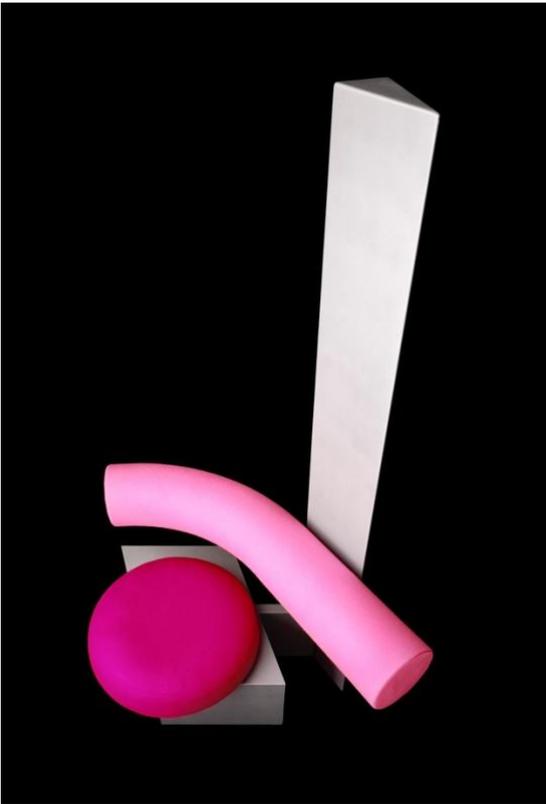


# Archive of Art & Design Research Guide

Furniture

**W&A**



The V&A's Archive of Art and Design (AAD) holds the working papers of individual artists and designers, as well as the records of companies and associations involved in all aspects of applied art and design. The archives can be consulted by appointment at Blythe House, located near Olympia in West London.

The furniture archives demonstrate the development of design, manufacture and retail techniques since the early 1800s, from special one-off pieces to mass produced goods available to all. A rich source of information is the Heal's archive with its catalogues, designs, photographs, advertisements and press cuttings which range from the 1850s to the present day.

Other archives are those of Holland & Sons Ltd, cabinet makers and upholsterers, whose commissions for a variety of high profile clients included work on Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and the Royal Academy of Arts. The minutiae of everyday living is also covered, with designs for items such as shoe-scrapers and plate-racks by French furniture manufacturers De Beyne, and drawings of draperies and dressing tables by J.H.V. Dyer, a small scale

furniture designer in practice at the turn of 20th century.

The holdings for Staples & Co Ltd, furniture manufacturer, paint a picture of a busy, successful company with records of staff wages, weekly balance sheets, details of the British standards for furniture, press cuttings albums and photographs.

## Designers in the AAD

- Bird Iles Ltd, furniture designer and interior decorator: records, 1928–62  
[AAD/1985/6](#)
- Georg Calmann, furniture designer and framemaker: papers, about 1930–39  
[AAD/1988/1](#)
- Lucienne and Robin Day, textile and wallpaper designer; industrial, interior and furniture designer: papers, about 1950– about 1990  
[AAD/2000/4](#)
- Jane Dillon, furniture designer: papers  
[AAD/2009/1](#), [AAD/2012/3](#)
- J. H. V. Dyer, furniture and interior designer, draughtsman: papers, about 1822– about 1904  
[AAD/1989/4](#), [AAD/1993/15](#)
- E. W. Godwin, furniture and stage designer, architect: papers, 1844–88  
[AAD/1980/4](#), [AAD/1988/4](#)
- Eileen Gray, architect, furniture and interior designer: papers, 1913–74  
[AAD/1980/9](#)

- C.E. Kempe & Co. Ltd, stained glass artists and church furnishings designers: records, 1810– 1950.  
[AAD/1982/2](#)
- Wilfred Richardson, furniture designer: papers, about 1900–50  
[AAD/1995/9](#)
- Christien Sell, furniture designer: papers, about 1960– about 1975  
[AAD/2000/9](#)
- Franz Singer, architect, artist and interior designer: papers, 1913–50  
[AAD/1982/3](#)
- Marjorie Trueman, friend of Tim Osborne: papers, 1928–92  
[AAD/1993/8](#)
- John Wallond, furniture and interior designer: papers, 1919–92  
[AAD/2003/19](#)
- George Walton, architect and designer: papers, about 1920s–2003  
[AAD/2004/7](#)

## Furniture manufacture/production/retail in the AAD

- Allied Maples Group, furniture retailers and manufacturers: records, 1635– about 1990  
[AAD/2000/3](#), [AAD/2003/16](#)
- D. Bianco & Sons Ltd, furniture manufacturer: records, about 1930–70  
[AAD/1995/18](#)
- J. Clarke, furniture manufacturer: records, 1916–96  
[AAD/1986/11](#), [AAD/2002/6](#), [AAD/2002/9](#)
- Crown Suppliers, producer and supplier of furniture for the public service: records, about 1930– about 1990  
[AAD/1991/1](#)
- De Beyne, furniture manufacturer: records, 1933–60  
[AAD/1985/4](#)
- Habitat Ltd, furniture and household goods manufacturer and retailer: marketing records, about 1960–1998  
[AAD/1995/12](#), [AAD/1996/5](#), [AAD/2000/13](#)
- Anton Leone Bulletti, decorator and woodcarver  
[AAD/1988/10](#), [AAD/1990/1](#)
- Heal and Son Holdings plc., bedding and furniture manufacturer and retailer: records, 1810–2010  
[AAD/1978/2](#), [AAD/1986/1](#), [AAD/1994/16](#), [AAD/1996/8](#), [AAD/1997/4](#), [AAD/1997/13](#), [AAD/1997/21](#), [AAD/1999/7](#), [AAD/2002/2](#), [AAD/2003/2](#), [AAD/2004/3](#), [AAD/2007/1](#), [AAD/2010/8](#)
- Herbert E. Gibbs, furniture manufacturer: records, about 1930–60  
[AAD/2012/7](#)

- Holland and Sons Ltd, cabinet makers and upholsterers: records, 1821–1968  
[AAD/1983/13, AAD/1998/1](#)
- Race Furniture Ltd, furniture manufacturer: albums, 1945–72  
[AAD/1981/9](#)
- Gaby Schreiber, consultant designer for industry: papers, about 1940–89  
[AAD/1991/11, AAD/2009/7](#)
- R.B. Simpson & Co. Ltd, furniture manufacturer: designs, about 1930–39  
[AAD/1980/8](#)
- Staples & Co. Ltd, furniture manufacturer: records, 1893–1985  
[AAD/1986/9](#)

## Photographs of furniture and woodwork in the AAD

- Kenneth Clark, furniture photographer: papers, 1947– 88  
[AAD/1994/6](#)
- W.J. Sloggett & Sons, woodcarvers: records, about 1920– about 1940  
[AAD/1995/22](#)
- Percy A. Wells: lantern slide collection, about 1950s  
[AAD/1995/31](#)

## Woodcarving in the AAD

- Anton Leone Bulletti, decorator and woodcarver: papers, pattern book, 1850–90  
[AAD/1988/10, AAD/1990/1](#)
- W.J. Sloggett & Sons, woodcarvers: records, about 1920– about 1940  
[AAD/1995/22](#)
- R.W. Taylor, plaster modeller and woodcarver: papers, 1905–23  
[AAD/1981/10](#)

## Furniture history in the AAD

- Furniture History Society: records, 1944–2000  
[AAD/2000/2](#)

## Related archives in the AAD

- Council for the Care of Churches: records, 1915–72  
[AAD/1994/4](#)
- Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition: records, 1910–90  
[AAD/1990/9](#)

- Design Council [formerly Council of Industrial Design]: design index, about 1948–85  
[AAD/1979/4; AAD/1982/6; AAD/1984/11; AAD/1986/12](#)
- Design and Industries Association: records 1887–1986  
[AAD/1978/3; AAD/1988/2; AAD/1997/7](#)
- The Way We Live Now – Designs for Interiors, 1950 to the present day: manufacturers catalogues, 1954–78  
[AAD/1979/2](#)

## Search

### [Search the Archive of Art & Design](#)

You can also consult the *Guide to the Archive of Art and Design, Victoria & Albert Museum* by Elizabeth Lomas (London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers in association with the Victoria and Albert Museum, 2001), which not only lists the AAD archives, but also identifies related material in the V&A and other institutions.

## Access

The V&A Archive of Art & Design is located at Blythe House, near Olympia in West London and can be consulted by appointment only.

### [Find out how to access the Archive of Art & Design](#)

## Contact

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### [Contact us online](#)

Image: Photograph of Moveable chair designed by Jane Dillon, 1965–68. Museum number AAD/2009/1. © Victoria and Albert Museum, London