



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

General Electric Tungsten Records

NMAH.AC.1440

Alison Oswald

2021

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	General Electric Tungsten Records
Date:	1912-1967
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1440
Creator:	General Electric Company
Extent:	2.5 Cubic feet (5 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection contains records relating to General Electric's lamp manufacturing activities in its Lamp Wire and Phosphors Department in Cleveland.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives Center by General Electric Company, Tungsten Products Plant, through Timothy Trocco in 2017.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, archivist, 2021.

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

General Electric was founded in 1892 by the merger of the Edison General Electric Company and the Thomson-Houston Company. Lighting was one of the first concentrations of the company.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains records relating to General Electric's lamp manufacturing activities in its Lamp Wire and Phosphors Department in Cleveland. It contains internal company procedural instructions, reports, statistics, property records, property inventory, one photograph of a tungsten mine, appraisals of company property, lab reports and technical papers on metals used in products, and clippings.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into three series.

Series 1: Reports, 1918-1939

Series 2: Exhibit Boards about Tungsten, undated

Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1912-1967

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Metals
- Tungsten
- Wire

Types of Materials:

- Lectures -- 20th century
- Papers, technical
- Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints
- Reports -- 20th century
- Statistics -- 20th century

Container Listing

Series 1: Reports, 1918-1939

Box 1, Folder 1	Cleveland Wire Works, reports, 1918-1932
Box 1, Folder 2	Cleveland Wire Works, reports, 1918-1932
Box 1, Folder 3	Cleveland Wire Division, report, 1918-1932
Box 1, Folder 4	Cleveland Wire Works, reports, 1929-1930
Box 1, Folder 5	Cleveland Wire Works, reports, 1929-1930
Box 1, Folder 6	Repeat vs. Grain size in 218 wire, report, 1922
Box 2, Box 1	Bands Sports on Colied Filaments, report 2078, 1924
Box 2, Box 2	Tungsten Boron Alloy Rods (for Mallory Co.), reports, 1939
Box 4, Folder 1	General Electric Company Incandescent Lamp Department, report, 1924-1929
Box 4, Folder 4-5	N.V. Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken, reports, 1931-1938

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Exhibit Boards about Tungsten, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes ten exhibit boards with reprints of photographs and patents and labels describing tungsten production. The boards were presumably assembled and displayed at the General Electric Tungsten Products Plant in Euclid, Ohio.

Box 5	Photograph, Dr. Zay Jeffrey, undated
Box 5	Photograph, Burnie L. Benbow
Box 5	Photographs, heating and treating bottles, tungsten powered, and rod rolling mills
Box 5	Rotary swaging machines and heavy wire drawing
Box 5	Multiple die drawing machines
Box 5	Dr. Irving Langmuir; Robert F. Johnson, Herman L. Weiss, Dr. Aladar Pacz, and US Patent 1,410,499 for metal and its manufacture
Box 5	Dr. William Coolidge, US patent 1,082,933 for tungsten and method of making same, and Thomas Edison
Box 5	Crystallizer and purified tungsten
Box 5	Tungsten, molybdenum and carbide powders and various sizes of tungsten
Box 5	Springer mine site, northwest Nevada, acid digestion, and a rotating vacuum drum filter

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Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1912-1967

Box 2, Box 3	Cleveland Wire Division Record of Property, 1918-1967
Box 2, Box 4	Cleveland Wire Works, equipment cards, 1912-1926
Box 2, Box 5	Cleveland Wire Works, equipment cards, 1932
Box 2, Box 6	Cleveland Wire Works, equipment cards, 1940
Box 3, Folder 1	Cleveland Wire Works, equipment cards, 1931-1932
Box 3, Folder 2	Cleveland Wire Plant, equipment cards, 1933-1939
Box 3, Folder 3	Cleveland Wire Division No. 70, appraisal of, 1915
Box 3, Folder 4	[Tungsten History], 1950s-1960s Notes: Includes General Electric 100th Anniversary Providence Base Works pamphlet, 1953.
Box 3, Folder 5	General Electric Lamp Manufacturing Division, 1922-1965
Box 3, Folder 6	Germaine Mine, photograph, 1936
Box 3, Folder 7	Training Program for Manufacturing Engineers, 1953
Box 3, Folder 8	Summary of Lectures on Nature, Properties and Behavior of Metals, 1950-1951
Box 3, Folder 9	General Electric Lamp Wire and Phosphors Department Pictorial Organization Directory, 1956
Box 3, Folder 10	Friden Flexowriter Automatic Writing Machine, 1962
Box 4, Folder 2	International General Electric Company (advice letters), 1926-1931
Box 4, Folder 3	Sag wire data, 1938-1955

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