



# Smithsonian

*Institution Archives*

Records, 1906-1985

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
Contact us at [osiaref@si.edu](mailto:osiaref@si.edu)

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Historical Note.....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	1
Container Listing .....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	Records
<b>Date:</b>	1906-1985
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 7450
<b>Creator::</b>	American Association of Museums
<b>Extent:</b>	43 cu. ft. (43 record storage boxes)
<b>Language:</b>	English

---

## Administrative Information

### Preferred 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.

---

## 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**

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

Box 1 of 43

Accessioning and Cataloguing, 1960 - Associated Council of the Arts. Includes an American Historical Association pamphlet, 1906.

### Box 2

Box 2 of 43

Association of American Dance Companies - College and University Museums

### Box 3

Box 3 of 43

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

### Box 4

Box 4 of 43

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

### Box 5

Box 5 of 43

Herbariums - Museums (General)

### Box 6

Box 6 of 43

Museums in United States Trust Territories - Outdoor Museums

### Box 7

Box 7 of 43

Packaging Works of Art - School (Related Programs)

### Box 8

Box 8 of 43

Science Museums - Wax Museums

### Box 9

Box 9 of 43

Youth Corps in Museums - Zoos

Box 9 of 43

Unfiled material follows.

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

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

Box 9 of 43                      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.

Box 10

Box 10 of 43                      AAM Regional Conferences - Final Report on a Museums Documentation Center to AAM, July 1960. Includes 1965 trustees meeting; proceedings of Belmont Conference, 1967; exhibition catalogue of AAM exhibition at the Industrial Exposition of Modern Decoration and Industrial Art, Paris, 1925.

Box 11

Box 11 of 43                      Kyran McGrath, records: Memoranda of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, 1967-1968

Box 12

Box 12 of 43                      Kyran McGrath, records: Includes photographs, information on the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and the Children's Museum.

Box 12 of 43                      AAM Survey Files - National Science Foundation (science museums)

Box 13

Box 13 of 43                      National Science Foundation; Guidelines for the Improvement in Wealth - Data and estimates, 1965; White House Conference on the Arts, 1965

Box 14

Box 14 of 43                      Proceedings and Session Reports of AAM: Vol. 1, 1907; Vol. 4, 1910; Vol. 6, 1912; Vol. 8, 1914

Box 15

Box 15 of 43                      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

Box 15 of 43                      Miscellaneous AAM Publications; Who's Who. . . AAM, 1933; List of Officers and Members of AAM, 1928; Obituary of William Powell Wilson

Box 15 of 43                      Minutes of AAM Meetings: 1921-1922; 1924-1934

Box 15 of 43	Minutes of AAM Council, Executive Committee, and Monthly Reports and Budget, 1924-1930
Box 15 of 43	Minutes of AAM Council and Financial Reports, 1930-1954 (includes sporadic Executive Committee minutes)
Box 15 of 43	Council Minutes, 1938-1948
Box 15 of 43	Proceedings of the 1924 Annual Meeting
Box 15 of 43	Treasurer's Reports, 1939-1948
Box 16	
Box 16 of 43	UNESCO, 1950s - 1960s
Box 16 of 43	ICOM, 1950s - 1960s
Box 16 of 43	Smithsonian materials
Box 17	
Box 17 of 43	The Museum News: 1932, 1933, 1935, 1938, 1941-1942, 1945-1946, 1948-1949, 1951
Box 18	
Box 18 of 43	The Museum News: Vol. 17 (1939) - Vol. 25 (1947); Vol. 28 (1950)
Box 19	
Box 19 of 43	The Museum News: Vol. 29 (1951) - Vol. 36 (1958)
Box 19 of 43	Museum News Letter: Vol. 1 (1917-1918)
Box 19 of 43	The Museum News: Vol. 1 (1924) - Vol. 8 (1931)
Box 20	
Box 20 of 43	The Museum News: Vol. 9 (1931) - Vol. 15 (1938)
Box 20 of 43	Museums for a New Century, circa 1982-1985
Box 21	
Box 21 of 43	Museums for a New Century. Includes briefing materials.
Box 22	

Box 22 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 23
Box 23 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 24
Box 24 of 43	Museums for a New Century (audio and video tapes)
	Box 25
Box 25 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 26
Box 26 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 27
Box 27 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 28
Box 28 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 29
Box 29 of 43	Museums for a New Century
	Box 30
Box 30 of 43	Museums for a New Century
Box 30 of 43	AAM Director's Correspondence, 1978-1979
	Box 31
Box 31 of 43	AAM Director's Correspondence, 1980-1982
Box 31 of 43	Partners for Livable Places (Reger was on the board)
	Box 32
Box 32 of 43	Institute of Museum Services, 1978-1983
Box 32 of 43	National Endowment for the Arts, 1980-1982



Box 32 of 43	National Endowment for the Humanities, 1980-1983
Box 32 of 43	AAM Executive Committee Files, November 1981 -November 1983
Box 32 of 43	AAM Council Files, January 1981 - June 1984
Box 32 of 43	AAM Public Relations Committee
Box 32 of 43	AAM Nonprint Media Committee
Box 32 of 43	AAM Curators Committee
Box 32 of 43	AAM Education Committee
Box 32 of 43	AAM Small Museum Committee
Box 32 of 43	AAM Security Committee
Box 32 of 43	American Town Meeting on the Arts
Box 32 of 43	Mountain Plains Museum Association
Box 32 of 43	New England Museum Association
Box 32 of 43	Mid-West Museum Conference
Box 33	
Box 33 of 43	ICOM Magazine
Box 33 of 43	ICOM News, 1941
Box 33 of 43	NEA Conservation Grant Summary
Box 33 of 43	Committee on Public Relations
Box 33 of 43	Committee on Opportunities for Minorities
Box 33 of 43	Energy Committee
Box 33 of 43	Handicapped Committee
Box 33 of 43	Credentials Committee
Box 33 of 43	Credentials Committee on Public Relations
Box 33 of 43	Credential Committee, ALH FAM

Box 34

Box 34 of 43	Credentials Committee, Museum Store Association
Box 34 of 43	Credentials Committee, AABGA
Box 34 of 43	Credentials Committee, Museum Computer Network
Box 34 of 43	Credentials Committee, 1979 (general)
Box 34 of 43	Litigation Files, Vanderbilt Museum, Long Island, New York, 1980-1982

Box 35

Box 35 of 43	Litigation Files, Vanderbilt Museum
Box 35 of 43	AAM Trustees Committee, 1982-1985

Box 36

Box 36 of 43	AAM Trustees Committee, 1982-1985 (continued)
Box 36 of 43	AAM Trustees Committee, 1977-1981

Box 37

Box 37 of 43	AAM Trustees Committee, 1977, 1984-1985. Includes budget material and Committee newsletter.
Box 37 of 43	Trustee Membership Directory, n.d.
Box 37 of 43	Trustee Membership Directory, 1983

Box 38

Box 38 of 43	Proceedings of the AAM, Vols. I-XI (1907-1917)
Box 38 of 43	AAM Annual Reports (summaries of reports), 1925-1958

Box 39

Box 39 of 43	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
Box 39 of 43	Programs for the Annual AAM Meetings: 1908, 1909, 1913, 1979

Box 39 of 43	AAM Committee on Urban Museums, Meetings, 1971
Box 39 of 43	Papers and Reports read at the 21st Annual Meeting, AAM, 1926
Box 39 of 43	Program, 6th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Museums Conference of AAM, 1952
Box 39 of 43	AAM Museum Directory, United States and Canada: 1961, 1965, 1978/1979
Box 39 of 43	Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, A Directory of American Museums of Art, History, and Science, compiled by Paul Marshall Rea, 1910
Box 39 of 43	Proceedings of AAM, 1907-1909. Includes organization and minutes of the 1906 meeting.
Box 39 of 43	Directory of Museums and Art Galleries in the British Isles, 1948
Box 40	
Box 40 of 43	Coleman, College and University Museums, 1942
Box 40 of 43	Japanese Museums, 1967
Box 40 of 43	Art Centers of the World, 1967
Box 40 of 43	British Isles Public Museums, 1928
Box 40 of 43	Problems of Contents, Didactics and Esthetics of Modern Museum Exhibitions, 1978
Box 40 of 43	Museums and Young People, 1952
Box 40 of 43	The Problems of Museums in Countries Undergoing Rapid Change, 1962
Box 40 of 43	Temporary and Traveling Exhibitions, 1963
Box 40 of 43	Museums of India, 1936
Box 40 of 43	Coleman, Museums in South America, 1929
Box 40 of 43	Danish Museums, 1966
Box 40 of 43	Mouseion, 1946 and n.d.
Box 40 of 43	The Museums and Art Galleries of the British Isles, 1938

Box 40 of 43                      Museographie; Architecture and Management of Art Museums, Madrid, 1934

Box 40 of 43                      Guide to the Museums of Southern Africa, 1969

Box 40 of 43                      Directory of Asian-Pacific Museums, 1969, with 1971 Supplement

Box 40 of 43                      Key to the Museums of Sweden, 1960

Box 41

Box 41 of 43                      Mouseion: 1938; 1939 (nos. 3-4); January-June 1940; December 1945; February-July 1946; November- December 1946

Box 41 of 43                      Coleman, Museums in South America, 1929

Box 41 of 43                      Museums and Handicapped Students, 1977

Box 41 of 43                      Coleman, The Museum in America, Vol. III, 1938

Box 41 of 43                      AAM, Museum Directory, 1971

Box 41 of 43                      Museum Accreditation: Professional Standards, 1973

Box 41 of 43                      American Museums Professional Tour of the People's Republic of China, 1972

Box 41 of 43                      China: Mansfield-Scott Trip, 1972

Box 41 of 43                      AAM Convention Proceedings, 1927

Box 41 of 43                      Minutes of the 1923 AAM Annual Meeting

Box 42

Box 42 of 43                      Coleman, Manual for Small Museums, 1927

Box 42 of 43                      Coleman, Historic House Museums, 1933

Box 42 of 43                      Notes and Records Regarding the Art Technical Section of the AAM, 1957

Box 42 of 43                      Arts and Education Bibliography, 1967

Box 42 of 43                      Chronological Correspondence Files, January-May 1972, January-May 1974, May-November 1976

Box 42 of 43                      Goode, Half-Century Book

Box 43

Box 43 of 43

Museum News: January 1, 15, 1959; February 15, 1959; March-June 1959; September 1959; November 1959-June 1960; September 1960-June 1961; Summer 1961-June 1962; September 1962-December 1962