



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the John Nicholson Papers

NMAH.AC.1279

NMAH Staff

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	John Nicholson Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1279
Date:	1946 - 1947
Extent:	0.3 Cubic feet
Creator:	Nicholson, John, 1916-
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Photographs were donated to the museum by John Nicholson in 2000.

Provenance

Transferred to the Archives Center in 2012.

Related Archival Materials

The Cooper-Hewitt Design Archive collects photographs that document window display. See also the collections of: Gene Moore, Michael Cipirano & Donald Deskey.

Related Archival Materials

The Museum of Modern Art has an artist file on Mr. Nicholson containing miscellaneous uncatalogued materials.

Processing Information

Collection is unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

John Nicholson Papers, 1946-1947, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted research access on site by appointment.,Unprotected photographs must be handled with gloves.

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

Window designer and restaurateur, John Nicholson, born in St. Louis, Mo. in 1916. The only son of Romanian immigrants, Johnny Bulica changed his name to John Nicholson in the 1920s to lose the Old World connection.

Mr. Nicholson received some practical design experience while working for the St. Louis department store, Stix, Baer & Fuller before coming to New York City in the early 1940s. Mr. Nicholson worked for two years with Lord & Taylor as a display and window designer before opening Cafe Nicholson--a restaurant that he has managed for nearly 50 years and which closed in 1999.

Scope and Contents

These photographs document Nicholson's work for Lord & Taylor Company from 1946-1947. Nicholson created 100 window displays for the department store and only 25 are in this collection. The collection does not include any supporting documentation for these photographs.

Arrangement

This collection consists exclusively of 25 8 x 10 inch black-and-white photographs. Unprocessed;

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Show windows -- United States

Types of Materials:

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- 20th century
Show-windows

Names:

Cafe Nicholson (New York, N.Y.)
Cooper-Hewitt Design Archive
Lord & Taylor
Nicholson, John, 1916-

Occupations:

Window dressers -- United States