

# Ahlborn, Richard E. Slide Collection

Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection

n.d.



## Title Statement

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## Profile Description

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**2021-07-13** New materials added. jss

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2019.020

### Unit Date

n.d.

### Language

English .

### Abstract

The Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection contains more than 3,000 slides created and collected by Ahlborn over his extensive career as a photographer, curator, and scholar of Mexican American art. Slides include images of artworks, architecture, buildings (especially churches), towns, crafts/furniture, graphic art pieces, tools, textiles, and religious objects.

### Creator

Ahlborn, Richard E., 1933-2015

**Extent**

0.8 Cubic Feet 8 boxes

**Repository**

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

The collection is open for research.

**Use Restrictions**

Permission to publish material from Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

**Acquisition Information**

This collection was donated to the Art & Architecture Library in 2005. It was part of several slide collections transferred to Special Collections in 2018.

**Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection was completed in May 2019.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection, Ms2019-020, Special Collections, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## Biographical Note

Richard E. Ahlborn was born in 1933. Throughout his career, he was a specialist in Mexican American art. Prior to the 1950s, he served as a curator at the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Nebraska. He was a photographer for the Department of Cultural History in the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of History and Technology, later the National Museum of American History. In 1964, he took a position as a curator in for the museum, a job he held until his retirement in 2002. In 2005, Ahlborn donated his extensive slide collection, created over some 50 years of scholarship, to the Art + Architecture Library at Virginia Tech. His later research focused on the San Xavier del Bac mission church in Tuscon, Arizona, and its restoration. Ahlborn died in Maryland in 2015 at the age of 82.

## Scope and Content

The Richard E. Ahlborn Slide Collection contains more than 3,000 slides created and collected by Ahlborn over his extensive career as a photographer, curator, and scholar of Mexican American art. Slides include images of artworks, architecture, buildings (especially churches), towns, crafts/furniture, graphic art pieces, tools, textiles, and religious objects. The majority of the slides relate to Mexican, United States, Central American, South American, and Spanish objects and locations, though there are smaller sets of images from China, Japan, Italy, and the Philippines. Individual slides in the collection are labeled by location, at the very least, but usually with additional details.

## Keywords

Architecture (discipline)

Works of art

## Arrangement

The slides were originally housed in boxes or sheets in labeled groupings. Slides were rehoused in boxes by geographic region (reflecting the creator's original organization, usually by type of subject--artwork, towns, architecture, crafts, etc.). Materials have been placed in alphabetical order by geographical name.

Following the donation of additional materials in spring of 2021, a second series was added wherein slides appear in the order in which they were received. One folder contains Ahlborn's inventory and his description of his organizational system.

## Description of Subordinate Components

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### **China Artwork #1-#10**

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 1-10 (folder)

### **Italy Artwork #1-#3**

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 11-13 (folder)

### **India Artwork #1-#3**

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 14-16 (folder)

### **Japan Artwork #1-#5**

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 17-21 (folder)

### **Japan Artwork #6-#9**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 1-4 (folder)

### **Bolivia/Colonial Artwork**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

### **Columbia Art & Architecture #1-#3**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 6-8 (folder)

### **Ecuador Art #1-#2**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 9-10 (folder)

### **Mexico Architecture #1-#6**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 11-16 (folder)

### **Mexico Crafts #1-#5**

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 17-21 (folder)

### **Mexico Crafts #6-#10**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 1-5 (folder)

### **Mexico Graphic Arts #1-#2**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 6-7 (folder)

**Mexico Graphic Arts #3/Printing #1**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Mexico Graphics/Chromolithos #1-#2**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 9-10 (folder)

**Mexico Graphics #3**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Mexico Paintings #1-10**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 12-21 (folder)

**Mexico Paintings #11-17**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 1-7 (folder)

**Peru Arts & Travel #1-#3**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 8-10 (folder)

**Peru Arts #4/Silver #1**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Peru Silver #2-#6**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 12-16 (folder)

**Philippines Art & Architecture #1**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 17 (folder)

**Philippines Churches #1-#3**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 18-20 (folder)

**Philippines Furniture #1/Sculpture #1**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 21 (folder)

**Philippines Sculpture #2/Towns #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Philippines Towns #2**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**South American Colonial Paintings & Sculptures (countries unknown)**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Spain Ceramics #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Spain Crafts & Tools #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Spain Malaspine Expedition #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Spain Maps, Prints, Paintings & Calligraphy #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Spain Sculpture #1-#2**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 8-9 (folder)

**Spain Textiles/Towns, Architecture, & Views #1**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Spain Towns, Architecture, & Views #2-#6**

**box-folder** 5 (box)

**Container** 11-15 (folder)

**Spain Towns, Tools, & Scenes #1**

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**Container** 16 (folder)

**USA, Arizona #1**

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**USA, California Architecture #1**

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**USA, California Architecture #2/Baja #1**

**box-folder** 6 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**USA, California, Baja #2/Objects, Religious #1**

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**Container** 4 (folder)

**USA, California, Objects Religious #2/Art Objects #1**

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**Container** 5 (folder)

**USA, Colorado #1/Georgia #1**

**box-folder** 6 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Puerto Rico/Dominican Republic #1**

**box-folder** 6 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Architecture, Scenes, & Views #1-#7**

**box-folder** 6 (box)

**Container** 8-14 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Cemeteries #1**

**box-folder** 6 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Cemeteries #1/Religious Objects #1**

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**Container** 16 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Religious Objects #2/Religious Images #1**

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**Container** 1 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Religious Images #2-#7**

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**Container** 2-7 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Miscellaneous Objects #1**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Tools, Crafts, & Artifacts #1-#2**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 9-10 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Tools, Crafts, & Artifacts #3/Furniture #1**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Furniture #2**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Furniture #3/Textiles #1**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Textiles #2**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Textiles #3/Miscellaneous #1**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Miscellaneous #2**

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 16 (folder)

**USA, New Mexico, Miscellaneous #3**

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**Container** 1 (folder)

**USA, Texas, Missions #1-#4**

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 2-5 (folder)

**Additional donation**

**Mexico, North, Churches #1**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Civil Architecture and Churches #1-#2**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 2-3 (folder)

**Mexico City, Churches #1-#3**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 4-6 (folder)

**Mexico City and Ocotlan, Public Architecture #1**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Churches and Maps #1**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Churches and Frescoes #1-#2**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 9-10 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Churches #2-#6**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 11-15 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Architecture #1-#6**

**box-folder** 9 (box)

**Container** 16-21 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Architecture #7-#9**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 1-3 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Architecture and Crafts #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Mexico, North, Furniture #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Cuba, Architecture #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**USA, Florida, Architecture #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Haiti, Panama, and Dominican Republic, Churches #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Puerto Rico, Sculptures #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Puerto Rico, Sculptures and Paintings #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Puerto Rico, Paintings #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Guatemala, Architecture #1-#2**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 12-13 (folder)

**Guatemala, Sculptures #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Guatemala and Nicaragua, Architecture and Art #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru, Churches #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 16 (folder)

**Peru, Art and Architecture #1-#2**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 17-18 (folder)

**Peru, Paintings and Pulpits #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 19 (folder)

**Peru, Arts #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 20 (folder)

**Peru, Pancho Fierro paintings #1**

**box-folder** 10 (box)

**Container** 21 (folder)

**Peru and Brazil, Paintings and Sculptures #1**

**oversize box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Argentina and Brazil, Drawings and Sculptures #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Argentina and Brazil, Art #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Brazil, Architecture and Sculpture #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Brazil and Chile, Scenes #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Paraguay, Art and Scenes #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**USA, Midwest and New York, Architecture #1**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Background on collection and its organization**

**box-folder** 11 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

This folder contains background on Richard Ahlborn and his interest in Spanish American art and architecture, and documentation and clarification of his original system of organization