **Names**

Cook, John Wesley, 1933-  
Kahn, Louis I., 1901-1974  
Klotz, Heinrich

### **Contributors**

Prown, Jules David, 1930-  
Denavit, Karen