



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

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

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Metals

Vanessa Broussard-Simmons and Nicole Blechynden

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Metals
Date:	1857-1966
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Metals
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	1.86 Cubic feet (consisting of 4 boxes, 1 folder, 2 oversize folders.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Metals</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

Metals 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, 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 collection consists primarily of materials related to the smelting, alloying, manufacturing, distribution, and sale of metals and metal products. Processed metal products covered by the collection include machine tools, dies, and factory equipment; railroad and aircraft parts; metal ceilings and other architectural components, such as columns and grille work; and other items, such as safes and strongboxes. Also covered are brokerage and other firms which operate in the metals market. Types of metals mentioned in the collection include iron, steel, nickel, copper, bronze, gold, tin, lead, and aluminum, as well as various alloys. The collection's materials consist mainly of trade literature, such as catalogs and brochures, as well as correspondence, business cards, customs documents, invoices, order forms, patents, scientific papers and reports, market notices, and industry newsletters. The date span for the collection is 1819-1966, though there is only one item which is older than 1850, and few later than 1950; the bulk of the collection covers the years c1870-c1930. Most firms and other organizations represented in the collection are located in American industrial areas east of the Mississippi, especially New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois. A few items are of foreign origin or from other regions of the United States.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Metals

Types of Materials:

Business ephemera
Ephemera

Container Listing

Business Records, Marketing Material, and Other

Companies and Firms in the Metals Industry, 1819-1966

Scope and Contents: Companies and Firms records include brochures, catalogs, and other forms of trade literature, as well as correspondence, bills, business cards, flyers, circulars, order forms, and other paper matter related to companies engaged in the smelting, alloying, processing, manufacturing, distribution, and sale of metals and metal products. Bulk dates for the series are c1860-c1920. The series is arranged in alphabetical order by company name.

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Subseries 2: Organizations and Associations in the Metals Industry, 1919-1966, undated

Scope and Contents: Organizations and Associations materials contain pamphlets, letters, reports, and other items produced by, or relating to, professional organizations or other groups existing in the metals industry, such as the American Society of Metals or the Metal Lath Manufacturers Association. Bulk dates for the series are c1910-c1930s. The material is arranged in alphabetical order by organization name.

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Box 3, Folder 23	Metal Manufacturers Association of Philadelphia, 1914

Subseries 3: General Information Relating to the Metals Industry, 1862-1919, undated

Scope and Contents: General Information has a variety of printed matter concerning the metals industry, including import/export documents and customs forms, patents, caricatures of important figures in the trade, news clippings, and a few images. Bulk dates for the series are c1880s-c1900s. It is arranged in alphabetical order by type of material.

Box 3, Folder 24	Caricatures of Personalities in the Metals Industry, circa 1905
Box 3, Folder 25	Clippings from Newspapers & Other Sources, 1862, 1879-1880, undated
Box 3, Folder 26	Daily Journal [metal broker's journal?] [1864], 1864
Box 4, Folder 1	Images & Product Samples [piece of lead foil], 1819-1966, undated Notes: Paris, France; London, England; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Liverpool, England; New York, New York; Antwerp, Belgium; Madras, India; Fürth, Germany; Munich, Germany; Santiago de Cuba [1868, 1871-1872, 1879, 1882, 1885, 1888, 1894-1895, 1897-1899]
Box 4, Folder 2	Import Documents & Customs Forms
Box 4, Folder 3	Patents, 1911, 1919

Subseries 4: Publications, 1878-1946, undated

Scope and Contents: Publications directly or indirectly relate to the metals industry, such as scientific reports and papers, investment prospectus, advertisements for new journals and books, and reference guides to various aspects of metal manufacturing or processing. Bulk dates for the series are c1890s-1910, and it is arranged alphabetically by type of publication.

Box 4, Folder 4	Machinery's Reference Series, 1908-1909, 1911 Notes: nos. 11, 13, 17, 19, 22, 24, 35, 39
Box 4, Folder 5	Machinery's Reference Series, 1909-1911 Notes: nos. 40, 48, 50, 56, 58, 66-68
Box 4, Folder 6	Misc. publications & related items, 1881, 1926, 1946, undated
Box 4, Folder 7	Scientific articles & pamphlets relating to metal processing or properties, 1878, 1884, 1910-1911
Box SUPP 18, Folder 6	Business Record, Marketing Materials, Trade Literature, 1857-1954 Notes: Includes a catalogue for metal ceiling tiles and a copy of the quarterly P.I.Q. (1954, September) published by the International Nickel Company, Incorporated.
Box 4, Item Enclosures (10)	Diary Journals, 1857-1880 Notes: Ten noncontiguous dairies of an unspecified business man in the the metals industry containing business notes, pricing, calculations, and bookkeeping entries. Also included are notes of a personal nature, details of some community facets, news clippings, health tracking, transcriptions of article excerpts and correspondence, and other tangential matters. Accompanied by some hand written staff research notes in a separate folder within the box.
Oversize 133, Folder 3	Metals

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