

Records of J. W. Blanding, Office of Business Manager

RECORDS OF J. W. BLANDING, BUSINESS MANAGER OF THE JOHN AND MABLE RINGLING MUSEUM OF ART, 1935-1956

[Overview](#)

Administrative Information

Historical Note

Scope and Content Note

Related Materials

Subject Headings

Contents of the Collection

Overview

Repository	The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art 5401 Bay Shore Road Sarasota, FL 34243 archives@ringling.org
Creator	J. W. Blanding
Title	Records of J.W. Blanding, Office of the Business Manager
Dates	1935 – 1956, bulk dates 1946-1952
Language	English
Physical description	2 linear feet
Arrangement	Alphabet, chronological
Summary	Records reveal the establishment of many of the first administrative undertakings at the museum, such as the museum plaza, installation of museum signage, seawall restoration, and the purchase of the Asolo Theater Correspondence is varied. Of special interest are correspondence exchanged with museum director, A. Everett Austin. Records include gate receipt log books,

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check books, audit reports, mortgage releases, financial statements, a silver collection inventory, bids and specs as well as Blanding's reports to the Florida Board of Control.

Administrative Information

Provenance	The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art
Information about access	The J.W. Blanding records may be viewed by appointment. Use of certain materials is restricted by statute, by the office of origin, or by the donor. For the protection of its collections, the Archives also reserves the right to restrict access to records which are not arranged, are being processed, or are exceptionally valuable or fragile. In some cases, copies may be substituted for the originals.
Ownership and Copyright	Copyright is held by Florida State University. It is provided here for scholarship, research, and private study. For use regarding commercial and non-commercial publication, or copying outside of Fair Use, contact lib-specialcollections@fsu.edu .
Cite As	Credit must be given for any use of materials. The credit line should read: The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Florida State University, Records of J.W. Blanding, Office of the Business Manager, 1935-1956. Include box and folder numbers for materials.
Processing note	Collection was processed by H. Connor May 2015, updated July 2020.

*Records of J. W. Blanding, Office of Business Manager***Historical Note**

In 1946, the Board of Control named Col. J. W. Blanding Business Manager for The Ringling. At the same time, the Museum's first Director, A. Everett Austin was hired. The records in this series reflect Blanding's many and varied duties at the Museum. His records reveal the establishment of many of the first administrative programs at the Museum, such as the Museum Plaza, signs for the Museum, seawall work, the Board of Control, and the Asolo Theater. They are significant because of the generous examples of correspondence on various subjects, particularly working with A. Everett Austin.

Scope and Content Note

Records reveal the establishment of many of the first administrative undertakings at the museum, such as the creation of a museum plaza, museum signage, seawall construction, and information on the Asolo Theater and museum library.

Correspondence is varied. Of special interest are those exchanged with museum director, A. Everett Austin, 1947-1952 and with Karl Bickel, 1947-1951. Financial records include: gate receipt log books for 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949; cash receipt ledgers dating from 1935 – 1946; a check book with entries from 1946-1947; a 1950 audit report, mortgage releases 1950-1952; and financial statements for 1946, 1947, and 1948. There is a silver collection inventory, bids and specs, and a publicity report 1951-1952. Blanding's reports to the Florida Board of Control and State Improvement Records 1948-1951 are also held in these files.

Related materials Records of the Governing Boards

Records, of A. Everett Austin

Karl Bickel Correspondence.

*Records of J. W. Blanding, Office of Business Manager***Subject Headings**

Government correspondence--Florida--History.

Business correspondence.

Museums--Records.

Contents of the Collection

Box no. Folder no. Title

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Gate Receipt Log Books |
| 1 | 1946 |
| 2 | 1947 |
| 3 | 1948 |
| 4 | 1949 |
| 2 | Financial Records |
| 1 | Cash receipt ledger 1935 – 1947. |
| 2 | Cash receipt ledger November 1946 – April 1947. |
| 3 | Check book 1946 – 1947. |
| 3 | Administrative files 1947 – 1952 |
| 1 | Admission tax receipts, 1946 – 1947. |
| 2 | Art news Annual, 1949. |
| 3 | Audit Report 1950. |
| 4 | Correspondence, Austin 1947-1948. |
| 5 | Correspondence, Austin 1949. |
| 6 | Correspondence, Austin 1950. |
| 7 | Correspondence, Austin 1951. |

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- 8 Correspondence, Austin 1952.
- 9 Correspondence, Bickel 1947.
- 10 Correspondence, Bickel 1949.
- 11 Correspondence, Bickel 1950.
- 12 Correspondence, Bickel 1951.
- 13 Business manager reports to the Board of Control: July 12, 1947, August 22, 1947, September 12, 1947, May 4, 1948, June 1948, July 1948, August 1948, and September 1948.
- 14 Business manager reports to Board of Control: June 23, 1949, July 23, 1949, August 25, 1949, September 16, 1949, October 14, 1949, July 1950, August 1950, and September 1950.
- 15 Business manager reports to the Board of Control: June 1951, July 1951, August 1951, September 1951, October 1951, June 1952, July 1952, September 1952.
- 16 Resolution adopting rules and regulations for the preparation and approval of vouchers for the several institutions under the management of the Board of Control, June 21, 1947.
- 17 Correspondence, Bohler, Julius Wilhelm, 1948.
- 18 Chapter 25370-(No. 374) (Florida) Senate Bill no. 942, Chapter 23915-(No. 301) (Florida) Senate Bill no. 345, and two copies off proposed budget for year beginning July 1, 1947- June 30, 1948.
- 19 Collections correspondence, 1948.
- 20 Collections correspondence, 1949.
- 21 Collections correspondence, 1950.
- 22 Collections correspondence, 1951.
- 23 Collection correspondence, 1952.

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- 24 Correspondence general, 1947.
- 25 Correspondence general, 1948.
- 26 Correspondence general, 1949.
- 27 Correspondence general, 1950.
- 28 Correspondence general, 1951.
- 29 Correspondence general, 1952 and 1956.
- 4 Administrative files 1947-1952
 - 1 Diorio, Caesar R. correspondence, 1947 – 1952.
 - 2 Facilities: bids and specs, 1948 – 1952.
 - 3 Financial statements, 1946 - 1948.
 - 4 Fulton, Guy C., 1947 – 1952.
 - 5 Grounds 1948, 1952.
 - 6 Library 1951 -1952.
 - 7 Mortgage balances December 1949 – October 1950.
 - 8 Mortgage releases November-December 1950.
 - 9 Mortgage releases January – March 1951.
 - 10 Mortgage releases April – May 1951.
 - 11 Mortgage releases June – July 1951.
 - 12 Mortgage releases September – November 1951, January – May 1952.
 - 13 Plaque, Meierjohan-Wengler.
 - 14 Publicity report 1951- 1952.
 - 15 Plaza, museum 1946 – 1947.
 - 16 Plaza, museum 1948 – 1950.
 - 17 Plaza, museum 1951 – 1952.

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- 18 Schirr, Joseph correspondence 1946-1951.
 - 19 Seawall 1950-1953.
 20. Signage 1948 – 1949.
 - 21 Silver inventory ca 1948.
 22. State Improvement Commission 1948-1951.
 23. Collections, Stokvis, Paul M. 1951 – 1952.
 24. Trust funds 1948 – 1949.
 25. Miscellaneous Blanding records, 1947.
- 5 Administrative files
- 1 Austin, A. E., Jr. director, 1954.
 - 2 Dorra, Henri, 1953 – 1954.
 - 3 Montgomery, John E., Florida Board of Control, 1953.
 - 4 Montgomery, John E., Florida Board of Control, 1954.
 - 5 Montgomery, John E., Florida Board of Control, 1955.
 - 6 Selby, C.A., 1953.

For additional information see:

Records of the State Board of Control

Records of the Governing Boards

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