Title: A. O. Smith Corporation

Reference Code: Mss-2396

Inclusive Dates: ca. 1923 – 2001

Quantity: 000.4 cu. ft. total

Location: CV, Sh. 276 (000.4 cu. ft.)

OS SM "A" (7 items) OS XLG (1 item)

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

Notes: Photos, company histories and other ephemera donated by Bob & Sue Harenda, February 2018.

Arrangement:

Folder Heading	Box #	Folder #
Annual and Interim Reports, 1963-1970, 1987	1	1
Historical Information	1	2
Company Publications	1	3
- "Packaging Beer the New Way" Bulletin #514 September 1933		
- AOS Magazine, July-August 1957		
- Structural Products for the Automotive Industry, n.d. (2 copies)		
- Wherever There's Oil There's A.O. Smith, ca. 1950s		
- Looking Ahead, JanFeb. 1954		
- "Automatic Production of Automobile Frames," Bulletin 701-A,		
April 1929		
- "We Build a Plant to Run Without Men," Bulletin 210, April 1929		

		1	
- "The New Way," Bulletin 505, May 1929			
- "Smithway Line Pipe," Bulletin 576, 1945			
- A.O. Smith Research and Development, 1955			
Reports – Miscellaneous	1	4	
- Report on Order E-493, Truck & Bus Frame Plant, ca. 1923			
- Summary of Operations, July 1949			
- Summary of Operations, April 1951			
Employee Directories, 1952, 1955, 1997	1	5	
Miscellaneous	1	6	
- Wisconsin Architect, July 1996 (article re A.O. Smith Science			
Building) [2 copies]			
- Information Kit, 1988			
- Program, A.O. Smith Male Chorus, 1931			
- Sales Flyer re Gas Conversion Burner, 1951			
- Invitation, n.d.			
Tower Automotive	1	7	
OVERSIZE	LOCATION		
- Packet containing reproduction of first U.S. patent signed by	OS SM "A"		
George Washington			
- 1974 planning calendar			
- History of Research and Engineering Building, A.O. Smith (reprint			
from The Architectural Forum), 1936 (2 copies)			
- Maps (3) of A.O. Smith factory complex			
- Map of A.O. Smith factory complex, 1960	OS XLG		
PHOTOS: See M-254			
OVER-OVERSIZE PHOTOS	-		
A.O. Smith Day Force – Nov. 1915 (2 copies)	Group Portrait #59		
A.O. Smith Office and Professional Women, n.d.	Group Portrait #60		
Stack of A.O. Smith vehicle frames on railroad car, n.d.	Business #21		
A.O. Smith B-29 main landing gear, ca. 1943			
A.O. Smith Start of the Mechanical Marvel Countour, Pierce & Blank,		Business #22 Business #23	
n.d.	Dusii	1035 πΔ3	
A.O. Smith Forming Frame siderail & Detail Processing Before	Rucii	ness #24	
Assembly, n.d.	Dusii	1033 11 2 1	
C.J. Smith & Sons Carriage Works/Machine Shop, n.d.	Business #25		
C			