



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Warsaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Hardware

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Hardware

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Collection Overview

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Repository: | Archives Center, National Museum of American History |
| Title: | Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Hardware |
| Identifier: | NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Hardware |
| Date: | 1776-1967 (bulk 1830-1930) |
| Extent: | 6.14 Cubic feet (consisting of 13.5 boxes, 1 folder, 2 oversize folders.) |
| Creator: | Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969 |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Hardware</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

Hardware 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.

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.

For this subject, minimal processing included arrangement to the folder level, based on prior processing and preservation action, with retention of the pre-existing arrangement when possible, if applicable. Otherwise, an order was imposed by the Processing Archivist. Some materials were consolidated to eliminate excess bulk but items within folders were not arranged further. The guide may or may not include a more refined list of folder contents. Nonarchival housing was replaced for long-term stability, but staples and other fasteners have not all been removed.

Minimal level processing and machine-readable finding aid completed by Nicole Blechynden, 2016 October.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Hardware, 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

Hardware covers a broad scope of products, tools, and equipment made of metal, and both functional (nails, bolts) and ornamental (drawer pulls, plates) uses of metals.

The majority of materials in this series are business transaction records related to the sale and transport of hardware items. There is also a sampling of advertisements and illustrated product guides. A few patent documents are present. However, there are no extensive runs or complete records exist for any single company or brand, and no particular depth is present for any singular subtopic, though some publications may provide general and historical overviews of a person, company, or facet of industry.

With the industries and trades represented in this category, there is significant overlap with *Tools*, *Instruments*, and *Mensuration*.

Arrangement

Hardware is arranged in three subseries.

- Business Records and Marketing Material
- Genre
- Subject

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Consumer goods -- Catalogs
- Decoration and ornament
- Decoration and ornament, Architectural
- Hardware stores -- 1860-1870 -- Pennsylvania
- Hardware stores -- 1870-1880
- Mail-order business -- Catalogs
- Patents
- Retail trade
- Sales promotion
- Tools
- Trade associations
- advertising -- Business ephemera

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Advertising
- Advertising cards
- Advertising fliers
- Advertising mail
- Business cards
- Business ephemera
- Business letters
- Business records
- Catalogs
- Catalogues
- Commercial catalogs
- Commercial correspondence
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Illustrations
- Invoices
- Labels
- Legal documents
- Letterheads
- Mail order catalogs
- Manuals
- Manufacturers' catalogs
- Periodicals
- Print advertising
- Printed ephemera
- Printed material
- Printed materials
- Publications
- Publications -- Business
- Receipts
- Reports
- Sales catalogs

Sales letters
Sales records
Trade cards
Trade catalogs
Trade literature

Container Listing

Business Records and Marketing Material, 1776-1967

Arrangement is by company or proprietor name.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1-2 | A, 1835-1938 Includes Albany Hardware and Iron Company, American Screw Company. |
| Box 1, Folder 3-5 | B, 1776-1956 (bulk 1840-1900) Includes Bowlby and Brenner, Biddle Hardware Company. |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | B, 1776-1956 (bulk 1840-1900) Includes Biddle Hardware Company, Lewis Benedict and Son, Bittenbender and Company, William Blair and Company. |
| Oversize 107, Folder 4 | Boston Bolt Company, undated Illustrated guide sheets to products. |
| Oversize 24, Folder 5 | Boston Bolt Company, undated Illustrated guide sheet to products. |
| Box 2, Folder 2-4 | C, 1818-1938 Contains many instances of Calender and... variances on Perkins Block. Catalogues from Chicago House Wrecking Company. |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | D, 1791-1940 (bulk 1840-1905) |
| Box 3, Folder 1 | E, 1845-1938 |
| Oversize 107, Folder 4 | Etscheid, H.W., undated Promotional 3-dimensional, colorized molded paper with tabbed interlocking tray to hold paper letter/card with elk motif advertising the goods of Etscheid's Hardware store. |
| Box 3, Folder 2-3 | F, 1838-1927 Includes A. Field and Sons, Field and Hardie, H.L. Fox and Company, a Force and Company illustrated catalogue (1893). |
| Box 3, Folder 4 | G, 1834-1927 |
| Box 3, Folder 5 | H, 1829-1923 Includes Hoopes and Townsend, Hibbard and Spencer varients, U.T. Hungerford Brass and Copper Company, Hubbard and Company. |
| Box 4, Folder 1-4 | H, 1829-1923 |

Includes Hoopes and Townsend, Hibbard and Spencer variants, U.T. Hungerford Brass and Copper Company, Hubbard and Company, Handy and Brenner variants, Howe and Brown.

- Box 4, Folder 5 I, 1858-1908
Includes H.B. Ives Company, Inbusch Brothers, and the Iron and Steel Consumers' Association Proceedings (1874 January 21).
- Box 4, Folder 6 J, 1823-1894
- Box 4, Folder 7 K, 1845-1925 (bulk 1850-1896)
Includes Keith Benham and Dezendorf.
- Box 5, Folder 1-3 L, 1819-1927 (bulk 1825-1915)
Lyon and Fellows Manufacturing Company, Logan Gregg and Company, F.L. Luddington, Lourderback Gilbert and Company, Leach and Morrison, Lane Brothers, Lake Erie Iron Company, Joseph Lewis Company catalogues (1925-1927).
- Box 5, Folder 4-5 M, 1838-1927
Includes Samuel May and Company variants, Markt and Company, Milton Manufacturing Company.
- Box 6, Folder 1-2 M, 1838-1927
Includes Samuel May and Company variants, Markt and Company, Milton Manufacturing Company with also a catalogue (1896), Massillon Iron and Steel Company catalogue (1903), Montgomery and Company catalogue (1890), Murray Company catalogues (1925, 1927-1928).
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 Marsellus, John and Company, undated
Illustrated sheet/page with decorative thumb screws and plates.
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 McGill's Patent T Fasteners, undated
- Box 6, Folder 3 N, 1838-1905
Includes Nashua Lock Company catalogue (1870), Neal and Brinker Holiday Goods catalogue featuring Keen Kutter products (undated), New England Screw Company, John Nazro and Company, New England Butt Company.
- Box 6, Folder 4 O, 1838-1905
Includes Oakley and Fox catalogues (1849, 1851), John H. Obold and Company, Old Guilford Forge catalog (undated).
- Box 6, Folder 5 P, 1790-1961 (bulk 1830-1920)
Includes Peavy Brothers, William Pickett and Son, Providence Forge and Nut Company, John Pritzlaff, John W.S. Pierson and Company, Pratt and Company, A.H. Pomeroy catalogue (1884), Payson Manufacturing Company catalogue (undated), H.T. Patterson and Company catalogs (circa 1883), Perkins Marine

Lamp and Hardware Company catalogue (1951), James Peters and Son
Colonial Hardware catalogue (undated), Phoenix Hardware Company catalogue
(1936).

- Box 7, Folder 1-2 P, 1790-1961
- Box 7, Folder 3 Q, 1851-1886
Includes Quackenbush Townsend and Company, Quincy and Delapierre, John
W. Quincy.
- Box 7, Folder 4-6 R, 1825-1967
Includes Recto and Wilhelmy Company, Reading Hardware Company, A.J. Roat,
Russel and Erwin Company, John G. Rollins Company, Samuel Roosevelt and
Company, Rice and Miller Company catalogue (undated), Reed and Prince
Manufacturing Company catalogue (1929), Reading Line catalogue (1913),
Racine Hardware Manufacturing Company (undated).
- Box 8, Folder 1-4 S, 1822-1928
Simmons Hardware Company, J.B. Shannon and Sons, Stanley Rule and Level
Plant, Sargent and Company, Joshua Scholefield and Sons.
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 Smith and Seltzer Sign, undated
On heavy cardstock, multicolor red, white, and blue.
- Box 8, Folder 5 T, 1834-1943
Includes Thacher and Sears, William Thomas and Company.
- Box 9, Folder 1 U, 1871-1911
Includes the United States Company catalogue (1902).
- Box 9, Folder 2 V, 1829-1938
Includes Von Thaden and Meyer catalogue (1926), James M. Vance and
Company and variant Vance and Landis.
- Box 9, Folder 3-5 W, 1823-1928
Includes Wells Brothers Company, Wiley and Russel Manufacturing Company.
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 Wilcox, Crittenden and Company, 1927
Promotional letter with black and white images of the manufacturing plant.
- Box 9, Folder 6 Y, 1828-1912 (bulk 1830-1840)
Includes Benjamin H. Yarnall.
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 Yale Door Closing Devices Brochure, undated
- Box 9, Folder 7 Miscellaneous Business Records, 1851-1892

Contains a few records of ambiguous provenance.

Box SUPP 15, Folder 7 Business Records and Marketing Material, 1834-1939
Two small catalogues for small hardware blind fasteners. Receipts and one piece of correspondence for goods.

Import/Export

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Box 10, Folder 1 | Late 1700s / Early 1800s, 1793, 1821 |
| Box 10, Folder 2 | Early 1830s, 1830-1834 |
| Box 10, Folder 3 | Mid 1830s, 1835 |
| Box 10, Folder 4 | Mid 1830s, 1836 |
| Oversize 107, Folder 4 | Import Document for Hooper, Wolfe and Baker, 1836 March 23 |
| Box 10, Folder 5 | Late 1830s, 1837-1839 |
| Box 10, Folder 6 | 1840s, 1850s, 1840-1849, 1856 |
| Box 10, Folder 7 | 1860s, 1860-1869 |
| Box 11, Folder 1 | 1870s, 1870-1879 |
| Box 11, Folder 2 | 1880s, 1880-1889 |

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Genre, 1856-1948

Catalogues

Note: smaller format catalogues and prices lists can be found in the Business and Marketing Materials section, filed alphabetically by the company name or proprietor's last name.

General

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Box 11, Folder 3 | Consumers Price Guide, 1948 |
| Box 11, Folder 3 | [unknown], undated Section of disbound catalogue, includes some indexing. |
| Oversize 24, Folder 5 | Catalogues and Price Lists, Oversize, 1892-1925 |

Oversize 107, Folder
4

Catalogues and Price Lists, Oversize, 1878, 1886

Pritzlaff, John Hardware Company, undated
Partially bound sections (with portions missing) of extensive, illustrated
catalogue.

Box 11, Folder 4

Index, pp.1-318

Box 11, Folder 5

pp.319-526

Box 12, Folder 1

Index, pp.1-1022, undated

Box 12, Folder 2

Companies S

Scully Steel and Iron Company, 1904, 1901
2 catalogue.

Shannon and Sons, J.B., 1908, 1884-1888
5 catalogues.

Box 12, Folder 3

Companies S , 1884-1943

Shapleigh Hardware Company, 1943

Smith, Chas. J. and Company, 1940-1941
3 catalogues, plus additional price list circulars.

Box 13, Folder 1

Companies S

Snow and Nealley Company, 1916

Stanley Rule and Level Company, 1907

Box 13, Folder 2

Companies W

Warren, J.M. and Company, 1909

Weiland, Chas. Incorporated, 1939

Wiley and Russell Manufacturing Company, 1891
4 catalogues.

Williams, J.H. and Company, undated

- Box 13, Folder 3-4 Directory Listings and Industry Publications, 1878-1956
- Box 13, Folder 5 Images, undated
Illustrations of locks, latches, pulls, hinges, and bolts. Two photographs of hardware stores. Caricatures drawings of industry persons. Postcard of a specialized work table. Sargent's Book of Designs (undated, artistic hardware and fine locks).
- Box 13, Folder 6 Legal, 1873-1891
Various patent documents. Larceny Costs on Plea of Guilty sheet (1873, State vs. Lewis Sockwell, Cumberland, Pennsylvania).
- Box 13, Folder 7 Price Lists, undated
- Box 13, Folder 8 Product Labels, undated
- Oversize 24, Folder 5 Corrected proof sheet for D. Randall branded labels, undated
- Box 14, Folder 1 Reference Guides, 1856, 1887
Modern Machine-Shop Practice...Complete Dictionary of Terms, Illustrated, originally sold on a subscription basis (1887, incomplete - Introductory Material, Part 1, Part 2, a few plates only). *Mechanic's Guide and Workshop Companion* booklet (1856).

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Subject, 1836-1923

- Box 14, Folder 2 Associations and Merchant Support, 1871-1923
By-laws. Merchandizing recommendations.
- Box 14, Folder 3 Historical and General Information, 1836-1909
Reminiscences of One Hundred Years 1809-1909 (1909, P.A. and S. Small). Clippings on nails. Encyclopedia entry on bolts. Clipping on antimony in Illinois (undated).

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