# Table of Contents

Collection Overview ........................................................................................................................................................................
Administrative Information .................................................................................................................................................................... 1
Biographical Note .................................................................................................................................................................................. 2
Scope and Contents ............................................................................................................................................................................... 2
Arrangement ....................................................................................................................................................................................... 2
Names and Subjects ..............................................................................................................................................................................
Container Listing .................................................................................................................................................................................
Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Album
Date: 1930.
Identifier: NMAH.AC.1016
Creator: Franklin Machine Company Providence, Rhode Island
Corliss, George H. (George Henry), 1817-1888
Extent: 0.3 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language: English.
Summary: Collection consists of an album illustrating the history of the Corliss Steam Engine.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Collection donated by the Franklin Machine Company.

Ownership and Custodial History
Donated by the Franklin Machine Company, 1930.

Provenance
Transferred from the Division of Work and Industry to the Archives Center in 2007.

Processing Information
Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2018

Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

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Biographical Note

George Corliss received US Patent 6,162 for his valve gear on March 10, 1849, a more efficient type of steam engine which ran more efficiently on less fuel. The patent covered the use of a wrist-plate to convey the valve motion from a single eccentric to the four valves of the engine, as well as the use of trip valves with variable cutoff under governor control that were associated with Corliss Engines.

Scope and Contents

Album (a carefully prepared, handmade book) illustrating the history of the Corliss Steam Engine. The book includes clipped-out illustrations of the factory, of steam engines and parts, accompanied by captions.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Engines
- Factories
- Steam-engines

Types of Materials:
- Albums -- 1920-1930
- Scrapbooks -- 20th century
## Container Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Evolution of the Corliss Steam Engine Album, 1930 1 Album</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
<td>Notes about the Corliss Steam Engine Album by curator Robert Vogel, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>