"The Museum of Modern Art Collection: How It Is Formed" is the subject of an illustrated talk to be given by Betsy Jones, Associate Curator of Painting and Sculpture on Thursday, March 20. The talk, to be given at 12 noon in the Museum Auditorium, will be illustrated by slides of works in the Museum collection.

Although The Museum of Modern Art has no endowed purchase funds, it has assembled through gifts, purchases with special funds, and exchange the greatest collection of twentieth-century art in the world. Its world-famous collection includes such early masterworks as Picasso's Demoiselles d'Avignon, Rousseau's Sleeping Gypsy, and van Gogh's Starry Night, as well as recent works by young artists.

The Museum collections, in addition to painting and sculpture, include drawings, prints, architecture, design, photography, and film. Miss Jones, who has been with the Museum for 16 years, will focus on the painting and sculpture collection in describing how the Museum acquires a work of art, discussing the steps through which it passes before becoming part of the collection. She will talk about the various sources from which the painting and sculpture collection has been drawn, including collectors, dealers, and artists, as well as exhibitions here and outside the Museum.

The bi-weekly lunch-time lectures at the Museum are devoted to various aspects of the Museum's collection and temporary exhibitions. They are open to the public, and entrance is included in the Museum's regular admission fee.

*** Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, and Linda Gordon, Co-ordinator of Public Services, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200. ***