



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Fires and Firefighting

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Fires

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Fires and Firefighting
Date:	1886-1964 undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Fires
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	1.49 Cubic feet (consisting of 3 boxes, 1 folder, 5 oversize folders, 1 map case folder, plus digital images of some collection material.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Fires and Firefighting</i> forms part of the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, Subseries 1.1: Subject Categories. The Subject Categories subseries is divided into 470 subject categories based on those created by Mr. Warshaw. These subject categories include topical subjects, types or forms of material, people, organizations, historical events, and other categories. An overview to the entire Warshaw collection is available here: Warshaw Collection of Business Americana

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Fires and Firefighting is a portion of the Business Ephemera Series of the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, Accession AC0060 purchased from Isadore Warshaw in 1967. Warshaw continued to accumulate similar material until his death, which was donated in 1971 by his widow, Augusta. For a period after acquisition, related materials from other sources (of mixed provenance) were added to the collection so there may be content produced or published after Warshaw's death in 1969. This practice has since ceased.

Materials in the Archives Center

Archives Center Collection of Business Americana (AC0404)

Forms Part Of

Forms part of the [Warshaw Collection of Business Americana](#) .

- [Series 1: Business Ephemera](#)
- [Series 2: Other Collection Divisions](#)
- [Series 3: Isadore Warshaw Personal Papers](#)
- [Series 4: Photographic Reference Material](#)

Processing Information

In 2016, with funding provided by the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund, the Archives Center at the National Museum of American History implemented the use of minimal level processing standards to increase information about and facilitate access to more of our collections. A large portion of stored material from the original acquisition received minimal level processing, which resulted in additions to this Subject category. This effort included basic arrangement and replacement of non-archival housing for long-term stability, but staples and other fasteners have not all been removed. Revisions to the encoded finding aid were made to reflect the added content in context to the previously processed material.

Minimal level processing and enhancement of the machine-readable finding aid completed by Nicole Blechynden, September 2017.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Fires and Firefighting, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Some items may be restricted due to fragile condition.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Scope and Contents

This material consists primarily of scattered correspondence on letterhead stationery, trade catalogues, advertising cards, bills/receipts, badges, business cards, photographs, lithographs, caricatures, invitations, announcements, patents, articles, reports, pamphlets, periodicals, programs, and printed advertisements from manufacturers and distributors of equipment and supplies for firemen including fire extinguishers, ladders, exhaust fans, caps, hoses and fire engines. There is also material from insurance companies for firemen, firemens' associations and activities such as firemens' balls, parades and picnics. There is very little information on supplies for the public or domestic use. Most of the material is directed to the firefighting profession. There are a number of images of major fires. Products are fireproof metal ceiling, walls steel shelving, steel cabinets, steel lockers and Kalamein doors.

Materials in box one and the beginning of box two are organized by name of company. The remaining folders in box two and box three are arranged by type including general images, patents and related publications.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Doors
- Engines
- Fans
- Firefighters
- Fires

Ladders

Types of Materials:

Business ephemera
Ephemera

Container Listing

Business Records, Marketing Material, and Other, 1886-1964

Subseries 1: Manufacturers and Distributors of Firefighting Equipment and Insurance Materials

Box 1, Folder 1	Aetna Fire Engine Company, Fulton, New York
Box 1, Folder 2	Ahrens Fire Engine Company, Cincinnati, Ohio
Box 1, Folder 3	Ahrens-Fox Fire Engine Company, Cincinnati, Ohio
Box 1, Folder 4	Ajax Fire Engine Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 5	Alert Engine Company
Box 1, Folder 5	Allen, W. D. Manufacturing Company, Chicago, Illinois
Box 1, Folder 6	American Fire Engine Co., Seneca Falls, New York
Box 1, Folder 7	American Fire Hose Manufacturing Company, Chelsea, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 8	American LaFrance Fire Engine Company
Box 1, Folder 9	American Fomon Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 10	Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, Manchester, New Hampshire
Box 1, Folder 10	Architectural Fireproofing Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 11	Automatic Signal Telegraph Company
Box 1, Folder 11	Automatic Sprinkler Company of America, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 12	Babcock Fire Extinguisher, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 13	Barnum, E. T. Detroit, Michigan
Box 1, Folder 14	Blaw-Knox Sprinkler Division, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 15	Campbell, I Hose, Company, Schenectady
Box 1, Folder 16	Castle, James M., Incorporated, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 17-18	Childs, O.J., Company, Utica, New York

Box 1, Folder 19	Clapp & Jones, Hudson, New York
Box 1, Folder 20	Columbia Defender Extinguisher Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 21	Consolidated Fire Extinguisher Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 21	Cordley & Hayes, New York
Box 1, Folder 21	Croton Engine Company, New Haven, Connecticut
Box 1, Folder 22	Defender Fire Extinguisher, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 23	Diggs, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 24	Downing, G. H., New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 25	Eclipse Chemical Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 25	Emergency Fire Appliance Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 25	Empire Manufacturing Company, Lockport, New York
Box 1, Folder 26; Oversize 21, Folder 7	Eureka Fire Hose Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 27	Ever Ready Manufacturing Company, Buffalo, New York
Box 1, Folder 28	Fake, J. S. Hook & Ladder Company, Troy, New York
Box 1, Folder 29	Fire & Water, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 30	Fire Extinguisher Manufacturing Company, New York, New York
Oversize 21, Folder 7	Firemans Fund Insurance Company, Chicago, Illinois
Box 1, Folder 31	Fireproof Products Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 32	Fitts, Frank E., Manufacturing & Supply Company, Boston, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 34	Foree Products Company, Chicago, Illinois
Box 1, Folder 34	Forster Manufacturing Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 35	Fyr-Fyter Company, Dayton, Ohio
Box 1, Folder 36	Fyricide Manufacturing Company, New York, New York

Box 1, Folder 37	Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 38	Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 39	General Detroit Corporation, Detroit, Michigan
Box 1, Folder 40	General Fireproofing Bldg. Products, Youngstown, Ohio
Box 1, Folder 41	General Fire Truck Corporation, Detroit, Michigan
Box 1, Folder 42	Grether Manufacturing Company, Dayton, Ohio
Oversize 21, Folder 7	Hall Brothers, Boston, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 43	Harden Fire Extinguisher Company, Chicago, Illinois
Oversize 21, Folder 7	Harden Hand Grenade Fire Extinguisher Company, Chicago, Illinois
Box 1, Folder 43	Harris Safety Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 44	Hayward Hand-Grenada Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 45	Higgins, Paul D., Costigan, Maine
Box 1, Folder 46	Holloway, Chas. T., Baltimore, Maryland
Box 1, Folder 47	Knowlton, D & C., Camden, New Jersey
Box 1, Folder 48	Leverich, Edwd B., Brooklyn, New York
Box 1, Folder 48	Lewis, P.C., Catskill, New York
Box 1, Folder 49; Oversize 21, Folder 7	Johns-Manville H. W. & Co., Boston, Massachusetts Notes: Fire Distinguishers and Conservation Products
Box 1, Folder 50	McCloskey Torch Company, Toledo, Ohio
Box 1, Folder 50	Migeod, J. M.& Son, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 51	Municipal Signal Company, Boston, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 52	New England Fire Engine Hose Manufacturing Company, New York, New York
Box 1, Folder 52	New England Linen Hose Manufacturing Company, Boston, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 53	New York State Drain Tile & Fire Proofing Works, Albany, New York

Box 1, Folder 54	Newton, R. W., Providence, Rhode Island
Box 1, Folder 54	Penn Metal Company of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Box 2, Folder 1; Oversize 21, Folder 7	Pyrene Manufacturing Company, Newark, New York Notes: Fire Extinguishers
Box 2, Folder 2	Rice, T. C. & Company, Worcester, Massachusetts
Box 2, Folder 3	Rowe, A. C. & Son, New York, New York
Box 2, Folder 4	Rumsey & Company
Box 2, Folder 5	Seneca Falls, New York
Box 2, Folder 6	Safety Fire Extinguisher Company, New York, New York
Box 2, Folder 7	Silsby Manufacturing Company, Seneca Falls, New York
Box 2, Folder 8	Sparrow, John, Portland, Oregon
Box 2, Folder 8	Spawn, A. F. & Company, New York
Box 2, Folder 9	Steiner
Box 2, Folder 10	Waterous Engine Works Company, Saint Paul, Minnesota
Box 2, Folder 11	Webb Motorfire Apparatus Company, St. Louis, Missouri
Oversize 21, Folder 8	Trojan Fire Prevention Corporation, New York, New York

Subseries 2: Publications

Box 2, Folder 14	Related Articles
Box 2, Folder 15	Related Journals
Box 2, Folder 16	Related Periodicals
Oversize 21, Folder 8	Fire and Water, 1894 August 25
Oversize 21, Folder 8	This Week Magazine, 1955 October 16
Box 2	Related Books

Subseries 3: General Works

Box 2, Folder 12	Fire Departments
Box 2, Folder 13	Constitutions and ByLaws
Box 2, Folder 14	Insurance Companies
Box 2, Folder 15-16	Photographs
Box 2, Folder 17-23; Oversize 21, Folder 8; Oversize 102, Folder 9	General Images
Box 2, Folder 24	Postcards
Box 2, Folder 25	Ball Invitations and Programs
Box 2, Folder 26	Ball Programs
Box 2, Folder 27	Business Cards
Box 2, Folder 28	Badges
Box 2, Folder 29	Invitations, Announcements and Tickets
Box 2, Folder 30	Official Documents
Box 3, Folder 1-3	Patents
Box 3, Folder 4	Certificates of Appointments and Services
Box 3, Folder 5	Certificates of Membership
Box 3, Folder 6-7	Associations
Box 3, Folder 8	Souvenir Programs
Box 3, Folder 9	Addresses
Box 3, Folder 10	Sermons
Box 3, Folder 11	Reports
Box 3, Folder 12	Manuals

Box 3, Folder 13	Related Pamphlets
Box 3, Folder 23-28	Miscellaneous
Box 3, Folder 29	Visual References
Oversize 21, Folder 7; Oversize 102, Folder 9	Fighter Certifications
Box SUPP 13, Folder 14	General, Fires and Firefighting, 1886-1964 Notes: Advertisements for fire escapes, plus chimney and flue repair. Illustration of a horse drawn fire wagon. Article reprint on fire hazards related to aerosol sprays, news clippings, business correspondence.
Map-folder 2	Fires and Firefighting

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