



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Kenneth T. Norwood Dam Slides

NMAH.AC.1552

Alison Oswald

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Kenneth T. Norwood Dam Slides
Date:	1948-1965
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1552
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Engineering and Industry Norwood, Helen Wilkes (Donor)
Extent:	.50 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection documents dam construction in California, Colorado, and Nebraska.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Helen Wilkes Norwood, wife of Kenneth T. Norwood, 1992.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work & Industry in February 2022.

Processing Information

Collection rehoused by Geoff Kelly, intern; supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist, 2023.

Preferred Citation

Kenneth T. Norwood Dam Slides, 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.

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Biographical / Historical

Born in Buffalo Gap, South Dakota, Norwood grew up in Everett, Idaho, and attended The College of Idaho for three years, and The University of Washington for one year. He had extensive work in advanced mathematics, hydraulics, civil engineering, surveying, and geodesics.

In the 1930's Norwood was employed by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, the Idaho State Highway Department, the W.P.A. of Idaho City and The Bureau of Reclamation. In 1941 he worked for the U.S. Engineers Dept, in Portland, Oregon for airport layouts, then transferred to the L.A. District to enter foreign service in Central America. He was with the U.S. Corps of Engineers in the Managua, Nicaragua area, in the vicinity of San Marcos de Colon working on the Pan American Highway.

In 1942 he married Helen L. Kubli. There were no children. In 1944, Norwood returned to the United States and worked for Associated Shipbuilders in Seattle, Washington as liaison engineer. He sought a commission in both the Marine Corps and the Navy, but was physically disqualified as 2-A. In 1944 and 1945 he was engineer with Puget Sound Bridge and Dredge at Harbor Island, Washington, and with the Corps of Engineers, L.A. district for the Whittier Narrows Dam. In 1945 he returned to Central America with Tucker McClure Co. and in Guayaquil, Ecuador again working on the Pan American Highway. In 1950 he returned to the United States and was employed by Vinnell Construction Co in Alhambra, California.

Norwood worked on canal projects, highways, dams, flood control, and bridges. He traveled to many underdeveloped countries on government assignments to develop highways, airports, bridges, and did estimating, negotiating and bidding.

In 1963 he left Vinnell Co. and he and Ross Griggs formed Griggs-Norwood Inc. and their work encompassed engineering of all kinds. They were based first in Pasadena, California and then in Long Beach, California. Mr. Griggs soon retired. After Mrs. Norwood's death in 1974 he moved his base to Duarte, California. In 1978 he married Mrs. Helen Wilkes. He retired in 1980 and died May 1, 1991.

Content Description

Collection contains color slides documenting construction of the Brite Valley Dam, Mancos Dam, Sulphur Creek Dam, and Trenton Dam, in California, Colorado and Nebraska.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into one series, alphabetical by name of dam.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Dams

Types of Materials:

Color slides

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Engineering and Industry
Norwood, Helen Wilkes
Norwood, Kenneth T. , d. 1991

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Brite Valley Dam (A), Tehachapi, California, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 2	Brite Valley Dam (B), Tehachapi, California, 1972-1973
Box 1, Folder 3	Mancos Dam (A), Colorado , 1948
Box 1, Folder 4	Mancos Dam (B), Colorado , 1948
Box 1, Folder 5	Sulphur Creek Dam (A), Orange County, California, 1964-1965
Box 1, Folder 6	Sulphur Creek Dam (B), Orange County, California, 1964-1965
Box 1, Folder 7	Sulphur Creek Dam (C), Orange County, California, 1964-1965
Box 1, Folder 8	Trenton Dam (A), Nebraska, 1951-1952
Box 1, Folder 9	Trenton Dam (B), Nebraska, 1951-1952
Box 1, Folder 10	Trenton Dam (C), Nebraska, 1951-1952
Box 1, Folder 11	Trenton Dam (D), Nebraska, 1951-1952
Box 1, Folder 12	Trenton Dam (A), Nebraska, 1953-1954
Box 1, Folder 13	Trenton Dam (B), Nebraska, 1953-1954
Box 1, Folder 14	Trenton Dam (C), Nebraska, 1953-1954
Box 1, Folder 15	Trenton Dam (D), Nebraska, 1953-1954