



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

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

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Textiles

Nicole Blechynden

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	3
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	6
Subseries : Business Records and Marketing Material, 1784-1956.....	6
Subseries : Genre, 1810-1961.....	12
Subseries : Subject, 1819-1962.....	14

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Textiles
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Textiles
Date:	1784-1970
Extent:	12.77 Cubic feet (consisting of 26.5 boxes, 1 folder, 7 oversize folders, 2 map case folders, 1 flat box (partial), plus digital images of some collection material.)
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Language:	Collection is in English. Some items in French, German, Russian, and Spanish.
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
Digital Content:	Image(s): Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Textiles

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Textiles 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 reservation 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 Nicole Blechynden, 2017 March.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Textiles, 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 material is concentrated on the 19th century United States textile manufacture and trade, and the sale of textiles in the form of bale, bolt, roll, and fabric to commercial vendors or consumers as source material to make other goods. The first series contains day-to-day records of dealers and vendors, plus advertising and marketing material. Artisan and home production of goods are virtually not covered but are a couple of incidental publications related to arts, crafts (rugs, weaving, looms), and more refined work such as tapestry. The import/export of textiles is well represented with a large volume of records, which may also provide some insight into the shipping industry.

There is not much on the infrastructure of the industry in the way of directories, trade journals, trade associations, along with manufacturing and plants, though there are a few examples of each. There are virtually no catalogues, except for a few thin ones that were filed by company name. While not extensive, the sample books and swatches offer a glimpse into product lines. Material types offers limited, specific information on certain varieties such as cotton, wool, linen, rayon, etc. Thread might be incidentally present but is not specifically included since there is already a dedicated subject category for it.

There is a healthy sampling of product labels. A handful of intellectual property related documents cover protections of designs, plus patents and trademarks. There is a small bulk of publications related to tariffs and the wool industry.

Clothing patterns, home economics, sewing and seamstresses, household use of textiles (furniture covering, as a cleaning tool, bedding/pillows, etc.) are not covered within this category. Researchers should also look at any of a number of other Warshaw categories, particularly those related to clothing, hosiery, dry goods, furniture, curtains, etc. for period popularity of certain materials and patterns.

Arrangement

Textiles 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
Cotton
Cotton -- 1890-1910
Cotton growing
Cotton industry
Cotton manufacture
Cotton picking
Cotton picking machinery
Cotton textile industry
Fabrics, including spinning and weaving
Labels -- Design
Patents
Retail trade
Silk industry
Synthetic fabrics
Tapestry
Tapestry -- Design
Tapestry -- Technique
Textile
Textile crafts
Textile design -- United States -- History -- 20th century -- Sources
Textile fabrics
Textile fabrics -- 20th century
Textile fabrics in art
Textile fibers, Synthetic
Textile fibers, Synthetic -- Equipment and supplies
Textile fibers, Synthetic Dyeing
Textile industry
Textile industry -- 1900-1910
Textile manufacture
Textile mills

Textiles -- India
Trade associations
Trademarks -- Design
Wool, Artificial

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
Contracts
Correspondence
Design patents
Designs
Designs (textile)
Ephemera
Exhibition catalogs
Fabrics
Illustrations
Instructional materials
Invoices
Labels
Legal documents
Legal records
Legislation (legal concepts)
Letterheads
Mail order catalogs
Manuals
Manufacturers' catalogs
Patterns
Periodicals
Photographs
Print advertising
Printed ephemera
Printed material
Printed materials
Publications
Publications -- Business
Receipts
Sales catalogs
Sales letters
Sales records
Sample books
Samples

Textiles
Trade cards
Trade catalogs
Trade literature
Trademarks

Container Listing

Business Records and Marketing Material, 1784-1956

Contains a variety of transactional records such as invoices and receipts for goods and products sold, correspondence, trade cards, circulars, company prospectus, embossed letterhead, stock certificates, tax licenses, branded illustrations, thin catalogues, price lists, single samples of fabric. Individual company names are noted when there is a significant volume of documents for that entity.

Arranged by beginning of company name. Items within each folder are roughly alphabetized, but there are exceptions. Proprietorships may be filed under either first or last name, researchers are advised to look in each applicable folder.

Box 1, Folder 1	A-Am, 1840-1933
Box 1, Folder 2	Am-Av, 1844-1927
Box SUPP 31, Folder 12	Appleton Woolen Mills, Message Book for Telephone and Telegraph, 1924, undated Bound monograph, dated page diary.
Box 1, Folder 3	B-Be, 1834-1912
Box 1, Folder 4	Bi-Bo, 1943, 1836-1901
Box 1, Folder 5	Br, 1832-1899 Includes Broadhead and Sons with a number of illustrated flyers and some volume of records for David S. Brown and Company.
Box 2, Folder 1	Br-Bu, 1821-1909, 1958
Box 2, Folder 2	C-Ch, 1950, 1850-1915
Box 2, Folder 3	Ci-CI, 1850-1925
Box 2, Folder 4	Co, 1943, 1830-1911
Box 2, Folder 5	Cr-Cu, 1847-1915 Includes a volume of records for Crompton Loom Works with also two booklets on looms.
Box 3, Folder 1	D-Di, 1841-1895, 1942 Includes Davis and Furber.
Box 3, Folder 2	Do-Du, 1841-1895

Box 3, Folder 3	E-Fa, 1847-1900
Box 3, Folder 4	Fe-Fr, 1852-1896
Box 3, Folder 5	Fr-Gl, 1927, 1829-1927, 1791
Box 4, Folder 1	Go-Ha, 1850-1911
Box 4, Folder 2	Ha, 1842-1899
Box 4, Folder 3	Ha-Ho, 1784, 1837-1912
Box 4, Folder 4	Ho-Ju, 1833-1906, 1915
Box 5, Folder 1	K-La, 1843-1922 Includes a number of records with several variants for the owner(s) Knight.
Box 5, Folder 2	Le-Ly, 1831-1899, 1818
Map-case 2, Drawer 5, Folder 2	Louisville and Madison Woolen Mills, 1889 \$500 bond certificate with \$15 notes (some missing).
Box 5, Folder 3	M-Mi, 1964, 1820-1919
Box 5, Folder 4	Mi-No, circa 1745, 1851-1922
Box 5, Folder 5	O-Pa, 1938, 1850-1938 Includes an OTT and Zimmermann (dealers in foreign and domestic wool) wool dial calculator (1938). Has tag INV 80 80553 Z83.
Box 6, Folder 1	Pa-Po, 1850-1911
Box 6, Folder 2	Pr-Ro, 1847-1910, 1925
Box 6, Folder 3	Ro-Sa, 1833-1887, 1916 This and the following two folders contain a large volume of material for Sawyer's Woolen Mills, especially in regards to correspondence.
Box 6, Folder 4	Sa, 1847-1900
Box 6, Folder 5	Sa, 1850-1899
Box 7, Folder 1	Sa-Sh, 1851-1899

Box 7, Folder 2	Sh-Sm, 1907, 1846-1880 Alfred Slade and Company is significantly represented in this and the next folder.
Box 7, Folder 3	Sm-St, 1948, 1850-1899, 1928
Box 7, Folder 4	St-Ta, 1816-1900
Box 7, Folder 5	Te-Ty, 1843-1899, 1927-1956
Box 8, Folder 1	U-V, 1943-1953, 1853-1910
Box 8, Folder 2	W-Wh, 1836-1912
Box 8, Folder 3	Wh-Wi, 1850-1897, 1912-1931
Box 8, Folder 4	Wi-Ze, 1912, 1918, 1838-1899
Box 24, Folder 8	Account Book of Sawyer, F.A. and J., 1857-1861 Wool dealer.
Box 27, Folder 1	Ledger, Manufacturing, 1885-1887 Gilsum, New Hampshire.
Box SUPP 31, Folder 11	Business Records and Marketing Material, 1828-1904 Receipts for purchase and waste. Marketing materials contain trade cards, novelty fans, and a price list (in Spanish, Habana).
Box 8, Folder 5	Miscellaneous Business Records, 1848-1893 Items for which a company is not indicated or readily identifiable. Contains financial ledger sheets, waste receipts, auction circulars, and production records.
Oversize 62, Folder 1	A-M, Oversize, circa 1860, 1904-1970
Oversize 191, Folder 8	A-M, Oversize, 1867-1933
Oversize 62, Folder 2	N-Z, Oversize, 1852-1947, undated
Oversize 191, Folder 8	N-Z, Oversize, 1862-1920
Map-case 2, Drawer 5, Folder 2	Advertising, Oversize Berkshire Cotton Manufacturing Company, undated

Poster of manufacturing facilities drawing.

Duckworth and Sons, undated

Color poster featuring the Duckworth Broad Fancy Loom.

Whitin's Patent Pick and Spreader, undated

Two copies. Print illustrated of machine.

Import/Export Records

Records are typically bundled with an adhesive, fastener, or ribbon though many singular items exist or have been separated from their associated packets over time. Wax or affixed seals, often with ribbon, or embossed stamps, have been applied to a large portion of these records. Many packets include itemized lists, measurements or weight, pricing, and other details plus ship bills of lading or similar service agreements, plus customs house documentation and United States Consular certification with goods originating from a number of countries, though western Europe predominates.

Items within the folders are not ordered.

Oversize 62, Folder 3	1810s, Oversize , 1815
Box 8, Folder 6	1820s, 1825-1828
Box 9, Folder 1	Early 1830s, 1830-1834
Box 9, Folder 2-3	Late 1830s, 1835-1839
Oversize 62, Folder 3	1830s, Oversize , 1833-1838
Box 9, Folder 4	Early 1840s, 1840-1844
Box 9, Folder 5-6	Late 1840s, 1845-1849
Oversize 62, Folder 3	1840s, Oversize , 1841-1849
Box 10, Folder 1	1850s, 1850 - 1859
Oversize 62, Folder 3	1850s, Oversize , 1853-1857
Box 10, Folder 2-3	1860s, 1860-1869
Oversize 62, Folder 3	1860s, Oversize , 1866-1868
Box 10, Folder 4	Early 1870s, 1870

Box 10, Folder 5	Early 1870s, 1871
Box 10, Folder 6	Early 1870s, 1872
Box 11, Folder 1-2	Early 1870s, 1872
Box 11, Folder 3	Early 1870s, 1873
Box 11, Folder 4-5	Mid 1870s, 1874
Box 12, Folder 1-2	Mid 1870s, 1875
Box 12, Folder 3	Mid 1870s, 1876
Box 12, Folder 4	Late 1870s, 1877
Box 12, Folder 5	Late 1870s, 1878
Box 13, Folder 1	Late 1870s, 1878
Box 13, Folder 2	Late 1870s, 1879
Oversize 62, Folder 4	1870s, Oversize , 1872-1879
Box 13, Folder 3	Early 1880s, 1880
Box 13, Folder 4	Early 1880s, 1881
Box 13, Folder 5	Early 1880s, 1882
Box 13, Folder 6	Early 1880s, 1883
Box 13, Folder 7	Mid 1880s, 1884
Box 14, Folder 1-2	Mid 1880s, 1884
Box 14, Folder 3	Mid 1880s, 1885
Box 14, Folder 4-5	Mid 1880s, 1886 Within the 1886 documents, a significant portion was certified by two US Consuls in England, although other US Consular offices and officials are present as well.

Box 15, Folder 1	Mid 1880s, US Consul Certified, Bradford, England, 1886 William F. Grinnell. Grinnell may also be present in earlier or following years as well.
Box 15, Folder 2-3	Mid 1880s, US Consul Certified, Manchester, England, 1886 Edward J. Hale. Hale may also be present in earlier or following years as well.
Box 15, Folder 4	Late 1880s, 1887 A small number of US Consular certifications for Grinnell and Hale are present for 1887 and have been placed at the front of this folder.
Box 15, Folder 5-6	Late 1880s, 1888
Box 16, Folder 1	Late 1880s, 1888
Box 16, Folder 2	Late 1880s, 1889
Oversize 62, Folder 5	1880s, Oversize , 1882-1889
Box 16, Folder 3	Early 1890s, 1890 Note: there are no items for 1891-1893.
Box 16, Folder 4	Mid 1890s, 1894
Box 16, Folder 5	Mid 1890s, 1895
Box 16, Folder 6	Mid 1890s, 1896
Box 16, Folder 7	Late 1890s, 1897
Box 16, Folder 8	Late 1890s, 1898
Box 17, Folder 1-2	Late 1890s, 1898
Box 17, Folder 3	Late 1890s, 1899
Oversize 62, Folder 6	1890s, Oversize , 1898-1899
Box 17, Folder 4	1920s, 1924
Oversize 62, Folder 6	1920s, Oversize , 1927

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Genre, 1810-1961

- Box 17, Folder 5 Directories, 1859-1893
- Map-case 2, Drawer 5, Quilted Art, undated
Folder 11
Gold, yellow, and orange textile swatches from cigar and spirits products hand sewn to a backing with a visible "X" stitch. Measures approximately 24" x 24".
- Box 17, Folder 6 Images, undated
B&W and color illustrations and prints. Two B&W photos (one of a loom, the other machinery). Caricatures of industry persons.
- Labels
Contains a large assortment of branded and unbranded bale, bolt, roll, fabric, and cloth labels produced by a variety of printing methods, including embossing and the use of multiple colors, plus pictorial designs.
- Box 17, Folder 7 Embossed with Metallic Finishes, undated
- Box 18, Folder 1 Frames and Borders Only, undated
- Box 18, Folder 2-6 Labels, General, undated
- Oversize 191, Folder Labels, Oversize, undated
8
- Legal
- Box 18, Folder 7 Contracts and Court Documents, 1850-1888
- Intellectual Property
Most items contain printed or original artwork or schematics as supporting documentation.
- Box 18, Folder 8 Design, 1882-1883
- Box 18, Folder 9 Patents, 1810-1905
- Box 18, Folder 10 Trademarks, 1875-1891
- Box 18, Folder 11 Legislation and Regulatory, Tariff, 1835-1883
General textile industry with special focus on cotton.
- Box 19, Folder 1 Legislation and Regulatory, Wool Interests, circa 1824-1893, 1921, 1941

Various publications and reports covering tariffs, duties, labeling, and general woolen industry matters.

Realia

Oversize ADDOV70 "My Lady Friend with Cleiton Crawford"
Patch poster. Adorned, oversize textile.

Samples

Box 19, Folder 2-3 Books, 1888, undated
Non-commercial textile sample books with handwritten entries.

Box 20 Books, 1899, 1906
Two commercially produced sample books. In German.

Box 21, Folder 1-2 Books, 1828, 1912, undated
A small assortment of sample books and bound swatches. Some hand
compiled, some commercially produced.

Box 21, Folder 3-4 Books, Silk, undated
Eight commercially produced fold out portfolios of silk samples.

Map-case 2, Drawer 5,
Folder 2 Forstmann, 1941
Promotional folder with affixed samples.

Map-case 2, Drawer 5,
Folder 2 Garner and Company, circa 1868
Promotional broadside with affixed samples.

Box 22, Folder 1-3 Loose Fabric Swatches, undated
A few labels are present for Gingham, wool, mohair, cotton/cotton seeds, and
tattling edging. Some material in enclosures.

Box 22, Folder 4 *Repository*, 1811
Several excerpted, illustrated pages of a London based publication
containing affixed fabric samples with additional textual description.

Serial Publications

Oversize 62, Folder 6 *American Fabrics*, 1952 Summer

Box 22, Folder 5 *Ciba Review*, 1938-1940
11 issues: volumes 5, 12 +supplement, 14, 16, 20, 26-27, 29-31, 33.

Box 22, Folder 6 *Modes and Fabrics*, 1882-1900
8 issues:

1882 December

1893 June

1894 October, December

1895 February, October

1900 January

Oversize 62, Folder 6

New York Times, "United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc.", 1961 January 29

Advertising insert, 16pp.

Box 22, Folder 7

Wade's Fibre and Fabric, 1893 August 19
1 issue.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Subject, 1819-1962

Associations, Trade

Box 23, Folder 1

Am-Pr, 1839-1947

American Silk Society, 1839

Cotton Supply Association, 1857

International Silk Guild, 1939

Silk Parade campaign, New York's Fifth Avenue.

Newcomen Society of England, American Branch New York, 1947

Ohio Wool Growers' Association, 1891

Providence Board of Trade, 1899

[unknown] Subscription List , 1865

Serviced by Messrs. Flack.

Box 23, Folder 2

Simplex Sampling Association Incorporated, 1923, 1919

Two bound buyer's guides with affixed fabric samples.

Box 23, Folder 3

Calico Ball / Callico Ball, undated

Invitation printed on non-Calico fabric. S.O. of O.B. event at the Academy of Music. Traditionally at Calico Balls, ladies would arrive wearing dresses made out of affordable Calico and would change in to finer garments later in the evening. The Calico dresses were then donated to the less fortunate women in

the community. In other instances, Calico would be worn but the dance or event involved some other form of fundraising or charity component.

- Box 23, Folder 4 Education and Training, 1893-1903, 1953, 1938
Advertisements, booklets for course of study, bulletins, correspondence catalogues, charts, teaching aids, standards tables, dictionary of terms (1945).
- Box 23, Folder 5 Handworks, Instruction, 1871-1939
Covering weaving, knitting, braiding, and related skills.
- Box 23, Folder 6 History, General , undated
- Industry
- Box 23, Folder 7 International, 1837, 1874-1936
A small assortment of advertising, labels, and printed material related to the textile trade in various countries, including England, Italy, Ireland, Germany, France, Scotland, Belgian, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Turkey, Japan, India. One book prospectus. Bartum, Harvey and Company brochure for the 1892 World's Columbian Exhibition in Chicago (2 copies). Some materials in German, Italian, Russian, Spanish.
- Box 24, Folder 1-3 Machinery, 1819, 1874-1907, 1943
Some material in Spanish and German.
- Box 24, Folder 4 Marketing and Finance, 1910, undated
- Box 24, Folder 5 Plants and Manufacturing, 1905-1943
Some items in German, Russian with English translation.
- Box 24, Folder 6 Knitting Machine, 1860, undated
- Box 24, Folder 7 Looms, 1853-1945, 1833, undated
Includes some design guides and specifications.
- Material Types
- Box 25, Folder 1 Camel Hair, 1936
- Box 25, Folder 2-3 Cotton, 1872-1907, 1922-1941
A small assortment of printed material and publications related to Cretonne, Calico printing [Callico], cotton specific machinery, a catalogue for Hydegrade linings, guides and calculation for working with cotton. Two books, *Cotton and the New Orleans Cotton Exchange* (1934) and *'Round the World with Cotton* (1941).

- Box 25, Folder 4 Flax and Linen, 1893-1919
- Box 25, Folder 5 Ramie, 1891
2 copies of same publication.
- Box 25, Folder 6 Rayon and Other Synthetics, 1925-1960
Several small books and booklets on Rayon and one other on general synthetic fabrics.
- Box 25, Folder 7 Silk, 1926-1929, 1835-1882
Printed material, excerpts, and bound material covering the history of silk, silkworms, Irish poplins, the silk industry in China, and artificial silk. Some material in German (1940).
- Box 26, Folder 1-2 Wool / Woolen / Worsted, 1916-1939, circa 1850-1893
Printed material, excerpts, and bound material covering wool in the United States, Britain, Germany, Scotland, Australia (New South Wales), and New Zealand. Includes Angora, sheep, a wool specific machinery catalogue, Worsted-TEX with some material in German.
- Box 26, Folder 3 Museum and Exhibitions, 1962, 1935
A flier and booklet for the Merrimack Valley Textile Museum (1962). Catalogue for the Swedish Textile Exhibition held at Rockefeller Center (1935).
- Box 26, Folder 4 Patterns and Designs, 1928, circa 1862, undated
Covering Scottish Clan Tartans (no illustrations), interior decoration, and hand-block printing on linens and Cretonnes (illustrated, two disbound copies).
- Box 26, Folder 5 Tapestry, 1883-1927
Includes an exhibition catalogue for Raphael and Gobelin works, other materials covering Japanese and French designs.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)