Finding aid for Flying Finn, Inc.

Date Range: 1955-1960

Bulk Dates: 1959-1960

Finding aid created by Katherine Hessler

Summary:

Creator: Flying Finn, Inc.

Extent: two boxes

Abstract

Call Number

Language: English

Access and Use

Acquisition information:

Access Restrictions: None

Copyright

Cite as

History

Robert J. George and William Kaino incorporated Finnish Yachts and Boats in the early 1950s. Initially strictly an import business, the company began designing and commissioning their own designs which continued to be built in Finland.

Before going to market in 1956, the company name was changed to Flying Finn, Inc. George and Kaino engaged the services of naval architect Charles W. Witholz to create four boats—Seafin 18, Bayfin 17, Gulfin 15, and Elfin 14. The successful introduction of the Seafin 21 was followed by a venture in the nascent fiberglass boat industry with the Baybelle 16. With sales failing to recoup the cost of the fiberglass molds and a flagging wooden boat market, Flying Finn ceased operation in 1962.

Scope, Content, and Arrangement
This collection consists primarily of design blueprints by Charles Witholz. It also contains select business correspondence between Flying Finn proprietors, William Kaino and Robert George, and their dealers, as well as advertising literature and Flying Finn Inc. letterhead.

The materials have been arranged in the order in which they were received. Photographs have been sleeved and materials foldered, but are otherwise as they arrived, in a single solander box. Oversize materials, including 4 blueprints and 8 drawings, are housed in an oversize box.

Subject terms

Related Materials

Contents Listing/Container Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder #</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Photographs from advertising shoot with Kenneth Vanier, photographer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Flying Finn order forms and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Business correspondence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brief history of Flying Finn Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Field and Stream Magazine featuring Flying Finn design (p.74-75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Advertising literature 1955-1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Baybelle 16’ advertising literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Original Charles Wittholz letter to Flying Finn, first page missing; and complete photocopy of same (including first page)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BOX 2 (oversize)

- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #1: Construction plan; 35”x26”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #2: Reinforced Plastic Deck Construction; 41”x14”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #3: Reinforced Plastic Hull; 21”x16”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #4: Dash-Board; 21”x17”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #5: Hinged Seat; 24”x14”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #6: Transom Doubling Plate and Wooden Filling Piece; 25”x24”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #7: Cockpit Floor, Construction and Sections; 50”x24”
- A.M.D.A.-4.70 M. Roundabout Drawing #8: Reinforced Plastic Hull Sections; 50”x24”
- Blueprint 1
- Blueprint 2
- Blueprint 3
- Blueprint 4