



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
Date:	1960 - 1980
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1271
Creator:	Winfield, Armand G.
Extent:	18 Cubic feet
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 but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

Conditions Governing Use

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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. Department of Industrial Relations. Committee on Attitude Response and Evaluation
- Cooper-Hewitt Design Archive
- New Mexico. Corrections Dept.
- New York World's Fair (1939-1940 : New York, N.Y.)

Society of Plastics Engineers
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Winfield Fine Art in Jewelry (Firm)

Occupations:

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

Places:

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)
Roll Drawings	Rolled drawings, undated