

Title: A. O. Smith Corporation

Reference Code: Mss-2396

Inclusive Dates: 1931 – 2001

Quantity: 000.3 cu. ft. total

Location: CV, Sh. 276 (000.3 cu. ft.)
OS SM "A" (2 items)

Abstract: A.O. Smith's Milwaukee roots go back to 1874 when Charles Jeremiah Smith started making "hardware specialties." Eventually his three sons – including Arthur Oliver Smith – joined the company, and it became a leader in producing parts for baby carriages and bicycle frames. Arthur resigned from the family business in 1904 to form the A.O. Smith Company. Initially the business produced tubular frames for bicycles but soon expanded to manufacturing steel automobile frames. It outgrew its south side plant and relocated to a new plant on Milwaukee's northwest side in 1919. By 1931, it was the world's largest plant devoted to pressed steel products. The company diversified its products to include truck frames, water heating equipment, electric motors, and reinforced plastic pipes. In 1997, A.O. Smith sold its automotive operations to Tower Automotive, but it remains a world leader in water heater production.

Scope and Content: The collection consists of annual and interim reports, historical information, an information kit and other miscellaneous material.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: English

Arrangement:

| Folder Heading | Box # | Folder # |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Annual and Interim Reports, 1963-1970, 1987 | 1 | 1 |
| Historical Information | 1 | 2 |
| Miscellaneous | 1 | 3 |
| <i>AOS Magazine</i> , July-August 1957 | | |
| Information Kit, 1988 | | |
| Program, A.O. Smith Male Chorus, 1931 | | |
| Sales Flyer re Gas Conversion Burner, 1951 | | |
| Employee Directory, 1997 | | |
| "Packaging Beer the New Way" Bulletin #514 September 1933 | | |
| Tower Automotive | 1 | 4 |
| | | |
| OVERSIZE | LOCATION | |
| Packet containing reproduction of first U.S. patent signed by George Washington and 1974 planning calendar | OS SM "A" | |