



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Bernis B. Brown Collection

NMAH.AC.1047

NMAH Staff

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Biographical/Historical note.....	2
Scope and Contents note.....	2
Names and Subjects	2

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Bernis B. Brown Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1047
Date:	1878-1960
Extent:	8.5 Cubic feet (15 boxes)
Source:	Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of [former name], NMAH, SI. Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI Brown, Bernis B., 1888-1960
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collected for the National Museum of American History, Division of Civil and Mechanical Engineering.

Ownership and Custodial History

Collected for the National Museum of American History, Division of Civil and Mechanical Engineering (now called the Division of Work and Industry). Transferred to the Archives Center in 2007.

Processing Information

Collection is unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

Bernis B. Brown Collection, 1878-1960, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Collection open for research on site by appointment. Unprotected photographs must be handled with gloves.

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Biographical Note

Brown was a dealer, salesmen and repairman of farm equipment, especially steam powered engines.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents the history of farm machinery in America, especially steam-powered machines. The papers include Brown's correspondence with individuals and institutions regarding his research and his collection, notes and notebooks, reference books and history books on farm machines, clippings and articles, newsletters on farming subjects, catalogs of farming equipment, subject files, photographs, magazines, and a manuscript for a history Brown compiled on early American farm power.

Arrangement

1 series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Agricultural machinery
- Farm equipment
- Steam-engines
- Tractors

Types of Materials:

- Books
- Catalogs
- Clippings
- Correspondence -- 20th century
- Magazines (periodicals) -- 20th century
- Manuscripts -- 20th century
- Newsletters -- 20th century
- Notebooks
- Patents
- Photographs -- 20th century

Names:

- Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of [former name], NMAH, SI.
- Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI