Guide to the Phyllis J. Patton Container Corporation of America Collection 1937-1978

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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.PATTONP

Title Patton, Phyllis J. Container Corporation of America. Collection

Date 1937-1978

Size 2 linear feet (2 boxes)

Repository Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Print publications, calendars, and coasters produced by the Container Corporation of America between 1936 and 1983.

Information on Use

Access This collection is open for research.

Citation When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Phyllis J. Patton. Container Corporation of America. Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note Phyllis J. Patton is a former employee of the Valley Forge Division of the Container Corporation of America. As secretary to the Public Relations Manager, Patton received books, coasters, and calendars created at the facility. The Container Corporation of America was founded in Chicago in 1926 by Walter Paul Paepcke (1896-1960). The company manufactured cardboard boxes but is best known for its modernist design department and their innovative advertisements beginning in the 1930s.

Scope Note The Phyllis J. Patton Collection contains print publications, coasters, and calendars produced by the Container Corporation of America between 1936 and 1983. It is organized chronologically where physical condition allows. The print publications are comprised of a 1936 atlas (Box 2 Folder 3), a 1937 book by Alexander Weaver about the history of paper (Box 1 Folder 1), a 1976 book recounting the first fifty years of the corporation’s history (Box 2 Folder 1), and a 1976 publication of the 1950-1975 advertisement series entitled Great Ideas of Western Man (Box 2 Folder 2). All of these books were published by the Container Corporation of America.
The collection also includes one publication by the International Paper Company from 1974, the eleventh edition of their Pocket Pal: a Graphic Arts Production Handbook (Box 1 Folder 2). Box 1 also contains three calendars: an accordion calendar from 1974 and a corrugated cardboard folding calendar from 1978, both in Folder 3, and a pop-up calendar from 1983, in Folder 5. Finally, the collection contains two sets of coasters and one measuring tape with the company name printed on it. Several items are related to the 50-year anniversary of the Container Corporation’s 1926 founding (Box 1 Folder 4, Box 2 Folders 1-2).

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

Paepcke, Elizabeth H. Papers
Paepcke, Hilken, and Nitze Families. Papers
Paepcke, Walter P. Papers
R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company. Archive
Weil, Roman, Collection of Boris Artzybasheff
Container Corporation of America. Collection

Subject Headings

• Container Corporation of America
• Paperboard industry
• Paper box industry
• Container industry -- United States
• Art and industry
• Design, Industrial
• Advertising
• Commercial art
• Bauhaus
• Graphic design

INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1
Box 1
Folder 2
   Pocket Pal: A Graphic Arts Production Handbook, 1974
Box 1
Folder 3
   Calendars and Coasters, 1974-1978
Box 1
Folder 4
   Coasters and Measuring Tape, 1976
Box 1
Folder 5
   Calendar, 1983
Box 2
Folder 1
   The First Fifty Years, 1976
Box 2
Folder 2
   Great Ideas, 1976
Box 2
Folder 3
   Atlas of the World, 1936