



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Preliminary to the Armand G. Winfield Papers

NMAH.AC.1271
Archives Center Staff

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Armand G. Winfield Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1271
Date:	1960 - 1980
Extent:	18 Cubic feet
Creator:	Winfield, Armand G.
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

All materials were donated to the museum by Armand G. Winfield in 1992. Transferred to the Archives Center in 2012.

Processing Information

Collection is unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

Armand G. Winfield Papers, 1960-1980, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Armand G. Winfield, pioneering plastics researcher and consultant. Throughout the past fifty-six years Winfield has done extensive research and development in the areas of plastics in architecture and building, art, museum work, industry (applications engineering), and low cost housing for developing countries. In addition, he has worked in the entertainment field on the application of plastics for stage sets

and amusement parks. His career is documented in over 300 published articles, chapters and books on plastics and other subjects, almost 90 of which are concerned with plastics in building and architecture.

Armand G. Winfield has been involved professionally in the plastics and business fields since 1939. He graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 1941 and did graduate work at the University of New Mexico, the State University of Iowa and at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. He began his career in museum work using synthetic lattices and acrylics for the preservation of specimens. His interest shifted to the plastics materials in the mid-1940s, and he invented the first mass-producible process for embedding specimens in acrylics. As a principal in Winfield Fine Art in Jewelry in New York City, he conducted precursory work for the electronics encapsulation field and pioneered biological, medical and art embedments in the United States.

Professor Winfield has been on the teaching faculties of Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa. (Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship: 1939-1941); Harris Teachers' College (1950) and Washington University School of Engineering (1956) in St. Louis, Mo.; Yale University Art School (1960-1961) in New Haven, Conn.; Pratt Institute Industrial Design Department (1964-1970) in Brooklyn, N.Y.; Visiting Critic in Architecture (Plastics), The College of the City of New York (1968-1969), New York, N.Y.; Adjunct Professor of Plastics Engineering, University of Massachusetts Lowell (1978-1981), Lowell, Mass.; and Research Professor Mechanical Engineering (Plastics), the University of New Mexico (Appointed 1993), Albuquerque, N.M. He has also been an invited lecture at over 40 other colleges and universities in the United States and abroad.

Scope and Contents

The eleven boxes contain documentation relating to project files including business correspondence, invoices, sketches, contracts and agreements, research materials, brochures, photographs, slides and models.

This collection, which includes some biographical material and which is specifically related to the design process and to the use of plastics, is interesting because it sufficiently covers the work of this inventor and experimenter. This collection includes Winfield's work in plastics in conjunction with architecture, building and design.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Plastics -- Research
Plastics as art material
Plastics in building
Plastics industry and trade -- Sources -- History -- 20th century -- United States

Types of Materials:

Blueprints
Builder's models
Correspondence
Design patents
Drawings

Photographs
Sketches
Stage designs

Names:

Affordable House (Norwich, Conn.)
California. Dept. of Industrial Relations. Committee on Attitude Response and Evaluation
Cooper-Hewitt Design Archive
New Mexico. Corrections Dept.
New York World's Fair (1939-1940)
Society of Plastics Engineers
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Winfield Fine Art in Jewelry (Firm)

Occupations:

Industrial designers -- United States
Plastics designers -- United States

Geographic Names:

Midland (Tex.)
Scott Air Force Base (Ill.)

Container Listing

- Box 1 Biographical, project files (CHNDM box 268), 1960 - 1980
- Box 2 Project files: Futuro House, Adventure Land, sketches, drawings, patents (CHNDM box 268a), 1960 - 1980
- Box 3 CARE Project: Papers, drawings, sketches, reports, contracts (CHNDM box 269), 1972 - 1973
- Box 4 CARE Project: papers, workbook (CHNDM box 269a), 1972 - 1973
- Box 5 CARE Project: patents, photographs, negatives, correspondence (CHNDM box 269b), 1972 - 1974
- Box 6 UNIDO/India project:drafts, reports, invoices (CHNDM box no. 270), 1977
- Box 7 UNIDO/India project: boklets, reports, newer fibers paper (CHNDM box no. 270a), 1977
- Box 8 UNIDO/India project: drawings, photographs, negatives, correspondence (CHNDM box no. 8), 1976-1977
- Box 9 Indian government jute samples, New Mexico flatware market research samples (CHNDM box no. 271), 1960 - 1977
- Box 10 CARE film, UNIDO House model, David Podell, photographs (CHNDM box no. 271a), 1960 - 1977
- Box 11 Plastic samples - Winfield, orbs, wavelight (CHNDM box no. 272), 1960-1970
- Box 12 Plastic samples - Winfield, Rubber, Hall, gems, Adventureland (CHNDM box no. 272a), 1960-1970
- Box 13 Samples: UNIDO, jute resin, and brass cutters (CHNDM box no. 273) , 1977
- Box 14 Samples: CARE housing, green jute resin (CHNDM box no. 273a)
- Box 15 Samples (CHNDM box no. V274)
- Box 16 Soft animal and soft bath material (CHNDM box no. 275), 1971 - 1976
- Box 18 Drawings (CHNDM box no.V-278)

Box 19	Drawings (CHNDM box no. 19)
Box 23	Samples: UNIDO/CARE, jute spool, fabric panels (CHNDM box no. 273b) , 1972 - 1977
Box A	UNIDO files (CHNDM box no. V278)