



Finding Aid for

**PHOTOGRAPHIC LIBRARY (EARLE HARGER) RECORDS SERIES,  
1938-1971  
Accession 1685**

Finding Aid Published: February 2012



Electronic conversion of this finding aid was funded by a grant from the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET)  
<http://www.dalnet.lib.mi.us>



20900 Oakwood Boulevard · Dearborn, MI 48124-5029 USA  
[research.center@thehenryford.org](mailto:research.center@thehenryford.org) · [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)

## OVERVIEW

**REPOSITORY:** Benson Ford Research Center  
The Henry Ford  
20900 Oakwood Blvd  
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029  
[www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)  
[research.center@thehenryford.org](mailto:research.center@thehenryford.org)

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 1685

**CREATOR:** Ford Motor Company. Photographic Department

**TITLE:** Photographic Library (Earle Harger) records series

**INCLUSIVE DATES:** 1938-1971

**QUANTITY:** 1.6 cubic ft.

**LANGUAGE:** The materials are in English

**ABSTRACT:** Earle Harger was a librarian for the Ford Motor Company. The series contains research files on Ford Motor Company history, reports on practices of other large photographic libraries and printed and published material about the company.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open for research
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company donation, 1964 and 1984
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:  
Part of the Photographic Department (Ford Motor Company) photographs subgroup, which includes:  
- General photographs series, Acc. 833  
- Ford Rotunda Lantern Slides series, Acc. 1182  
- Renovated Assembly Plants photographs series, Acc. 696  
- Northern Michigan Operations photographs series, Acc. 270  
- World's Fair photographs series, Acc. 232  
- Photographs for Ford News Bureau album series, Acc. 1505  
- Plant Engineering Construction photographs series, Acc. 721
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 1685, Photographic Library (Earle Harger) records series, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Benson Ford Research Center staff in December 2003.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared and published by Benson Ford Research Center staff in December 2003.  
  
Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, February 2012, and published in February 2012.  
  
Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

Earle Harger was a librarian in the Photographic Department of the Ford Motor Company in the 1950s and 1960s. Early in his tenure, Harger visited large corporate and government photographic libraries around the country documenting processes, procedures, and best practices.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The series is made up of two subseries. The **Administrative Material subseries**, 1950-1963 (0.6 cubic ft.), is comprised of informational and research files, including lists of negative numbers for 1950 through 1960 Ford automobiles, the evolution of the Lincoln automobile, automotive styling, and racing. Research files in the subseries include significant events in the life of Henry Ford, a Rouge River Plant chronology, and a World War II chronology. Of particular note is a 1949 series of reports detailing the organization and practices of large photographic libraries visited by Harger in that same year. The second subseries, **Printed and Published Material subseries**, 1938-1971 (1 cubic ft.) is an excellent resource for identifying negatives of photographs published in Ford Motor Company publications primarily in the 1950s and 1960s. There are negative annotations on annual reports, promotional, and informational imprints. Subjects include the evolution of Ford and Lincoln automobiles, the Ford Rotunda, Ford Motor Company rubber plantations, Ford coal production, and the Henry Ford's Fair Lane estate in Dearborn, Michigan. Researchers should note that negatives produced after approximately 1946 were not donated to The Henry Ford

## **SUBJECT TERMS**

### Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947  
Harger, Earle, 1905-1976  
Ford Motor Company. Photographic Department.  
Ford Motor Company. Rouge River Plant.  
Ford Motor Company. Archives.  
Ford Motor Company--By-products  
Ford Rotunda (Dearborn, Mich.)  
Henry Ford Hospital  
Fair Lane (Dearborn, Mich.)

### Subjects

Automobile industry and trade  
Ford automobile  
Assembly-line methods  
Automobile racing  
Automobiles--Design and construction  
Agriculture--Research  
Coal mines and mining  
Waste products  
Lincoln automobile  
Rubber industry and trade  
Special libraries  
World War, 1939-1945

### Genre and Form

Annual Reports  
Chronologies  
Photographs  
Posters  
Publications

## CONTAINER LIST

<b>Box no.</b>	<b>Description</b>
----------------	--------------------

---

### Box 1

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATERIAL**

Artwork, parts, 1963  
Coding system, undated  
Negative numbers  
    Automobiles, 1950s  
    Automobiles, 1960s  
    Evolution of the Lincoln, undated  
    Styling, undated  
    Transcontinental races, undated  
Photos, miscellaneous (1967 Fairlane; 1949 Caterpillar; Mrs. Benson Ford, 1963)  
Press packets, Lincolns and Continentals, 1958  
Reference material  
    Ford, Henry, historic dates and events, undated  
    Ford Motor Company information, 1962 (from news department)  
    Rouge Plant, chronology from 1902 to 1944, undated  
    World War II, chronology, undated  
    Reports on other photographic libraries, 1949

#### **PRINTED AND PUBLISHED MATERIAL**

Annual meeting of stockholders, Ford Motor Company, 1956-1957 (2 folders)  
Annual reports, Ford Motor Company  
    1961  
    1963-1965 (3 folders)

### Box 2

Automotive Assembly Division photograph order brochure, 1967  
"Automotive Highlights: 1896-1971"  
"Interiors" *Automotive Industries*, 1965 (photocopy)  
"Books about Fords," 1960  
"Camp Legion and Camp Willow Run," undated  
"A Car Is Born: The Exciting Story of Producing Today's Automobile"  
    1963  
    1967  
"Car Lite: Automotive Safety Glass," undated  
"A Day with Ford Engineers," 1952  
*Detroit News*, 1963  
"Edison Institute Museum and Village," undated  
"Evolution of Ford Car," circa 1958 (poster)  
"Evolution of Lincoln Car," 1959 (poster)  
"Evolution of Mercury Car," 1959 (poster)  
"Factory Facts from Ford," 1959 (poster)

"Facts and Facets of the Automotive Industry," 1959 (set of posters)  
"Fair Lane: the House and Garden," 1955  
"Ford Ammonium Sulfite," undated  
"Ford and the Coming Agrinustrial Age," 1936, 1937, 1940  
*Ford at Fifty*, 1959 (book)  
"Ford at the Fair," 1934  
"Ford Bus," 1937 (scrapbook)  
"Ford Coal from Mines to Market," undated  
"Ford Family of Fine Cars for 1959," 1959

### Box 3

"Ford Family of Fine Cars," 1965  
"Ford Industries, Facts about Ford Motor Company and Its Subsidiaries"  
    1924 (2 folders)  
    1926  
    1927  
    1929  
    1931  
    Circa 1926  
"Ford on the American Road," 1963 (poster)  
"The Ford Rotunda," 1959  
"The Ford Rouge Plant at Dearborn," undated  
"The Rubber Plantations," undated (2 folders)  
"Ford Today: An Introduction to Ford Motor Company," 1959  
"Gateway to the American Road of Tomorrow," undated  
"Glass Plant Open House," 1950  
"How Long Is a Rod?" undated  
"In the Service of America," undated  
"Industries within an Industry: Ford By-Products," undated  
"Information for Patients ... Henry Ford Hospital," 1938  
"Johansson Gage Blocks and Accessories," undated  
"The Man Who Was Cut in Two," 1959

### Box 4

"New Catalog of Agricultural and Industrial Equipment," 1963  
"A New Pattern," 1960  
"No Foolin' This Is a Car," *Detroit News*, 3 June 1956  
"Oakwood: A Modern Hospital in Action," undated  
Official Ford photos, 1967  
"Only In Detroit," *New York Times*, 4 October, 1959  
"PPG Products," 1957  
"Presenting: The Ford Technical Service Laboratory," 1953  
"Presenting: The Mustang," 1964  
"Profile: An Introduction to the Ford Motor Company," 1959  
"Research and Engineering Center, Photographic Services," 1968 (bound volume)

**Box 4 continued:**

- Riot at Miller Road, undated (loose photographs)
- "The Rouge Plant," 1958 (poster)
- "Steel by Ford," undated
- "Styling at Ford Motor Company," 1959
- "Fifty Years of Progress," 1933
- "Total Performance," 1903-1963, 1963
- "Total Performance Engineering: '65 Ford Division Products," 1964
- "Welcome to Hurricane Road," 1959
- "1278 Families" by Christ Christian Church, Cranbrook, 1959