



Finding Aid for

**ALEXIS DE SAKHNOFFSKY PAPERS,
1901-1964 (bulk 1930-1955)
Accession 1755**

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#1755

ALEXIS DE SAKHNOFFSKY PAPERS

Records, 1901-1964
(Predominately, 1930-1955)

2 linear feet

Alexis de Sakhnoffsky was a prolific designer who influenced many areas of peoples everyday lives since his designs covered such varied fields. Alex de Sakhnoffsky was born in Russia. His father a Count, was a private counselor to Czar Nicholas II. After the Russian revolution and the suicide of his father, young de Sakhnoffsky fled his country to live with an aunt in France. There he studied engineering and art.

He was employed as a designer for Van der Plas, an automobile body maker in Belgium and was a winner of the Monte Carlo Grand Prix for automotive design from 1926-1929. In 1928, he negotiated a two year contract with an immigration permit to enter the United States as art director for the Hayes Body Co.

In addition to this work with Hayes Body Co., Sakhnoffsky designed for automobile companies, including: Packard, Willys, Studebaker, Auburn, Nash, Marmon and White. In 1933 he established his own studio and designed everything from aircraft and motorboats, to bathtubs and women's fashions.

After receiving his U.S. citizenship in 1939 de Sakhnoffsky served in the Air Force Combat Intelligence Corps including two years in Russia from 1943-1945.

de Sakhnoffsky was a prolific contributor to periodicals as well as an artist specializing in portraits of automobiles. Especially noteworthy are his drawings of cars owned by Atlanta collector Mills B. Lane.

This collection was received from David Holls, former top assistant to the Vice President of Design at General Motors Corporation.

Series I
Personal Papers
Box 1

Contains advertising, automobile designs, clippings and biographical information. Also included are military records relating to his service with the Air Force Combat Intelligence Corps during World War II.

- BOX 1
- 1-1 Advertising; Auburn automobiles, 1935
 - 1-2 " ; Ferrari automobiles, n.d.
 - 1-3 " ; Hayes Body Corp., 1929
 - 1-4 " ; Marmon automobiles, 1930
 - 1-5 Biographical notes
 - 1-6 Clippings; Automobile paintings, 1935-1961
 - 1-7 " ; Automotive design, 1934-1983
 - 1-8 " ; Bus design, 1955-1956
 - 1-9 " ; Designing misc., ca. 1940
 - 1-10 " ; Grand Rapids Brass Co.
 - 1-11 " ; Nash automobiles, 1940
 - 1-12 " ; Personal life, n.d.
 - 1-13 " ; Road racing, 1953-1955
 - 1-14 Designs; Automobiles, 1930-1940
 - 1-15 " ; Restaurants, n.d.
 - 1-16 Manuscript; "Only Weaklings Have To Be Polite"
n.d.
 - 1-17 Mills B. Lane Collection, n.d.
 - 1-18 Patents; velocipede, 1937
 - 1-19 U.S. Air Force Papers, ca. 1945
 - 1-20 "Why Not" Series, n.d.

Series II
Photographs
Box 1, Folders 21-27

Contains a small collection of photographs, principally of his paintings and designs. One childhood photo of de Sakhnoffsky is also included.

- BOX 1
- 1-21 de Sakhnoffsky--Aircraft designs
 - 1-22 " --Automobiles
 - 1-23 " --Mills B. Lane
 - 1-24 " --Painting--paintings
 - 1-25 " --Marine designs
 - 1-26 " --Negatives
 - 1-27 " --Portraits

Oversize materials

BOX 2

- (Sz C)
- 2-1 Portfolio; Budd Manufacturing Co., 1933
 - 2-2 " ; Alexis de Sakhnoffsky, n.d.
 - 2-3 Advertising; Reeke-Nash Motor Co., 1930
 - 2-4 " ; White Motor Co., 1951
 - 2-5 Scrapbook; Automotive articles & photos, ca. 1950
 - 2-6 " ; " " " " ca. 1950