

Dennis Parks: International Ceramics
Collection CAE1216

Introduction/Abstract

The archive covers the travels of Nevada ceramist Dennis Parks, who conducted workshops and lectures to present his unique firing techniques throughout the U.S. and abroad. Archive materials include journals, press materials, photographs, slides, negatives, itineraries and maps, and exhibition ephemera.

Dennis Parks

Parks is internationally known as a ceramist using slip casting to creating studio works, as well as a traditional wheel to create utilitarian objects—and sometimes a combination of the two to create utility ware-inspired studio work. He started ceramics and sculpture departments at Knox College (IL) and Pitzer College (CA), then in 1966 started the Tuscarora International School of Pottery. Technical and critical articles by and about him have appeared over the past 35 years in numerous ceramics magazines. His book, *A Potter's Guide to Raw Glazing and Oil Firing*, was published by Scribners (NYC) and Pitman (London) in 1980, and a memoir of settling in Tuscarora and establishing the pottery school—*Living in the Country Growing Weird*—was published by the University of Nevada Press in 2001. He served as curriculum chair for the National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts (NCECA). In 1983 he was elected to membership in the International Academy of Ceramics, and in 1990 he was honored with the Governor's Arts Award in the state of Nevada.

Scope and Content

The archive covers the travels of Nevada ceramist Dennis Parks, whose career included three principal areas: making, teaching, travel. Parks was invited to teach and present his unique firing techniques to audiences internationally, and he conducted workshops and lectures throughout the U.S. and abroad, including Australia, Belgium, Great Britain, Hungary, Poland, Russia, and the Czech Republic, as well as in Indonesia, China, Japan, and South Korea. Materials include journals; press clippings; photographs, slides, negatives; itineraries and maps; exhibition catalogs of and publications by artists met while traveling through Europe, Asia, South America, and Australia.

This archive is currently in process.