



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

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

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Silver

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Silver
Date:	1823-1947
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Silver
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	2.31 Cubic feet (consisting of 4.5 boxes, 1 folder, 4 oversize folders, 1 map case folder, 1 flat box (partial).)
Language:	English .
Summary:	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

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Silver 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 November.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Silver, 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

Products represented are predominately household, personal item, and religious articles made from silver such as spoons, flatware, wedding silver, bridal sets, cutlery, utensils, drinking mugs, cups, serving ware, vases, center pieces, candle holders and candelabrum, award cups and trophies, coffee and tea sets, jewelry, watches, urns, chandeliers, lamps, other lighting instruments, communion sets, and Ecclesiastical works.

Includes sterling, standard, silver plated, hand wrought silver, silverette, electro plated, with also occasional information pieces on the manufacture, shaping, and care of silver such as melting, spinning, presses and rolls, repoussé work chasing and snarling, and polishing .

Businesses include general merchants, specialty dealers, auction houses, and silversmiths.

Materials represent a sampling of daily transactions such as receipts and invoices for purchases. No extensive runs or complete records exist for any single company, 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.

Arrangement

Silver is arranged in four 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:

- Art auctions
- Auctions
- Candles
- Chandeliers
- Consumer goods -- Catalogs
- Cutlery trade
- Gifts -- 1850-1860
- Implements, utensils, etc.
- Kitchen utensils
- Plates (Tableware)
- Sales promotion
- Silver
- Silverwork
- Tea
- Urns
- Vases
- advertising
- advertising -- Business ephemera

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Auction catalogs
- Business cards
- Business ephemera
- Business letters
- Business records
- Catalogs
- Catalogues
- Commercial catalogs
- Commercial correspondence
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Exhibition catalogs
- Illustrations
- Invoices
- Letterheads
- Mail order catalogs
- Manuals
- Manufacturers' catalogs
- Periodicals
- Print advertising
- Printed ephemera
- Publications -- Business
- Receipts
- Sales catalogs
- Sales letters
- Sales records

Trade cards
Trade catalogs
Trade literature

Names:

Tiffany and Company

Occupations:

Silversmiths

Container Listing

Subseries 1: Business Records and Marketing Material, 1823-1961

Arrangement: Arranged alphabetically by company or proprietor name.

Scope and Contents: Contains transactional documents such as receipts and invoices for goods and services, correspondence, and general marketing material including advertisements, product information, circulars, mailers, and thin catalogues. Some company history or publications may also be present. Most, though not all, businesses are located in the Northeast or Mid-Atlantic regions.

Box 1, Folder 1	A, 1856-1904
Box 1, Folder 2	B, 1847-1927
Box 1, Folder 3	C, 1854-circa 1932
Map-folder 2	California Fruit Growers Exchange, undated Notes: Broadside. Note: mailing-in piece has been cut out.
Box 1, Folder 4	D, 1834-1904
Box 1, Folder 5	E-F, 1858-1908
Box 1, Folder 6	G, 1851-1914
Box 1, Folder 7	H, 1851-1914
Box 1, Folder 8	J-L, 1846-1911, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	M, 1829-circa 1934
Box 1, Folder 10	N-Q, 1829-circa 1934
Box 1, Folder 11	R, 1847-1903
Box 1, Folder 12	Reed and Barton, 1871-1906
Box 1, Folder 13	Rogers and Brother, 1847-1934
Box 2, Folder 1	S, 1832-1932
Box 2, Folder 2	T, 1823-1930 Notes: Towle Manufacturing Company themed their products around Colonial history: Colonial, Georgian, Paul Revere, Newbury, Benjamin Franklin, and LaFayette. This folder has a couple of small advertising pieces. See also the Catalogues for a more extensive representation of the Towle product lines. There are a couple items related to Tiffany's: Tiffany & Company;

Tiffany, Young & Ellis (NY); Tiffany, Reed, & Company (Paris).
See General Publications for book excerpt *A Walk Through Tiffany's*.

Box 2, Folder 3 U-Z, 1829-1920

Box 2, Folder 4 Early Miscellaneous Business Records and Advertisements, 1850-1961
Notes: Mostly handwritten, documenting the transfer and sale of silver products. In some cases the business, proprietor, or customer name is missing or illegible.

Box SUPP 27, Folder 14 Receipt , 1861

Import/Export
Notes: Some places represented: US (Philadelphia, New York), UK (Birmingham, Liverpool, Sheffield), other Europe (Berlin, Amsterdam, Rotterdam).

Box 2, Folder 5 Early 1800s, 1830-1839

Box 2, Folder 6 Mid 1800s, 1847-1867

Box 2, Folder 7 Late 1800s, 1870-1899

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Subseries 2: Genre, 1844-1947

Box 2, Folder 8 Advertising, Trade Cards, undated
Notes: Includes two dealer coins/slugs.

Oversize 186, Folder 2 Advertisements, Oversize, 1927, undated

Oversize 57, Folder 9-11 Advertisements, Oversize, 1856-1947

Box 2, Folder 9 Catalogues, Auction, 1921-1942
Notes: Five illustrated Old English silver catalogues (1933-1938, Christie's). One catalogue on Old English silver (1921, Anderson Galleries). Two excerpted sections of auction catalogues (1941, 1942, source unknown).

Catalogues, Products, 1871-1929

Box 2, Folder 10 A-F, 1871, undated

Bailey and Company, 1871

Notes: Small booklet titled *History of Silver: ancient and modern* containing an abbreviated history followed by an extensive product price list.

Michael C. Fina Company, undated

Box 3, Folder 1 B. Bohrmann Nachfolger , undated
Language: In German.

Box 3, Folder 2 G-L, 1929, 1893

Gorham Manufacturing Company, 1929, 1893
Notes: 4 catalogues.

International Silver Company, undated

Lambert Brothers

Box 3, Folder 3-4 Meriden Britannia Company / Rogers Brothers Manufacturing Company,
1860-1910
Notes: 8 catalogues.

Box 3, Folder 5 M-R , 1890-1923, undated

Mavser Silversmith, undated
Notes: 3 catalogues.

Merwin Wilson Company Incorporated, undated

Nevius Company, 1904

Oneida: Community Plate, 1917, undated
Notes: 2 catalogues.

Oneida Community Limited, 1923
Notes: Small booklet titled *Correct Service for the Formal and Informal Table*.

Rogers Smith and Company, 1890
Notes: Small booklet titled *On the Chafing-Dish* pairing illustrations of their product line with recipes.

Box 4, Folder 1 Reed and Barton Company, 1887-1905
Notes: 5 catalogues.

Oversize 220 Restless and Sleepless Annual Price List, 1900

Box 4, Folder 2 S-Z

Silver Mirror Company Incorporated, undated

Thomas Turner and Company, 1875

Wilson's Sons, Jno. , undated

Towle Manufacturing

Box 4, Folder 3 Colonial, 1910, 1898
Notes: 2 copies (1898). 1 copy 7th edition (1910).

Box 4, Folder 4 Georgian, 1906

Box 4, Folder 5 Paul Revere, 1901
Notes: 1 copy.

Box 4, Folder 5 Newbury, undated
Notes: 2 copies.

Box 4, Folder 6 LaFayette, 1907
Notes: 2 copies.

Box 4, Folder 7 Benjamin Franklin; Book of Solid Silver, 1927, 1905
Notes: 1 catalogue (1905). 1 book (1927).

Oversize 220 Wallace, R. and Son's Manufacturing Company, 1912, circa 1900
Notes: 2 catalogues.

Box 5, Folder 1 Images, undated
Notes: Printed illustrations of items made from silver and their uses including but not limited to serving ware, punch bowls, coffee and tea service, clocks, and flatware.

Oversize 186, Folder 2 Images, Oversize, undated
Notes: Three broadsides showing factories for Simpson, Hall, Miller, and Company; Derby Silver Company; Meriden Britannia Company. Enlarged photographic reprint of John Wigfill and Company knives.

Box 5, Folder 2 Serial Publications, 1844-1927

Atlantic Monthly, "Among the Workers in Silver", 1867 December
Notes: Excerpt, pp. 729-740.

Masterpieces, 1927 June
Notes: Cowell and Hubbard Company. 1 issue: 1927 June, Volume Four, Number Three.

Mentor: Old Silver, 1916 May
Notes: Mentor Association, Incorporated. 1 issue (2 copies): 1916 May 15, Volume 4, Number 7.

Penny Magazine, "A Day at an Electro-Plate Factory", 1844 October
Notes: Excerpt , pp. 417-421.

Town and Country, 1907 May
Notes: Excerpt, p. 17.

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Subseries 3: Subject, 1878-1947

Box 5, Folder 3 Cleaning and Polishing, undated
Notes: Two Oakite silver cleaning plates in original packaging, with instructions.

Box 5, Folder 4 Publications, 1878-1947, undated

General

"A Walk Through Tiffany's", 1878
Notes: Excerpt from *National Repository*, pp. 11-28.

Albany Pewter and Its Makers, 1942

Artists of Georg Jensen Silver, undated
Notes: Includes a price list slip.

Chats About Silver, 1913
Notes: Reed and Barton.

Gorham Chafing Dish Book, undated
Notes: Promotional leather-bound recipe book (Gorham Manufacturing Company).

Refiner of Silver, undated

Silver as a Money Metal, 1893
Notes: An address by Hon. N.P. Hill of Colorado, before the National Bi-Metallic Convention at Chicago.

Story of Sterling, 1947
Notes: Sterling Silversmiths Guild of America.

Box SUPP 27,
Folder 14 Thirty Pieces of Silver and How They Might Have Grown, 1924

Box 5, Folder 5 Warshaw's Use of Collection, 1938, 1936
Notes: Correspondence between Warshaw and W.G. Snow at International Silver Company; Snow offers company history and

print materials in one letter (1836) and rebuffs a solicitation to purchase a book in another (1838).

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Subseries 4: Oversize

Box 57, Folder 9	Ball, Black and Company, Manufacturers and Importers of Silver and Plated Ware, New York, New York
Box 57, Folder 9	Christofle and Compagnie, Paris, France
Box 186, Folder 2	The Derby Silver Company, Manufacturers of Fine Silver Plated Ware, Birmingham, Connecticut
Box 57, Folder 9	The Gorham Company, Silversmiths, New York, New York
Box 57, Folder 10	The Holmes and Edwards Silver Company, Bridgeport, Connecticut
Box 57, Folder 10	Mappin and Webb, London, England
Box 186, Folder 2	Mauser Manufacturing Company, Mount Vernon, New York
Box 186, Folder 2	Meriden Britannia Compan, Manufacturers of Electro Gold and Silver Plate, Meriden, Connecticut
Box 186, Folder 2	The Meriden Silver Plate Company, Chicago, Illinois
Box 57, Folder 10	Oneida Community, Ltd., Oneida, New York
Box 57, Folder 11	Roger Brothers International Silver Company, Meriden, Connecticut
Box 186, Folder 2	Rogers, Williams and Son Silverplate
Box 57, Folder 11	Royal Manufacturing Company, Detroit, Michigan
Box 186, Folder 2	Simpson, Hall, Miller, and Company, NewYork, New York
Box 186, Folder 2	Wigfall, John and Company London, England
Box 57, Folder 11	William Gale and Son, New York, New York

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