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**Finding Aid to the
Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials Records
College of Science and Mathematics**

Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials

Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials records, 1898-2005

Record Group 16.4.4

2 linear ft.

[History](#)

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OVERVIEW

Links: [College of Science and Mathematics records, 1909-present](#)

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives.

Provenance: This is an on-going collection with material arriving through departmental records transfers, the university campus mail, or donations by various individuals; 2002 (Acc. 373).

Property rights: The University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials Records, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

The Polymers and Coatings Department* emerged from the chemistry department in 1905 to help regulate paints in North Dakota. Professor E. F. Ladd was one of the primary supporters of this development and helped get a law passed in 1905 that prevented the adulteration and deception in paints. To help enforce this law, paints needed to be tested to determine whether they were labeled correctly. In

order to do this, an experiment station was set up which included a test fence and paint bulletins needed to be published with the test results. Ladd could not do this all himself so a staff was hired and the college began training students in this field. Many manufacturers objected to the Paint Law and several sued North Dakota Agricultural College for the findings that cost them business. The college won all of these suits, however, because Ladd and his team were very careful in their testing.

As technology has advanced, the polymers and coatings department has advanced with it. Courses were expanded from paint analysis to paint work in 1919 under the industrial chemistry department in the School of Chemistry and Pharmacy and then to include paint varnishes and pigments in the 1922 in the Physical and Industrial Chemistry Department in the School of Chemistry and Technology and has since moved to become more theoretical. This move requires the education in chemistry, physics and math to parallel the developments in science. This department (which became its own major of Protective Coatings in 1960 and Polymers and Coatings in the College of Science and Mathematics in 1974) has developed a renowned reputation throughout the world for its research and education and faculty are invited to speak in many places every year. Students from North Dakota State University are also sought after by companies in the field due to the excellence of their program training.

*Note: Effective December 1, 2004: department name change to: Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS

The records are in eight series: **Brochures, Classes and Requirements, Seminars, Rheineck Articles, Paint Bulletins, Scrapbooks, Alumni, and Clippings.**

The [Brochures](#) include brochures for undergraduate and graduate study in polymers and coatings from 1957 – 2001. There is also a capital fund drive brochure (n.d.)

[Classes and Requirements](#) include copies of the pages from the course bulletins pertaining to the Paint Chemistry Department [gaps]. These pages give the specific requirements for a degree in the field as well as descriptions of the classes. In addition, brochures and information for Coating Science short courses from 1979-1982, 1988, and 2005 are included.

[Seminars](#) contain registration and general information brochures for the annual coatings symposiums offered in the summer (1964, 1966-1968, 1970, 1974, 1976-1978).

[Rheineck Articles](#) includes articles which Alfred E. Rheineck wrote or collaborated on during his career.

[North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Paint Bulletins](#) consists of copies of the studies issued by the Agricultural Experiment Station, Office of the State Food Commissions and Chemist, North Dakota Regulatory Department, and the State Laboratories Department for 1910, 1915, 1925, 1933, 1935, 1938, 1941, and 1963.

The [Alumni](#) series includes information on alumni employment, newsletters to alumni, and some reminiscences.

The [Clippings](#) series contains information about NDSU, faculty and alumni including promotions, obituaries, paint seminars, articles by faculty members, et cetera. Most clippings are from the *American Paint Journal* or newspapers and are organized according to the year of publication.

The [Scrapbooks](#) series consists of three scrapbooks compiled by Polymers and Coatings Department as well as a package of material sent to Rudolph D. Deanin to compile a coatings history. The three scrapbooks are housed separately in Box Two.

SEPARATIONS

The following items have been removed from the NDSU Polymers and Coatings and sent to the sections indicated.

Photographs (University Archives Photograph Collection)

Photographs of faculty, students, laboratories, commencement, alumni gatherings and paint shows.

Negatives (University Archives Negative Collection)

Negatives of faculty, students, laboratories, commencement, alumni gatherings and paint shows.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box/Folder	Content
1/1	Finding aid
1/2	Fifty Years of Paint Chemistry at NDAC – 1905-1955
1/3	Historical view of Coatings department (articles & remembrances) - 1988
1/4	Jones, Frank N., Chair - “NDSU Weathering the Drought of ‘88” - 1988

Brochures

1/5	Mock-Up – Paint Department – mock-up - brochure – 1957
1/5a	Department of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers – brochure – 1957
1/6	Study in Polymers and Coatings – brochures - c.mid-1960s
1/7	Polymers & Coating – brochures - c. 1970s, 1978
1/8	NDSU Facts - Polymers and Coatings - 1988
1/9	Brochure - Polymers and Coatings – brochure - 1998
1/10	Undergraduate Program in Polymers and Coatings – May 2001
1/11	Capital Fund Drive – brochure – n.d.

Classes and Requirements

- 1/12 Paint Chemistry course bulletin for the years 1898-1901, 1909-1912, 1915-1988
 1/13 Polymers & Coatings - Coating Science -
 Short courses – 1951, 1953, 1954, 1957, 1979-1983, 1988, 2005

Seminars

- 1/14 6th Annual Symposium on “New Coatings and New Coatings Raw Materials”
 1964
 1/15 8th Annual Symposium on “New Coatings and New Coatings Raw Materials”
 1966
 1/16 9th Annual Symposium on “New Coatings and New Coatings Raw Materials”
 1977
 1/17 10th Annual Symposium on “New Coatings and New Coatings Raw Materials”
 1968
 1/18 12th Annual Symposium on “New Coatings and New Coatings Raw Materials”
 1970
 1/19 14th Annual Coatings Symposium - Ultraviolet Curing Present and Future
 1974
 1/20 16th Annual Coating Symposium: Energy Savings Through Reactive Coatings -
 1976
 1/21 17th Annual NDSU Coatings Symposium:
 Improving Protective Performance of Coating
 1977
 1/22 18th Annual NDSU Coatings Symposium: Creative Responses to Regulations
 1978

Rheineck Articles

- 1/23 "The Birth of Coatings at North Dakota State University" – October 1965
 1/24 Articles written by or collaborated on by Alfred E. Rheineck

NDAES Paint Bulletins

- 1/25 1910 bulletin
 1/26 1915 bulletin
 1/27 1925 bulletin
 1/28 1933 bulletin
 1/29 1935 bulletin
 1/30 1935 bulletin by the North Dakota Regulatory Department
 1/31 1938 bulletin
 1/32 1941 bulletin
 1/33 1963 bulletin

Alumni

1/34	Lost alumni lists, letters to alumni, and award winners
1/35	Alumni Notes 1950
1/36	Alumni Notes 1951
1/37	Alumni Notes 1952
1/38	Alumni Notes 1953
1/39	Alumni Notes 1954
1/40	Information about 1963 alumni
1/41	NDAC before 1930
1/42	Remembrance of Amos Roy Van Vorst
1/43	Season's Greetings from Chemistry 1980,1981, 1990

Clippings

1/44	1947
1/45	1951
1/46	1955
1/47	1961
1/48	1962
1/49	1963
1/50	1964
1/51	1965
1/52	1966
1/53	1967
1/54	1968
1/55	1969
1/56	1970
1/57	1971
1/58	1978
1/59	1979
1/60	1980
1/61	1981
1/62	1982
1/63	1983
1/64	1984
1/65	1985
1/66	1986
1/67	1987
1/68	1988
1/69	1995
1/70	1996
1/71	1997

1/72	1998
1/73	1999
1/74	No dates

BOX 2

Three scrapbooks compiled by the Polymers and Coatings Department, in a very loose chronological order, from the late 1940s to the early 1960s. [**Note - Scrapbooks have been reconstructed on acid-free sheets in mylar (Polyester) sleeves in new scrapbook**]

Book 1 - photos of alumni, clippings, and brochures for the department

Book 2 - information on alumni, associations & clubs, and men you know about

Book 3 – additional information on clubs and conventions