



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Bennett Pottery Company

NMAH.AC.0213

NMAH Staff

2003

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Bennett Pottery Company Records
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0213
Date:	1844-1881
Extent:	4 Cubic feet (6 boxes)
Creator:	Bennett, Edwin, 1818-1908 (potter) Edwin Bennett Pottery Company Ceramics and Glass, Division of (NMAH, SI).
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Mrs. Portia M. Filbert, 1986, March.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Ceramics and Glass (Division of Cultural and Community Life), 5/19/1986.

Other Finding Aids

Inventory available; contact the Archives Center for more information.

Processing Information

Collection processed by NMAH Staff, 2003

Preferred Citation

Bennett Pottery Company Records, 1844-1881, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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.

Biographical Note

Bennett was the founder of the Edwin Bennett Pottery Company, Baltimore, Maryland which operated 1846-1936. Among the first wares produced were those for utilitarian purposes (e.g., mugs and plates). Bennett also experimented with clay bodies and glazes. Along with the company's subsidiaries, Edwin Bennett Company became one of the largest suppliers in the United States of hotel kitchen and tableware, chemical containers, public restroom fixtures, and roofing tiles.

Scope and Contents

Early Bennett family histories, Edwin Bennett's autobiography, correspondence, 1914-1981, Bennett Pottery Company records, photographs, notebooks of clay and glaze formulae and other miscellaneous items, 1844-1981.

Scope and Contents

Includes 3 photographs related to the Baltimore fire, 1903-1905.

Arrangement

Divided into 8 series: (1) Biographical, (2) Correspondence, (3) Bennett Pottery Co., (4) Catalogs, advertisements, stationary, etc., (5) Photographs, (6) Notebooks of formulae and receipts, (7) Printed Material, (8) Ledgers of the Seven Clay Co. (a subsidiary of Bennett Pottery Company).

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Artisans
- Ceramics manufacturing
- Disasters
- Fires -- Maryland -- Baltimore
- Potters
- Pottery

Types of Materials:

- Business records -- 19th century
- Photographs -- 1900-1950

Names:

- Bennett, Edwin Huston
- Bennett, James

Ceramics and Glass, Division of (NMAH, SI).

Geographic Names:

Baltimore (Md.)

Container Listing

Baltimore, Md. [panoramic photoprints], 1903-1905

3 Items (photoprints, folder; approx. 8 x 35 in., in 1)

[Image\(s\)](#)

Schaefer, J. W., Photographer

English.

Panoramas, imprinted "J. W. Schaefer, Balto, Md.," one with date 1903, one 1904, and the third dated 1905. 1903 and 1904 taken from same view-showing the city before and after the fire.

Unrestricted research use on site, by appointment. Must be handled with gloves, unless protected by plastic sleeves.

Topic: Fires -- Maryland -- Baltimore
Place: Baltimore (Md.) -- 1900-1910
Genre/Form: Panoramic photographs -- 1900-1910.
Photographs -- 1900-1950

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