

# Douglas Huebler and the Photographic Document

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Douglas Huebler, *Location Piece #2, New York City – Seattle, Washington*, 1969, New York: Multiples Inc., 1970

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The Getty Center, East Building, Herculaneum

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Christian Berger discusses the notion of documentation in Douglas Huebler's (1924–1997) work of the late 1960s. His talk will examine the complex form and function of documents in Huebler's *Location*, *Duration*, and *Variable Pieces* and establish documentation as the zone of encounter between an artistic concept, proposal, or system, and the outside world. Hence, the status and content of these documents are essential to assess the role of referentiality and subject matter within Conceptualism. A specific focus on Huebler's statements about his use of photography will situate his understanding of the photograph as document in the history of photographic discourse. Examples of his practice demonstrate how the artist consciously worked with the medium by employing compositional and other aesthetic strategies as well as by creating pieces based on specific qualities of photography.