

Archival Materials

1977 - 2012

Photographs, flyers, award certificates, medals, correspondence, newspaper article

Collection of Nevada Museum of Art. Center for Art + Environment

Postcards

circa 1990s

Stoneware

Collection of Dennis Parks

Dennis Parks has travelled widely to participate in conferences, to teach classes, and to collaborate with artists from other countries. The materials on view here are drawn from Parks' archives and include overseas correspondence, honors he has received, and photographs from countries including Turkey, China, and the former Czechoslovakia. Parks made the stoneware postcards in the 1990s to convey the importance of travel as one of his inspirations.

Archival Materials

1966 - 2011

Photographs, flyers, and newspaper article, books

Collection of Nevada Museum of Art, Center for Art + Environment Archive Collections & Research Library

Governor's Art Awards Plate

1990

Stoneware

Collection of the Phil and Jennifer Satre

The plate on view was from an edition commissioned by the Nevada Arts Council in 1989. It was given as an award to that year's recipients of the Governor's Arts Awards—an honor that Parks himself received the following year.

Dennis Parks founded the Tuscarora Pottery School in northeastern Nevada in 1966. The materials on view here, including the poster designed the first year the school was in operation, are drawn from Parks' archives. These materials trace the arc of Parks' career – from his time in Southern California and move to Nevada, to the rise of his internationally renowned pottery school, and the impact he's had as a teacher and author.

Left to right:

Untitled (*Large Bowl*), Not dated

Stoneware

Collection of Mimi Ellis Hogan

***Reduction Jars*, 1981**

Stoneware

Collection of Dennis Parks

Untitled (*Pitcher*), 1981

Stoneware

Collection of William Fox

Untitled (*Small Bowl*), Not dated

Stoneware

Collection of Mimi Ellis Hogan

Dennis Parks studied ceramics in southern California in the 1960s. It was during this time that the art world began to value the medium of clay as a fine art—rather than as a material to make purely functional vessels.

Artists, including Parks, continued to craft functional utility vessels such as the two large pots on view here, but they also increasingly pushed the boundaries of the medium and made objects that resembled altered or broken vessels. The two small *Reduction Jars* are examples of art objects that Parks crafted to look as though they were dug up from an archaeological site.