



**Smithsonian Institution**

*National Anthropological Archives*

## **Oral History, Gordon Ekholm, Side 1, Winter-Spring 1971, William C. Sturtevant Papers**

Extracted on Jul-03-2025 09:51:21

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the National Anthropological Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the National Anthropological Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact National Anthropological Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the National Anthropological Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

01:45:18.000 --> 01:45:41.000

<i>Gordon Ekholm</i>: -many aspects to this whole problem, that require a very long discussion to go into each of these aspects in more detail.

01:45:41.000 --> 01:46:03.000

I enjoy this kind of work actually, this sort of detective work in regard to objects. I find it extremely interesting. And you learn an awful lot about the- [phone rings]

<i>Gordon Ekholm</i>:

01:46:03.000 --> 01:46:08.000

You learn a great deal about the-

<i>Gordon Ekholm</i>:

01:46:08.000 --> 01:46:22.000

After the interruption I might say that in working with this question of authenticity court one learns a great deal about the genuine objects too.

01:46:22.000 --> 01:46:37.000

I mean you can't judge authenticity without having a pretty good idea of the various styles of genuine objects.

01:46:37.000 --> 01:46:54.000

So one gradually picks up a much greater knowledge of such things than they otherwise would do.

01:46:54.000 --> 01:47:09.000

I really can't say too much about private collections.

01:47:09.000 --> 01:47:18.000

A great many collectors [?] objects and most private collections are relatively small.

01:47:18.000 --> 01:47:29.800

There have been some large private collections that have become museums in themselves, such as the bliss collection in the museum of primitive art but most-



## Smithsonian Institution

*National Anthropological Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)