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William S. Brown manuscript on Skidmore, Owings & Merrill14337395

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Summary Information

Repository:	Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library
Creator:	Brown, William S., d. 1999
Title:	William S. Brown manuscript on Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
ID:	14337395
Date [inclusive]:	1979-1983
Physical Description:	0.20 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English .

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Biographical / Historical

William S. Brown was a longtime partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and head of the firm's production department. Brown worked at SOM from 1939 to 1969.

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Content Description

An unpublished manuscript by William S. Brown titled "SOM: The Formative Years." The manuscript, a 400-page typescript with holograph annotations throughout, was written between 1979-1983. The manuscript is incomplete, missing various pages sections.

In the text, Brown endeavors to demystify the architectural firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, by shifting the focus away from the star designers and onto members of the firm who "have had little or no public acknowledgement." Brown emphasizes the process of making architecture and the important roles played by lesser known figures, such as the senior designers, the project managers, and the job captains.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

Conditions Governing Access

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Controlled Access Headings

- Oak Ridge (Tenn.) -- History
- Architectural firms
- Architectural design -- History -- 20th century.
- Architecture, Modern -- 20th century
- Architecture -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
- Bunshaft, Gordon, 1909-1990
- Calder, Alexander, 1898-1976
- Cutler, Robert
- Hudnut, Joseph, 1886-1968
- De Blois, Natalie, 1921-2013
- Merrill, John O., 1896-1975
- Miró, Joan, 1893-1983
- Severinghaus, J. Walter
- Skidmore, Louis, 1897-1962
- Lever House (New York, N.Y.)
- Union Carbide Corporation building (New York, N.Y.)
- Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company (New York, N.Y.)
- Istanbul Hilton Hotel (Istanbul, Turkey)
- Connecticut General Life Insurance Company building (Bloomfield, Conn.)

Bibliography

Adams, N., William S. Brown's "SOM: The Formative Years" (1983). A New History of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, 2019. 78(3): p. 254-258.

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Collection Inventory

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