

**Courtauld Institute of Art Research Forum/Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz**  
**Photo Archives and the Photographic Memory of Art History**  
**Workshop (15 June 2009)**

**Photo Library Survey**

**Library:** Special Collections & Visual Resources, Research Library

**Location:** Getty Research Institute

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100

Los Angeles, CA 90049-1688

**Website:** [www.getty.edu/research](http://www.getty.edu/research)

[http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting\\_research/photo\\_study\\_collection/](http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/photo_study_collection/)

**Head of Photo Library:** None. The photo archive (now Photo Study Collection) is integrated into the Research Library's Special Collections and Visual Resources section. The Research Library is currently being administratively and functionally reorganized and there is no longer a single department responsible for managing the administration or functions of Special Collections.

**Founding of the host institutions:** The Getty Museum, 1976; The Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, 1983

**Founding of the Photo Library:** The Photo Archive was originally established at the Getty Museum in 1976. In 1983, the Photo Archive was moved under the administration of the newly created Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, now the Getty Research Institute.

**Status** (public/private/other): Private, non-profit, endowed by the J. Paul Getty Trust as sole source of funding.

**Number of employees and their roles:** There are currently no positions dedicated to the Photo Study Collection. Collections curators in the Collection Development department may acquire materials for the collection, while staff in Special Collections Reference and Special Collections Cataloguing attend to research, access, and minimal processing/cataloguing efforts.

**Photographers:** In-house Visual Media Services photographers and Special Collections staff provide digital reproduction services on demand but do not campaign or otherwise produce original photography for the collection.

**IT support:** Getty Research Institute Information Systems and Getty Trust Information Technology Services. For the first time we now have a full-time permanent staff person in GRI IS who is an expert with the STAR System.

**IT providers:** The Research Library's catalog runs on the Endeavor Voyager system. The Photo Study Collection uses Cuadra's STAR system for cataloguing and public access. The library also runs other projects, such as the Union List of Artists Names and the Thesaurus of Geographic Names, on various other platforms.

**Legal consultancy for copyright and licensing** (yes/no; what source): Yes, in-house legal department of the J. Paul Getty Trust.

**Archive Holdings**

**Number of photographic prints:** ca. 2,000,000

**Number of negatives:** ca. 250,000

**Number of digital images:** ca. 8,200 digitized with 5,000 publicly accessible through the Photo Study Collection Database

**Technical characteristics of the digital images:** TIF master files at approximately 4000 x 4000 pixels

**Used storage space:** approx 60 mb files

**Acquisitions** (sources and types, i.e. digital or photographs) : Primarily photographic prints. Negatives, slides, and transparencies have been included in some collections acquired.

**Catalogue:** [http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting\\_research/photo\\_study\\_collection/](http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/photo_study_collection/)

**Photographic campaigns:** Records of the Photographic Campaign in the Forum of Trajan, 1985-1987, Max Hutzel Collection of Art and Architecture in Italy; Drawings in French Provincial Museums and Private Collections; Giulio Romano Corpus of Drawings (related to the reconstruction of the Sala degli stucchi in the Palazzo del Te); Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli; Roman architecture and art in Southern France Project; Drawings and Watercolors in the collection of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris depicting Pompeii, Greek sites, and Roman architecture, and including actual state and reconstruction drawings as well as detail studies of ancient architecture; Campi Flegrei Project.

**Acquisitions policy:** The photo archive has never had its own acquisitions policy. Photographs were initially gathered to support the research of the Museum curatorial staff. In 1976, the curators decided to collect photographs of works of art more broadly and create an archive that researchers from outside the Getty could use. This concept was eventually broadened to include materials that supported research into the history of collecting (provenance, art market, connoisseurship), iconography, conservation, historiography, and the history of reproductions.

### **The Photographic Archive in the Digital Era**

**Digital catalogue:** [http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting\\_research/photo\\_study\\_collection/](http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/photo_study_collection/)

**Database and catalogue system:** Cuadra's STAR system, DOS-based cataloguing and public Web interface

**Partnerships:** ArtStor (Tapestries images)

**Photographs currently entered in the database:** approximately 300,000 textual descriptions (including individual photographs and artists names records) that act as pathfinders to over 700,000 photographs.

**Technical support:** Getty Research Institute Information Systems and Getty Trust Information Technology Services

**Images available online:** Ca. 5,000 images are currently available through the Photo Study Collection Database, either forming part of monument-level records or single photograph-level records. We also hope to have images accessible through the Finding Aids or the online library catalogue vis DigiTool.

**Digital photo campaigns:** none

**Long-term Archive for digital data:** TEAMS by Artesia is the Research Library's digital asset management system

**Workflow:** we are currently establishing a workflow for processing researchers' requests for digitizing and delivering images on demand as well as entire collections on a project basis.

**Other digitalization projects:** In the future, we hope to propose a number of digitalization projects for collections that are heavily consulted, that have preservation issues, and/or for which we hold the copyrights.

**Other related digital projects:** We are hoping to complete the digitization of the Julius Shulman Photography Archive as a project. We also plan to digitize the Max Hutzel Collection of Art and Architecture in Italy. Currently, digitization has occurred on demand for exhibition and publication

purposes, both internal and external to the Getty. The Shulman Archive is not a part of the Photo Study Collection.