## ARCH: AERO

Aerocem Ltd: Photos, articles & advertisements re the company founded to exploit the uses of sprayed aerated concrete, c.1951-1968

Compiled by Robert Sharp ARCH : AERO

Aerocem Ltd. was established in 1947 by Eugene Mollo, initially for exploiting the uses to which the spraying of aerated concrete could be put. An article in Overseas Engineer described the process and soon continued research and development made possible many new applications of the technique.

Air-entrained concrete is made by adding detergent to the mix. The result is not high-strength concrete, but the material is very weather resistant and has good heat insulation properties.

With the methods and equipment evolved by Aerocem Ltd., structural work could be speedily carried out, even by unskilled labour, to produce complete buildings meeting many requirements. These applications and properties proved of great interest and benefit overseas, particularly in Commonwealth countries.

Largely because of the lack of structural strength the sprayed concrete was often not all that lasting and the company failed in the 1970s, especially under pressure from Gunite Ltd., a major exponent of sprayed concrete and a principal contemporary rival of Aerocem Ltd.

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AERO 1	1951 Dec 1968 Dec	Album containing British and foreign offprints of articles from periodicals; advertisements; brochures; operating booklets; reports etc. (136 pp of the 280 page album contain items although 46 pp of items are loose.)
AERO 2	1950s – 1960s	Photograph albums shewing projects involving the process in Britain and abroad.
2/1		26 photos including work in Japan, Canada, France
2/2		31 photos including work in India, Canal
2/3		Zone, Cyprus, Malaya, (Senegal) 6 photos including work in Netherlands, Canada