



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Shears and Scissors

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Shears

Max Howell

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Shears and Scissors
Date:	1844-1948
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Shears
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	0.25 Cubic feet (consisting of .5 box, 1 folder.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	<p>A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Accounting and Bookkeeping</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</p>

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Shears and Scissors 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 by Max Howell, 2017 February.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Shears and Scissors, 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

Shears and Scissors contains material pertaining to merchants who either specialized in manufacturing shears and scissors, or who sold them alongside additional products. The bulk of material is company advertisements, records of purchases, and business correspondence.

No comprehensive records of any single company are represented within the records, with the exception of a historical overview of the J. Wiss and Sons Company that provides an overarching company narrative.

Arrangement

Shears and Scissors is arranged in two subseries.

Business Records and Marketing Material Subject

- Business Records and Marketing Material
- 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
Garment cutting
Scissors and shears
Shears

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Advertising
- Advertising cards
- Advertising fliers
- Advertising mail
- Business cards
- Business ephemera
- Business letters
- Business records
- Catalogs
- Catalogues
- Commercial correspondence
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Invoices
- Letterheads
- Print advertising
- Printed ephemera
- Publications
- Publications -- Business
- Receipts
- Sales catalogs

Container Listing

Business Records and Marketing Material, 1844-1908, undated

Scope and Contents: Contains correspondence, advertisements, and purchase orders from several manufacturers and distributors of shears and scissors. Records and marketing material for proprietorships may be filed under either the first or last name of the individual, researchers should look in all applicable alphabetical folders.

Box 1, Folder 1 A-C, 1854-1908, undated

Box 1, Folder 2 D-H, 1859-1907, undated

Box 1, Folder 3 I-T, 1868-1873, undated

Box 1, Folder 4 W, 1844-1887, undated

Box SUPP 27, Folder 11 Trade Cards, undated

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Subject, 1948

Box 1, Folder 5 History of Shears and Scissors, 1948
Notes: Created by the J. Wiss and Sons Company. Publication contains a historical background and development of shears and scissors as well as the founding and development of the J. Wiss and Sons Company.

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