



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Edgecraft Corporation Records

NMAH.AC.1382

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Edgecraft Corporation Records
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1382
Date:	1984-2004
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (3 boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Creator:	Smith, Jeff, 1939-2004 Child, Julia Guthrie, Janet, 1938- Edgecraft Corporation Friel, Daniel D. Claiborne, Craig Yan, Martin, 1948-
Language:	English
Summary:	The collection documents the development and marketing of the Chef's Choice brand of knife sharpeners.
Container:	Box 4

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by the Edgecraft Corporation, 2016.

Processing Information

Processed by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Edgecraft Corporation Records, 1984-2004, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Founded in 1984, by retired Dupont Engineer Daniel Friel, EdgeCraft Corporation introduced the Chef's Choice brand of electric knife sharpener. They also offer other small kitchen appliances.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents the development and marketing of the Chef's Choice brand of knife sharpeners. It contains print advertisements, including foreign ads; press releases; press kits; point-of-purchase displays; articles from numerous magazines, including some in foreign languages; catalogs; photographs, including from trade fairs and company events; trade literature; audiovisual materials including VHS recordings of demonstrations of the product, and an interview with Chef Craig Claiborne; biographical material on Daniel Friel, who invented the Chef's Choice knife sharpener; design drawings; business records including correspondence and financial statements; notes; letters from famous chefs praising the knife sharpener, including Julia Child, Jeff Smith, Jacques Pepin, Martin Yan and others. A letter from race car driver Janet Guthrie is also included.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Office Files, 1984-2016

Series 2: Product Information, 1984-2016

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Cutlery trade
- Kitchen utensil industry
- Kitchen utensils
- Knife sharpening
- Knives

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements -- 20th century
- Articles -- 20th century
- Articles -- 21st century
- Audio cassettes -- 20th century
- Business records -- 20th century
- Catalogs -- 20th century
- Clippings -- 20th century
- Correspondence -- 20th century
- Design drawings -- 20th century

Financial records -- 20th century
Photographs -- 20th century
Point-of-purchase displays -- 20th century
Press releases -- 20th century
Videocassettes -- 20th century

Container Listing

Series 1: Office Files, 1984-2016

Box 1, Folder 1	Unbound Photograph Album, 1984-1992
Box 1, Folder 2	Daniel Friel Biographical Information, 1986-1991
Box 1, Folder 3	Culinary Institute of America File, 1986
Box 1, Folder 4	Jeffery Smith File, 1986-1988
Box 1, Folder 5	Photographs of Merle Ellis Visit, 1986-1987
Box 1, Folder 6	San Francisco Gourmet Shows, 1987-1988
Box 1, Folder 7	Julia Child File, 1988-1996
Box 1, Folder 8	Martin Wannberg File, 1988-2016
Box 1, Folder 9	Craig Claiborne File, 1988-1998
Box 1, Folder 10	File Relating to the Butcher Program Featuring Merle Ellis, 1989
Box 1, Folder 11	Daniel Friel Correspondence, 1989-1994
Box 1, Folder 12	Jacques Pepin File, 1990-1998
Box 1, Folder 13	Martin Yan File, 1992-1995
Box 1, Folder 14	Itzhak Perlman File, 1993
Box 1, Folder 15	Photographs of Exterior Building, undated
Box 1, Folder 16	Guest Book, undated
Box 1, Folder 17	Photographic Materials Relating to Daniel Friel, undated
Box 1, Folder 18	Photographs, 1990, undated

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Series 2: Product Information, 1984-2016

Box 1, Folder 19	First Concept Drawings, Diamond Hone Sharpener Model 100, 1984-1985
Box 1, Folder 20	Photographs of Model 100, 1984-1985
Box 1, Folder 21	Chef's Choice Scrapbook, Part One, 1986-1995
Box 2, Folder 1	Chef's Choice Scrapbook, Part Two, 1986-1995
Box 2, Folder 2	Chef's Choice Diamond Hone Sharpener Scrapbook, 1986-19987, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Newspaper Clippings, 1986-2003
Box 2, Folder 4	News Journal Advertising Information, 1986
Box 2, Folder 5	Owner Registration Card, 1989
Box 2, Folder 6	Photographs of Shows, 1991
Box 2, Folder 7	Dress Kits, 1995-1998
Box 2, Folder 8	Catalog, 2016
Box 2, Folder 9	Knif-N-Easy Sharpener, undated
Box 2, Folder 10	Line Drawing of Sharpener, undated
Box 2, Folder 11	Photograph of Sharpener, Model 100-34, undated
Box 2, Folder 12	Point of Purchase Displays, undated
Box 3, Video OV1382.1	Mastering the art of Carving, Merle Ellis, 1987 <i>1 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 53 minutes)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.2	EdgeCraft Corporation: Chef's Choice Trizor Professional110X Cutlery Training Guide with Daniel D. Friel, Sr., 1992 <i>2 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 15 minutes, 5 seconds)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.3	EdgeCraft Corporation: Chef's Choice Trizor Professional 10X Cutlery, 1992 <i>3 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 60 minutes, 40 seconds)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.4	EdgeCraft Model 10 Training Tape, undated <i>4 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 10 minutes)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.5	EdgeCraft Corporation: Merle Ellis/Chef's Chocie Diamond Hone Sharpener Model 300, undated <i>5 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 1 hour)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.6	EdgeCraft Corporation: Merle Ellis/Chef's Choice Diamond Hone Sharpener, undated

6 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 1 hour)

Box 3, Video OV1382.7	EdgeCraft Corporation: Craig Claiborne/Chef's Choice Diamond Hone Sharpener Model 110, undated <i>7 videocassettes (vhs) (Total Running Time: 1 hour)</i>
Box 3, Video OV1382.8	Merle Ellis Interview, South Texas Sunrise, undated
Box 3, Cassette OV1382.9	Narsai and Company, Merle Ellis, 1988-06-09
Box 3, Cassette OV1382.10	Claiborne Interview, 1990-06-15 <i>10 cassette tapes (Total Running Time: Side 1: 45 minutes, Side 2: 15 minutes)</i>
Box 4, Folder 1	Printed Advertisement, undated
Box 4, Folder 2	Line Drawing of Knife Model 100, undated
Box 4, Folder 3	Line Drawing of Cutaway Model, 100-15, undated
Box 4, Folder 4	Point of Purchase Displays, undated
Box 4, Folder 5	Photograph of Knife, Model 100-110, undated

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