



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to Patsy Sherman Innovative Lives Presentation

NMAH.AC.0599

Alison L. Oswald

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Original Videos (OV 595.1-5), 1997-03-12.....	4
Series 3: Master Videos, 1997-03-12.....	5
Series 3: Reference Videos (RV 599.1-3), 1997-03-12.....	6
Series 3: Photographs, 1997-03-12.....	7

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Patsy Sherman Innovative Lives Presentation
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0599
Date:	March 12, 1997.
Extent:	0.35 Cubic feet (3 boxes)
Creator:	Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation. Sherman, Patsy
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution,,Lemelson Center for the Study of Innovation and Invention, Rm. 1016, MRC 604, 12th and Constitution Ave., N.W. 20560.,Made for NMAH.,1997.3177.

Ownership and Custodial History

This videodocumentation was created by the Innovative Lives Program of the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation March 12, 1997. Transferred to the Archives Center July 8, 1997.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, July 16, 1997.

Preferred Citation

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Restrictions

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Biographical / Historical

Patsy Sherman was born in Minnesota. After graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1952, Sherman was employed by 3M Company. At 3M, Sherman and a fellow researcher, Samuel Smith attempted to create a new synthetic material to use with jet fuel. During their experiments, Patsy accidentally spilled some of the compound on her tennis shoe and noticed that the shoe remained clean. This discovery led to the development of Scotchguard. Scotchguard is a compound used worldwide to repel soil on sofas, chairs, tablecloths, clothing, and other objects that are used daily. Patsy Sherman's name appears on 16 patents awarded to 3M for their inventions. She has been awarded numerous honors for her achievements and was inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame in 1989. She retired from 3M in 1992.

Scope and Contents

Videohistory contains original and reference videos and photographs documenting a lecture program for children by Patsy Sherman, inventor of Scotchgard.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into four series.

Series 1: Original Videos

Series 2: Master Videos

Series 3: Reference Videos

Series 4: Photographs

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Chemistry -- 20th century

Chemists -- 20th century

Inventions -- 20th century

Inventors -- 20th century

Slides

Textile fabrics -- 20th century

Women chemists -- 20th century

Women inventors -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Videotapes -- 1990-2000

Names:

3M Company
Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Corporation
Smith, Samuel

Preferred Titles:

Innovative Lives Program (NMAH public program series)
Scotchgard

Container Listing

Series 1: Original Videos (OV 595.1-5), 1997-03-12

Box 1

Originals videos stored off site.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Master Videos , 1997-03-12

Box 2

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Reference Videos (RV 599.1-3), 1997-03-12

Box 3

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Photographs, 1997-03-12

Box 3

[Return to Table of Contents](#)