



Finding Aid for

**FORD MOTOR COMPANY
LEGAL OFFICE PATENT RECORDS, 1905-1951**

Accession 93.1.296

Finding Aid Published: March 2016



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
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20900 Oakwood Blvd
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 93.1.296

CREATOR: Ford Motor Company

TITLE: Ford Motor Company Legal Office Patent Records

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1905-1951

BULK DATES: 1930-1945

QUANTITY: 1 cubic ft. (1 box)

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: The records from the Ford Motor Company Legal Office contain material related to patent and trademark agreements, lawsuits and registrations for aircraft, prosthetics, tractors, magnesium manufacture, and Ford automobiles.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The records are 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:** Acquired by The Henry Ford in 1993. Was Ford Motor Company Archives collection number AR-65-14.
- ALTERNATE FORMS:** Selected material from this collection has been digitized and is available online at:
<https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/>
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 93.1.296, Ford Motor Company Legal Office Patent Records, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Jennifer Lentz, January 1994.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff in December 1962.
- Finding aid written by Jennifer Lentz, January 1994.
Reformatted and published by Brian Wilson, March 2016.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The patent records of the Ford Motor Company Legal Office are divided into five series: Aircraft Patents, Artificial Limbs, Tractor Manufacturing, Magnesium Recovery and Development, and Trademarks. The collection spans from 1905-1951, but the bulk of materials dates between 1930 and 1945.

The patent material concerns a single lawsuit relating to an aircraft patent (Messrs Junker vs. Ford Motor Company), and the three countries involved in the suit: Czechoslovakia, Spain and Germany.

The material covering artificial limbs (one folder) contains blueprints of experimental prosthetics from a single year, 1945.

There is also one folder of material that relates to the manufacture of tractors, primarily in Britain, during the First World War.

The material on magnesium recovery includes blueprints, photographs and drawings of machinery used to obtain magnesium. The material also contains correspondence and drafts of agreements between executives at the Ford Motor Company and Dow Chemical of Midland, Michigan. Reports about the process of magnesium recovery are also included. Of special interest is a map dating from the 1930s detailing Michigan's rich mine deposits.

Finally, the collection contains information about trademark registration and applications relating to Ford Motor Company's products, including the trademark registration of Fordson, Ford's tractor, in foreign countries, and trademark and patent applications of Lincoln in Great Britain.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Dow Chemical Company

Ford Motor Company

Henry Ford & Son, Inc.

Junkers, Hugo, 1859-1935

Junkers Flugzeug- und -Motorenwerke, Dessau

Subjects

Aircraft

Artificial hands

Fordson tractors

Lincoln automobile

Magnesium

Patents

Trademarks

Geographic

Czechoslovakia

Germany

Great Britain

Spain

Genre and Form

Photographs

Technical drawings

Blueprints

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Box 1

Aircraft patents, 1929-1930 (Correspondence regarding lawsuit between Messrs. Junkers and the Ford Motor Company)

Czechoslovakia

Germany

Spain

Artificial Limbs, 1945 (Blueprints)

Tractor Manufacturing, 1916-1918

Magnesium Recovery and Development, 1930-1941

Agreements (drafts)

Blueprints and Photographs

Correspondence (2 folders)

Departmental Communication

Reports

Trademarks, Application and Registration

Fordson, 1917-1924

Great Britain

Other Foreign Countries (2 folders)

Lincoln

Evidence filed in support of British application, 1905-1951 (3 folders; includes copies of U. S. Trademark Patent (registered 1923) and Ford Shield, 1949 (registered 1951))

Supporting Documents, George N. Goodrich v. Ford Motor Company, circa 1934
(Diagrams and charts comparing Goodrich and Ford engine intake manifold)

Photograph of Henry Ford, undated