

# Guide to the Swid Powell Scrapbook

MS 1918



compiled by Laura Tatum

November 2009

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1918

**CREATOR:** Swid Powell (Firm)

**TITLE:** Swid Powell scrapbook

**DATES:** 1983-1990

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The scrapbook, created by the housewares design firm Swid Powell, is primarily composed of clippings from various magazines about the firm and the architects commissioned by the firm to design tableware and other decorative objects. Also included are examples of the firm's own brochures and publicity materials.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1918>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1918>.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Addie Powell, 2008.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Swid Powell Scrapbook (MS 1918). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Processing Information

The binding of the scrapbook was removed during processing for preservation purposes.

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## Biographical / Historical

Nan Swid and Addie Powell formed Swid Powell, a housewares firm, in 1982. They commissioned many of the most prominent architects of the day, including Richard Meier, Charles Gwathmey, Robert A. M. Stern, Michael Graves, Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown, and Stanley Tigerman, to design tableware for mass production. Many of these iconic pieces and their prototypes are held by major museums and design collections, including the Yale University Art Gallery. The firm ceased production in the mid-1990s.

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## Scope and Contents

The scrapbook, created by the housewares design firm Swid Powell, is primarily composed of clippings from various magazines about the firm and the architects commissioned by the firm to design tableware and other decorative objects. Also included are examples of the firm's own brochures and publicity materials.

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## Arrangement

Materials in the scrapbook were arranged by the creators.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-3

Scrapbook

1983-1990

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Architect-designed decorative arts -- United States  
Decorative arts -- United States -- History -- 20th Century

### **Names**

Powell, Addie  
Swid, Nan

### **Corporate Body**

Swid Powell (Firm)