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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Creator: American Association of Museums
Title: Records
Dates: 1906-1985
Quantity: 43 cu. ft. (43 record storage boxes)

Administrative Information

Prefered Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7450, American Association of Museums, Records

Historical Note

The American Association of Museums (AAM) was established in 1905. Its mission as described in its constitution is to promote the welfare of museums, to increase and diffuse knowledge of all matters relating to museums, and to encourage helpful relations among museums and those interested in them. The association is governed by a board of trustees, a president, an executive committee, and a council. The committees of the association include public relations, nonprint media, curators, education, small museum, security, opportunities for minorities, credentials, and one concerned with the handicapped.

Introduction

This finding aid was digitized with funds generously provided by the Smithsonian Institution Women’s Committee.

Descriptive Entry

These records comprise the working files of the American Association of Museums. They include correspondence, memoranda, reports, minutes, proceedings, copies of Museum News, 1931-1962; copies of Museum Work, 1919-1925; and many other publications and guides relating to museums in the United States and around the world. There are also records relating to the AAM Commission on Museums for a New Century, which sponsored a number of colloquiums and educational projects for museum professionals in the early 1980s.
Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Museums
- Professional associations

Types of Materials:
- Manuscripts
- Serials (publications)

Names:
- American Association of Museums. Commission on Museums for a New Century

Preferred Titles:
- Museum News (Serial)
- Museum Work
Container Listing

Box 1

**General Correspondence, arranged alphabetically by subject, 1960-1968**


Box 2

Association of American Dance Companies - College and University Museums

Box 3

Columbia (Howard County Development) - Education in Museums (Smithsonian Conference, August 1966)

Box 4

Education (Sketch proposals for Studies in Museum education) - HEW (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - Blind Services)

Box 5

Herbariums - Museums (General)

Box 6

Museums in United States Trust Territories - Outdoor Museums

Box 7

Packaging Works of Art - School (Related Programs)

Box 8

Science Museums - Wax Museums

Box 9

Youth Corps in Museums - Zoos

Unfiled material follows.

**General Correspondence, A-Z, 1906, 1950-1968**

Accreditation (British Museum Association) - AAM Publication. Includes the agenda and minutes of the Executive Committee, 1956, 1960-1968; minutes of the first AAM meeting, May 15-16, 1906, with list of AAM presidents.

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Box 11

Kyran McGrath, records: Memoranda of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, 1967-1968

Box 12

Kyran McGrath, records: Includes photographs, information on the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and the Children's Museum.

AAM Survey Files - National Science Foundation (science museums)

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National Science Foundation; Guidelines for the Improvement in Wealth - Data and estimates, 1965; White House Conference on the Arts, 1965

Box 14

Proceedings and Session Reports of AAM: Vol. 1, 1907; Vol. 4, 1910; Vol. 6, 1912; Vol. 8, 1914

Box 15

*Museum Work*, AAM: May 1919; December 1919; January 1920; January 1921; February 1921; March 1921; July-August 1921; September-October 1921; November-December 1921; January-February 1922; May-June 1922; January-February 1925; September-October 1925

Miscellaneous AAM Publications; Who's Who... AAM, 1933; List of Officers and Members of AAM, 1928; Obituary of William Powell Wilson

Minutes of AAM Meetings: 1921-1922; 1924-1934

Minutes of AAM Council, Executive Committee, and Monthly Reports and Budget, 1924-1930

Minutes of AAM Council and Financial Reports, 1930-1954 (includes sporadic Executive Committee minutes)

Council Minutes, 1938-1948

Proceedings of the 1924 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Reports, 1939-1948

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UNESCO, 1950s - 1960s

ICOM, 1950s - 1960s
Smithsonian materials

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Box 18

*The Museum News*: Vol. 17 (1939) - Vol. 25 (1947); Vol. 28 (1950)

Box 19


*The Museum News*: Vol. 1 (1924) - Vol. 8 (1931)

Box 20


Museums for a New Century, circa 1982-1985

Box 21

Museums for a New Century. Includes briefing materials.

Box 22

Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century (audio and video tapes)

Box 25

Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century

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Museums for a New Century
AAM Director's Correspondence, 1978-1979

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AAM Director's Correspondence, 1980-1982
Partners for Livable Places (Reger was on the board)

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Institute of Museum Services, 1978-1983
National Endowment for the Arts, 1980-1982
National Endowment for the Humanities, 1980-1983
AAM Executive Committee Files, November 1981 -November 1983
AAM Council Files, January 1981 - June 1984
AAM Public Relations Committee
AAM Nonprint Media Committee
AAM Curators Committee
AAM Education Committee
AAM Small Museum Committee
AAM Security Committee
American Town Meeting on the Arts
Mountain Plains Museum Association
New England Museum Association
Mid-West Museum Conference

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ICOM Magazine
ICOM News, 1941
NEA Conservation Grant Summary
Committee on Public Relations
Committee on Opportunities for Minorities
Energy Committee
Handicapped Committee
Credentials Committee
Credentials Committee on Public Relations
Credential Committee, ALH FAM

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Credentials Committee, Museum Store Association
Credentials Committee, AABGA
Credentials Committee, Museum Computer Network
Credentials Committee, 1979 (general)

Box 35
Litigation Files, Vanderbilt Museum
AAM Trustees Committee, 1982-1985

Box 36
AAM Trustees Committee, 1982-1985 (continued)
AAM Trustees Committee, 1977-1981

Box 37
Trustee Membership Directory, n.d.
Trustee Membership Directory, 1983

Box 38
Proceedings of the AAM, Vols. I-XI (1907-1917)
AAM Annual Reports (summaries of reports), 1925-1958

Box 39
_Museum Work:_ November 1919; June 1920; July-August 1921; November-December 1921; January-February 1922; September-October 1922; July-August 1923; November-December 1924; January-February 1925; March-April 1925; May-June 1925; July-August 1925

Programs for the Annual AAM Meetings: 1908, 1909, 1913, 1979
AAM Committee on Urban Museums, Meetings, 1971

Papers and Reports read at the 21st Annual Meeting, AAM, 1926

Program, 6th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Museums Conference of AAM, 1952


Proceedings of AAM, 1907-1909. Includes organization and minutes of the 1906 meeting.

Directory of Museums and Art Galleries in the British Isles, 1948

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Coleman, College and University Museums, 1942

Japanese Museums, 1967

Art Centers of the World, 1967

British Isles Public Museums, 1928

Problems of Contents, Didactics and Esthetics of Modern Museum Exhibitions, 1978

Museums and Young People, 1952

The Problems of Museums in Countries Undergoing Rapid Change, 1962

Temporary and Traveling Exhinitions, 1963

Museums of India, 1936

Coleman, Museums in South America, 1929

Danish Museums, 1966

Mouseion, 1946 and n.d.

The Museums and Art Galleries of the British Isles, 1938

Museographie; Architecture and Management of Art Museums, Madrid, 1934

Guide to the Museums of Southern Africa, 1969

Directory of Asian-Pacific Museums, 1969, with 1971 Supplement

Key to the Museums of Sweden, 1960

Box 41
*Mouseion*: 1938; 1939 (nos. 3-4); January-June 1940; December 1945; February-July 1946; November-December 1946

Coleman, Museums in South America, 1929

Museums and Handicapped Students, 1977


AAM, Museum Directory, 1971

Museum Accreditation: Professional Standards, 1973

American Museums Professional Tour of the People's Republic of China, 1972

China: Mansfield-Scott Trip, 1972

AAM Convention Proceedings, 1927

Minutes of the 1923 AAM Annual Meeting

Box 42

Coleman, Manual for Small Museums, 1927

Coleman, Historic House Museums, 1933

Notes and Records Regarding the Art Technical Section of the AAM, 1957

Arts and Education Bibliography, 1967

Chronological Correspondence Files, January-May 1972, January-May 1974, May-November 1976

Goode, *Half-Century Book*

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