

Collection #
SC 3060
DVD 0573–0574

**EVANS WOOLLEN III
ORAL HISTORY TRANSCRIPT, 2012**

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Processed by

Jessica Frederick
September 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder, 2 CDs

COLLECTION DATES: 2012

PROVENANCE: Dan Noyes, Berkeley, Calif., April 2012

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2012.0081

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Evans Woollen III was born in Indianapolis in 1927. He went to private schools, Hotchkiss then Yale, eventually pursuing a career in architecture. Both his father and paternal grandfather's careers were in banking.

After earning his B.A. and M.A. degrees in architecture at Yale, Woollen worked for three years in New Canaan, Connecticut: one under the tutelage of Phillip Johnson, a nationally known architect, and two on his own. In 1955, at the age of 27, Woollen returned to Indianapolis, both setting up an office and marrying within a week of his return.

His first Indianapolis practice specialized in residential design. By 1968, the firm was incorporated as Woollen Associates, and its range included a variety of building types, from commercial structures to public housing. Later, the firm was renamed Woollen, Molzan and Partners.

Woollen has had a great impact on Indianapolis architecture. Some of Woollen's more famous buildings include Clowes Memorial Hall, the Minton-Capehart Federal Building, the silver addition to the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library (now Indianapolis Public Library), the entrance hall at the Children's Museum, and the Barton Tower on Massachusetts Avenue.

Woollen's work has received twenty-two awards nationally and locally. Woollen has been named the "dean of Indiana architects."

Woollen lived at 4401 North Illinois, Indianapolis, Indiana, a house where Kurt Vonnegut had previously lived. The Woollens and Vonneguts were friends for several generations, mainly beginning with a partnership between Bernard Vonnegut, an architect, who designed and built a building for Evans Woollen called the Fletcher Trust Building (currently a hotel).

Sources:

Materials in collection

Gadski, Mary Ellen. *Comprehensive Bibliography of the Works of Woollen, Molzan, and Partners, 1955-1987*. Monticello, Ill.: Vance Bibliographies, [1988].

Higgins, Will. "Indy Architect Evans Woollen to Return to Clowes Hall," *Indianapolis Star*, Jan. 27, 2014.

Morris, Jim. "Evans Woollen: The Man Behind the Landmarks." *Arts Indiana* Summer 1994.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This oral history collection contains a CD and a transcript. The interview was conducted by Dan Noyes in Longmont, Colorado, on February 16, 2012.

In a 22-page oral history transcript, Evans Woollen III talks about the Woollen family and his other ancestors, focusing mainly upon his own life and that of his father and grandfather (Evans Jr. and Evans, respectively), the Indianapolis area, and architecture.

Also included are two CDs with the same two scans on each: a photograph of Evans Woollen, Evans Woollen Jr., and Evans Woollen III and the backside of the photograph.

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Evans Woollen III oral history transcript, 2012.

The Woollen family: 3 generations, master copy, n.d.

The Woollen family: 3 generations, user copy, n.d.

CONTAINER

Folder 1

DVD 0573

DVD 0574

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 3060).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.