



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Petroleum

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Petroleum

Max Howell

Funding for partial processing of the collection was supported by a grant from the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund (CCPF).

2017 March

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Petroleum
Date:	1838-1981
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Petroleum
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	4.38 Cubic feet (consisting of 9.5 boxes, 4 oversize folders, 1 map case folder.)
Language:	Collection is primarily in English, though contains French, German, and Japanese language material.
Summary:	A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Petroleum</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

Petroleum 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 lists of folder contents. Non-archival 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 Max Howell, 2017 March.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Petroleum, 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

The subject category Petroleum relates to the manufacturing, refining, and sales of petroleum and other oil-based products including use in motors, spindles machinery, cylinders and by painters

Within these materials there exists producer and supplier overlap with other fuel, oil, and lubricant product lines such as linseed, rosin, whale, and refined vegetable oils. See also subject categories Automobile Industry, Aviation, Coal, Engines, Gas, Oils and Lubricants, plus other related topics, as applicable.

Petroleum includes business records, serial publications, guides and histories of specific companies, patents, images, realia, as well as widely-varied subject records. Business records also include import and export documentation and records of patents. Oversize material included with the series comprises of additional serial publications and business records.

Material related to specific subject areas provide overviews of several subjects pertaining to the petroleum industry. This includes the general history of the petroleum industry, chemistry and science related aspects of oil recovery and production, and literature about aspects of the petroleum trade intended for tradesmen. Materials extend to gas and electric companies, the automobile, aviation, and maritime industries, as well as addressing issues within the oil recovery trade such as procedures, storage equipment, and balancing safety and cost considerations.

No particular depth is present for any singular subtopic though Petroleum offers a breadth of general information about various aspects of the petroleum and its related industries.

Arrangement

Petroleum is arranged in three series.

- 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:

- Automobile industry and trade
- Automobile supplies industry
- Automobiles
- Coal
- Cotton industry
- Distillation, Fractional
- Engines, automobile
- Exports -- 19th century
- Filters and filtration
- Gas
- Gas industry
- Gasoline
- Importers
- Lubrication and lubricants
- Marine engineering
- Marine engines
- Marine machinery
- Mines
- Oil
- Oil fields
- Oil industries
- Oil spills
- Oil well drilling rigs
- Oil wells
- Oil-shale industry
- Petroleum -- Distillation
- Petroleum -- Prospecting
- Petroleum chemicals
- Petroleum industry
- Petroleum industry and trade
- Petroleum refineries
- Petroleum, Synthetic
- Synthetic lubricants
- Whaling
- advertising -- Petroleum industry and trade

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Advertising
- Advertising cards
- Advertising fliers
- Advertising mail
- Business cards
- Business ephemera
- Business letters

Business records
Caricatures
Commercial correspondence
Correspondence
Design patents
Ephemera
Illustrations
Invoices
Legal documents
Letterheads
Manuals
Newsletters
Patents
Periodicals
Photographs
Print advertising
Printed ephemera
Printed material
Printed materials
Publications
Publications -- Business
Receipts
Reports
Technical manuals -- 20th century
Technical reports

Names:

Esso Standard Oil Company
Standard Oil Company

Container Listing

Business Records and Marketing Material, 1838-1981

Scope and Contents: Contains business records of merchants and manufacturers of petroleum products or related services, advertisements, import and export documents, and correspondence. The Standard Oil Company, Texaco Incorporated, and the New York Central Railroad are represented, though no complete or substantial amount of records exist for any single company. Material where businesses could not be discerned have been filed under Miscellaneous.

Box 1, Folder 1	A, 1855-1929, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	B, 1854-1928, undated
Box 1, Folder 3-4	C, 1853-1981, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	D, 1849-1897, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	E, 1861-1960, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	F, 1846-1912, undated
Map-folder 9	Frazer Lubricator Company, undated Notes: Three advertising posters.
Box 2, Folder 1	G, 1860-1927, undated
Map-folder 9	Gulf Refining Company, 1916 Notes: Advertising poster and images.
Box 2, Folder 2	H, 1861-1918, undated
Map-folder 9	Hoffman Oil and Refining Corporation, 1916, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	I-J, 1858-1924
Box 2, Folder 4	K, 1856-1932, undated
Box 2, Folder 5	L, 1853-1901, undated
Box 2, Folder 6	M, 1850-1930, undated
Map-folder 9	Moon Engineering Comp, undated Notes: Advertising poster for marine finish.
Box 2, Folder 7	N, 1838-1914, undated

Map-folder 9	Noble Piano Company, 1927
Box 2, Folder 8	O, 1861-1923, undated
Box 2, Folder 9	P, 1858-1928, undated
Box 3, Folder 1	Q-R, 1847-1912, undated
Map-folder 9	Reeder's American Cold Japan, 1877 Notes: Pamphlet.
Box 3, Folder 2-5	S, 1850-1960, undated
Map-folder 9	Socony Gasoline and Motor Oil, 1828 Notes: Advertisement poster.
Map-folder 9	Sun Company, undated Notes: Advertising poster. Bilingual poster with English and Japanese.
Box 3, Folder 6	T, 1860-1949, undated
Box 4, Folder 1	T, 1860-1949, undated
Box 4, Folder 2	U, 1860-1947, undated
Box 4, Folder 3	V, 1862-1954, undated
Box 4, Folder 4	W-Z, 1843-1926
Box 4, Folder 5	Miscellaneous, 1857, undated
	Shipping Records, 1840-1934
Box 4, Folder 6-7	Domestic Rail, 1853-1908 Notes: Most invoices and receipts are from the New York Central Railroad Company, as well as trace amounts of other rail companies hired to transport petroleum products.
Box 4, Folder 8	Import / Export, 1840-1934
Box 5, Folder 1-3	Import / Export, 1840-1934
Box 6, Folder 1	Import / Export, 1840-1934
Box 6, Folder 2	Correspondence, Warshaw, 1958, undated

Oversize 47, Folder 4-5 Oversize Business Records and Marketing Material, 1864-1931
Notes: Contains stock share records and advertisements.

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Genre, 1865-1966

Scope and Contents: Contains serial publications produced and intended for the oil industry, stock shares, visual material, commemorative stamps, patents, company guides, oil machinery designs, government reports, and realia in the form of a pendant and commemorative coin.

Box 6, Folder 3 Company Guides, 1899-1966
Notes: Includes historical overviews of companies, background on public opinion of certain companies, and descriptions of land and processes used by specific companies. Standard Oil Company is significantly represented.

Box 6, Folder 4 Designs, 1865, undated
Notes: Contains designs of products such as cross oil filters, transmission filters, thermo-syphon cooling system components, cellar tanks, drip pans, lubricator or tallow cups, and mining and petroleum engines.

Box 6, Folder 5 Government Reports, 1882-1920
Notes: Reports to the State Board of Health of New York, the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, and the Department of the Interior Bureau of Mines. Subjects cover the methods and apparatus for testing inflammable oils, resources in West Virginia, and the effects of gasoline removal on the heating value of natural gas.

Box 6, Folder 6 Images and Poems, undated
Notes: Contains images of beached whales, oil fields, oil wells, oil tank fires, caricatures, cartoons that include images of oil, houses of notable people in the industry, and a land map. Also contains lyrics and a poem.

Box 6, Folder 7 Intellectual Property, 1881-1887
Notes: Includes trademarks and patents for Kerosene and Lubricator.

Box 7, Folder 1 Realia, undated
Notes: Contains a Shell Corporation seashell pendant and a Hyvis Motor Oils commemorative coin.

Box 7, Folder 2-6 Serial Publications, 1887-1965

Bakelite Review, 1952 July
Notes: Volume 24, Number 2.

Cavalier, 1912

Notes: Three issues. 1912 September 21, 1912 September 28, 1912 October 12.

Europe and Oil, 1963 January

Notes: News Magazine for European Oil and Gas Economy. Contains German and French text.

New York Herald Tribune, 1933 November 14

Notes: Article titled "What a Coach! Will Rogers On the Air." Author unattributed.

Oil Investors' Review, 1919 December

Notes: Published by the Selway Petroleum Company.

On Tour, 1940-1954

Notes: 70 issues. 1940 (8 issues, February-December), 1941 (7 issues, February-December), 1942 (10 issues, January-December), 1944 (10 issues, January-December), 1949 (12 issues, January-December), 1950 (7 issues, January-November), 1951 (2 issues, April and December), 1952 (9 issues, January-December), 1953 (3 issues, January, July, and September), 1954 (2 issues, July-August).

Some issues are multimonth as published.

Box 8, Folder 1-3

Serial Publications, 1887-1965

Bulletin of Purdue University, 1927 March

Notes: Volume 11, Number 6. Publications of the Engineering Departments. Article titled "Carburetion of Kerosene" by C.S. Kegerreis, H.A. Huebotter, and M.J. Zucrow.

Chambers's Journal, 1887 January 01

Notes: Fifth series, Part 36.

Collector's Journal, 1933

Notes: Volume 4, Number 1. Cover of issue.

Gas Review, 1908-1915

Notes: Five issues. 1908 March, 1915 August.

Lamp, 1952-1972

Notes: Five issues. 1952 December (2 copies), 1955 June, 1957, 1972 Summer.

Lubrication, 1917-1925

Notes: 10 regular issues (one each): 1917 January, 1917 March, 1920 July, 1921 February, 1921 April, 1921 May, 1921 June, 1921 August, 1922 April, 1925 May. Plus a reprint issue (two copies) containing articles that originally appeared in the March and April

1917 issues: "The Seal Theory" by W.F. Parish, and "Report on the Examination of the Maxwell Car which Made the Trip from Coast to Coast and Back Again" by B.B. Lipsner.

Official Publication of Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts,
1914 July 10

Notes: Volume 13, Number 6. Article titled "Illuminating Power of Kerosenes" by William Kunerth.

Oil, 1955-1965

Notes: Two issues. 1955 May, 1965 October.

Oil Power, 1930-1931

Notes: Two issues. 1930 December, 1931 January.

Petroleum Idea, 1903-1904

Notes: Two issues. 1903 August, 1904 January.

Picture News, 1949

Notes: Volume 13, Number 5.

Saturday Evening Post, 1920 May 29

Service Factor, 1952

Notes: Volume 17, Second Edition.

Socony-Vacuum News, 1949 October

Texaco Star, 1937-1950

Notes: Five issues. 1937, 1948 Fall, 1949 Summer, 1949 Winter, 1950 Winter.

Union Oil News, 1921

Notes: Two issues. 1921 January, 1921 February.

Oversize 157, Folder
3

Serial Publications, undated

Pine Valley Oil News, undated

Notes: Volume 1, Number 2. Folder also includes advertisements.

Oversize 157, Folder
4

Serial Publications, 1939-1959

On Tour, 1939-1940

Notes: 11 issues. 1939 March, 1939 April, 1939 May, 1939 June, 1939 July, 1939 August, 1939 September, 1939 October, 1939 November, 1939 December, 1940 January.

Bayway Refiner, 1959 September 11
Notes: Volume 6, Number 7.

Map-folder 9 Daily Graphic, 1885
Notes: Two issues. 1885 August 22, 1885 November 20.

Box 8, Folder 4 Stamps, undated

Box 8, Folder 5 Stocks and Bonds, 1912-1931
Notes: Certificates and gold note coupons.

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Subject, 1865-1962

Box 9, Folder 1 Automobiles and Petroleum, 1891-1948, undated
Notes: Contains literature for automobile owners on basic maintenance particularly as it pertains to oil services.

Map-folder 9 Price list of gas in the United States and Canada, undated

Map-folder 9 Nicolas Mehlen Yearly and Monthly Statistics of Petroleum, 1876-1882, 1882
Notes: Includes statistics of barrels of petroleum produced or recovered, and prices.

Box 9, Folder 2 Aviation and Maritime, 1929-1942, undated
Notes: Contains material primarily about aviation and maritime subjects that are published by oil companies. Materials include the role of aviation in war, and recreational flying or boating.

Box 9, Folder 3-4 Chemistry of Petroleum Processes, 1893-1945
Notes: Contains petroleum-based scientific research on such topics as the isogeotherm hypothesis of mineral occurrence and origin of petroleum, developments of carbon black, distillation of shale, cracked gasoline production processes, effective lubrication, the decomposition of polymerization of olefinic hydrocarbons, and the general science of oil recovery.

Box 9, Folder 5 History of Petroleum Industry, 1865-1962
Notes: Contains historiographical information about gasoline, petroleum, coal, whale oil, vegetable oil, oil refining, trading, the development of processes, and the evolution of the general fuel industry. Contains French language material.

Map-folder 9 Petroleum: Discovery and Production, 1946
Notes: Educational pamphlet.

Box 9, Folder 6 Regional Oil Production, 1920-1942
Notes: Contains geographic profiles of oil fields or oil-rich regions. Locations include Oklahoma, California, New Orleans, Texas, and South America.

Map-folder 9 Shell Corporation Map of New Orleans, undated

Box 9, Folder 7 Tradesmen Literature, 1891-1959, undated
Notes: Contains publications intended for individuals working in the petroleum industry. This includes scholarly papers, committee reports presented to professional organizations, and standardized procedure descriptions. Topics include automobile engine design, factoring safety and cost in considering cracking equipment, converting cotton oil to gasoline, the decline of oil wells, and the depletion of tax provisions for the petroleum industry.

Box 10, Folder 1-2 Tradesmen Literature, 1891-1959, undated

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