



SAVING + PRESERVING ARTS + CULTURAL ENVIRONMENTS

## Watts Towers Archival Collection

### Finding Aid

#### I. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

##### 1. Biographical Information

- Rodia Social Security Card
- Italy, 1972
- Dickeyville Grotto, 1972
- East Coast, 1973
- Timeline, 1974
- Obituary
- Personal Memories

##### 2. Interviews

- Claire Biane, 1959
- Jeanne Morgan, 1960
- Kate Steinitz, 1961
- Jody Farrell, 1961
- Claudio Segre, 1962
- Nickolas King, 1964
- Jeanne Morgan, 1964
- Jeanne Morgan, et al.
- 1964 Mae Babitz, 1972
- Mae Babitz,
- 1973 "Sam
- Talks", n.d.
- Interviews/Visits

##### 3. Personal & Family Records

- Certificates, 1937-1979
- Artwork, 1974
- Tributes
- Rodia Family Photographs

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## II. WATTS TOWERS

### 1. Site as Art

Bibliography

Filmography/Photography

Books, films, plays

Scripts

W. Hale film

Artistic Projects, 1964

Books, films, plays #7

Books, films, plays #8

Books, films, plays #9

Bud Goldstone Book

McGilver

Books, films, plays, 1981, n.d.

Books, films, plays #12

Artistic Projects, 1974, 1976

Books, films, plays #14

Books, films, plays #15

“Spires to the Sun” 1979, 1983-84

Artistic Projects, 1989

Artistic Projects #2

Books, films, plays,

1989 DVD release, 2007

Artistic Projects, 1990

Books, films, plays #21

Goldstone, 1997

Books, films, plays #23

Articles and Newspaper Clippings

*(These have been physically moved to end, after photographs)*

1950s

1960s

1965 (Riot)

1970s

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Commercial uses, 1970-1980

1980s

1990s

Rodia/Tower stamp, 1995

2000s

2010s

Notification, towers historical cultural monument

No Date

## Events

1960s

1980s

1990s

2000 on

Undated Events

## Exhibits

1962-1963 Los Angeles

Travel, 1963

Mead Library, NY,

1968 1974

1976

1981

1982

1985

1999

## History

People Inspired, 1980s

Poems

State Monument

Tour Guide

Script

A Guide to Art Resources in Los Angeles

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## PR Materials

Tour of the Towers, 1986  
Website  
PR Materials, 1975  
Brochures/Booklets

## CSRTW – PR & Petitions 1960-1982

Photographs  
Field Survey, 1984

## Educational Programs

Guestbook, 1965  
Guestbook, 1966

## 2. Site as Property

Grant Deeds, 1959-1967  
Lease, 1960  
Social Services Dept. 1966,  
1969 Insurance  
Contract, Deeding Towers to City; Drafts, Correspondence (inc. Mayor Yorty, 1967)  
Yorty, 1967  
Agreement with City,  
1968 Site Planning, 1963  
Repairs  
Land/Plot Ownership Documents 1921-1934, n.d.  
Grand Oasis  
Conservation 2011

## III. COMMITTEE OF SIMON RODIA'S TOWERS IN WATTS (CSRTW)

### 1. Arts Center

Plan, 1963  
Programs, 1965-1966  
Loan Authorization, 1965  
Fundraising, 1966-1968

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Planning Committee, 1966  
LA Department of City Planning,  
1965 Legal – Cooperation Agreement,  
1969 Financial / Legal  
Proposal  
Ephemera

### 2. City of Los Angeles

Watts Towers Security, 1976-1977  
National Register of Historic Places, 1976-1977  
Advisory Committee – Watts Towers Arts Center, 1976-1977  
Operating Agreements  
Sister City

### 3. Committee Meetings/Minutes Minutes, 1959

Minutes, 1962, 1964  
Minutes, 1965  
Minutes, 1966  
Minutes, 1967-1968  
Minutes, 1969  
Minutes, 1970-1977  
Board Meetings, 1978  
Minutes, 1979  
Minutes, 1980  
Minutes, 1981  
Minutes, 1982  
Minutes, 1983  
Minutes, 1984  
Minutes, 2000 –  
Annual Membership Meetings 1960-1984

### 4. Committee Members

Board of Directors  
Biographical  
Materials Mae Babitz  
Jeanne Morgan  
Seymour Rosen  
Kate Steinitz

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Membership Lists, 1966, 1978  
Executive Director  
Seymour Rosen Correspondence  
Miscellaneous Correspondence

### 5. Financial Records

Financial Reports, 1960-1965  
Financial Reports, 1961  
Financial Reports, 1961-1984  
Paid Bills, 1961 – September 1964  
Employer's Taxes  
Record of Checks Drawn, 1961-1962  
Record of Checks Drawn, 1962-1963  
Record of Check Drawn, 1963-1964  
Tax Information, 1960-1963  
Tax Information, 7/1/62-6/30/63  
Ledgers, 1964-1965  
Paid Bills, 1964-1965  
Simon Rodia's Payroll Taxes, 1966-prior  
Check Stubs  
Paid Bills, 1966  
Time Sheets (James Barrett), 1966  
Paid Bills – Petty Cash, 1966  
Receipted Deposit Slips, 7/1/66 – 6/30/67  
Paid Bills, 1967  
Paid Bills,  
K-O Paid  
Bills, P-T  
James Barrett Payroll, 1967  
Payroll Records, 1967  
Payroll and Disbursement Instructions, July 1, 1966 – June 30, 1967  
Payroll Taxes 1967 – prior  
Trial Balance/Bank Reconciliations – 1970-1971  
Bank  
Paid Bills U-Z, 1967  
Correspondence, 1967  
Bank Reconciliations, 7/1/66-6/30/67  
Petty Cash (Office), 1967-1970

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Building Fund Paid Bills, 1967  
Finances, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1967 – 3/1/68  
Paid Bills K-O, 7/1/67 – 6/30/68  
Paid Bills P-T, 7/1/67 – 6/30/68  
Deposits Posted – Operating A/C  
Deposits Posted – Bldg/Fund/A/C  
Bank Reconciliations, 7/1/67 – 6/30/68  
Petty Cash Reimbursements, 1967/1968  
Deposits, July '68 to Dec. '69  
'68/'69 – Paid Bills – Bldg/Fund  
Deposits Posted – Building Fund A/C, 1968-1969  
'68/'69 Paid Bills – N-Z  
'68/'69 Paid Bills – A-M  
Bank Reconciliations, 1968-1969  
Petty Cash Reimbursements, 1968-1969  
Building Fund – Paid Bills, 1967-1968  
Union Bank Statements, 1968  
Union Bank Statements, 1969  
Paid Bills – A-E, 7/1/67 – 6/30/68  
Deposits Posted – Operations A/C  
Finance Reports, 3/1/68 – 8/70  
Union Bank Statements, 1970  
Union Bank Statements, 1970-1971  
Cash in Bank – Building Fund  
Watts Towers Workshops building fund bank statements/cancelled  
checks C/D & C/R – Bank Statements – “Special Fund A/C”,  
1968-1971  
Bills Paid  
Deposits Posted, 7/70 – 6/71  
Paid Bills, 1970-1971  
First Western Bank Towers Account Statements and Checks to 6/71  
Paid Bills, 1971-1972  
First Western, 1971-1972  
To Computer, 1971-1972  
Watts Towers Gate Receipts, May 1971 – June 1973  
Union Bank Head Office Operating Account Statements and Checks  
Union Bank B.H. Building Fund Bank Statements and Checks

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Union Bank – Operating Account Deposits, Bank Statements, Cancelled Checks, 7/1/71 – 6/30/72

Community Redevelopment Agency, Helfeld

Watts Towers Gate Receipts, July 1973 –

Inventory, Merchandise for Sale

Miller Loan

### 6. Fundraising / Grants

Moneymaking fundraising ideas

Committee fundraising

Grant, 1967

Fundraising grants/buttons

HUD, 1978

CAC

Christo 1980

Associates in

Technology Fundraising

ideas, 1983

James Glass Fundraising Feasibility Study, 1984

Thank you cards

One Square Inch Project Rep. Packet Assignments (1-499) 5/10/68-5/29/68 One Square Inch Sales Stubs Box 1 and 2

### 7. Legal Papers

Bylaws

Articles of Incorporation

Exempt Application, 1960-62, 1979

Agreement of conveyance, 1975

Transfer to the State

Modification of transfer to the State, 1977

### 8. Committee Business

Notes, folder 1 and 2

Rodia Museum, 1979

Archive Project

Bicentennial Subcommittee

Committee History Office Locations

Information Requests



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## 9. Newsletters

1961-1982

## 10. Publicity – Outreach

Dorothy Beffman

Promo Leaflet

Los Angeles Herald Press Release

## 11. Stationery / Forms

Committee Membership Cards

Stationery/Old CSRTW

CSRTW Information Packet

(missing) Stationery/Letterhead

Stationery #3

Stationery Envelopes

Stationery Form

## IV. PRESERVATION / CONSERVATION

### 1. City of Los Angeles

1958 Department of Building & Safety Report

City Demolition Hearings, 1959

Demolition Hearings, July 1959

Report, Hearing Examiner, 1959-60

Reports: Bureau of Public Buildings, 1978

Hollier's Give it to State Documents vs. State Documents, Nov. 1978  
City

Contract Cancellation City Council Motions, Dec.

1978 Materials & Methods Controversy after Sept. 1

Vaughn Contract

Vaughn - Reiner, LA City Controller,

1978 Contract Complaint

Ralph Vaughn ARA (Data)

"A" Tower Sculptures, Oct.

1992 Garden Spire, Jan. 1992

"B" Tower, Oct.

1993 Canopy, Nov.

1994

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The Chimney, Feb. 1994  
Vaughn Restoration Reports  
Vaughn Restoration Reports, 1978  
The Preliminary Report, Vaughn  
Complaint/Lawsuit, 1978-1979  
Cultural Affairs Division  
Preliminary Draft, 1982  
City of Los Angeles, Bud Goldstone  
City of L.A. Database System  
Groundbreaking Ceremony, 1988  
Reports, 1988/89, 1993-1999  
Daily Log, 7/6-11/03 1992  
Gazebo  
House Facade, April 1995  
Tall Towers Analysis, June 1995  
Tall Towers Inspection Report, April 1995 #2  
Tall Towers Inspection Report, May 1995 #3  
Tall Towers Inspection Report, May 1995 #4  
Tall Towers Inspection Report, June 1995 #5  
Tall Towers 1995 Inspection Photograph Log  
CCF, 1993  
Northridge Earthquake, 1992  
Northridge Earthquake Repair, July-August 1994  
City Cultural Affairs, Correspondence  
City of Los Angeles Goldstone Database  
Cultural Affairs Department, Correspondence, 2000  
Cultural Heritage Commission  
City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Dept. Correspondence, 2001  
City of Los Angeles CRA  
Municipal Arts Department  
Los Angeles Perspective

## 2. Committee Records

Letters of Support, 1959  
Structural Test, 1959  
Structural Test, 1959-Goldstone Report, 1963  
Legal Papers, Settlement

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Legal Papers

Standards

CSRTW

Applied Liquid Polymer Systems

Committee 1978, March 1978

Museum Advisory Group, May  
1970

Tamas Tomey, Results of Investigation, May '78

Goldstone/Vaughn, May/June '78

Getty Management, July 1978

Mel Green & Associates (Consultants to CSRTW), May-July  
1978-1979 Vaughn Work Crew, July '78

Vaughn Starts the Job, Reports from the Site Prior to Sept. 1

Committee Declarations

Esthetic Damage Getty

Museum, 1978

Press Conference, Sept. 14, 1978

Goldstone/Observations, 9/17/78

Damage Evaluation-Morgan, Sept. 26, 1978

Current Job Status

Complaint for Breach of Contract, Ralph A. Vaughn Lawsuit, State of  
CA Lawsuit, 1978, Exhibit 1-32

Scaffolding & CAL OSHA, Vaughn, 1978 Firschein

Preservation Plans, 1979

Unlicensed Contractor/Other Possibilities, Vaughn, 1978/79

Committee Updates, 1978/79

Status of the Job

Letters of Support

### 3. Non-governmental Agencies

Non-Governmental #1 (Management Agencies)

Watts Towers Community Trust

Los Angeles Conservancy

National Trust Grant, 1981, Consultant Services

Caltrans Rail Link Relocation, 1981-82

Center for Law in the Public Interest, Quarterly Report, Fall 1985

Ehrenkratz

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## 4. State/City

Letters from Individuals, 1956-1958  
SOHP (State Office of Historic Preservation) - 1977-79  
State of CA Meeting with Hollier, Gives OK  
Holliers Mtg. 9/28/78  
Holliers Mtg. 10/5/78  
SPECS-Vaughn, Oct/Nov  
'78 Preservation Dept.  
Restoration Project-Reports  
RFP, 1981  
State/City  
Meetings,  
2002  
State Review, 2003  
Los Angeles Perspective

## 5. SPACES

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Watts Towers Grant Project (Archive)

## V. IMAGES

### 1. Prints

Dated  
Undated

### 2. Slides

Dated  
Undated

### 3. Negatives

Dated  
Undated

### 4. Proof Sheets

Dated  
Undated