



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Nagle Engine and Boiler Works Records

NMAH.AC.1083

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## Collection Overview

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives Center, National Museum of American History                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Nagle Engine and Boiler Works Records                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Date:</b>       | circa 1890-1939                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | NMAH.AC.1083                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Nagle Engine and Boiler Works (Author)                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Source:</b>     | National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of History of Technology (Collector)<br>National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 11.3 Cubic feet (2 boxes, 40 oversize folders)                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Language:</b>   | English .                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Summary:</b>    | This collection contains documents related to Nagle Engine and Boiler Works, including photographs, drawings, correspondence, and catalogues.                                         |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Immediate source of acquisition unknown.

### Related Materials

Smithsonian Libraries Trade Literature Collection Trade Catalogues from Nagle Engine and Boiler Works MC\*316892, Nagle Steam Engine, Vertical Slide-valve MC\*329758, Gardner Throttling Steam Engine Governor

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Alexandra Asal, 2017.

### Preferred Citation

Nagle Engine and Boiler Works Records, circa 1890-1939, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

### Restrictions

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](mailto:archivescenter@si.edu) or 202-633-3270.

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## Biographical / Historical

Nagle Engine and Boiler Works was founded by T.M. Nagle in 1879 and incorporated in 1896. The company was based in Erie, Pennsylvania, and was affiliated with Pennsylvania Boiler Works. For over fifty years, Nagle Engine and Boiler Works manufactured steam engines and boilers, including the Corliss engine model. It ceased production in 1940.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection includes drawings, blueprints, correspondence, and published materials related to Nagle Engine and Boiler Works. The collection is divided into four series.

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1912-1915, includes correspondence between T.M. Nagle and various construction companies, notably Kirschner Brothers Contractors and Builders. The correspondence is primarily concerns various additions and improvements to Nagle's private property, and dates 1912-1914. The series also includes building specifications and miscellaneous notes and calculations.

Series 2: Correspondence, 1914, includes business letters exchanged between Nagle Engine and Boiler Works and its suppliers and customers.

Series 3: Catalogues/Price Lists, 1903-1926, is composed primarily of catalogues, including a leather-bound book containing blank graphing paper and several catalogues, which was given to B.P. Morse of Morse Brothers Machinery Company. Also included are price lists, circulars and bulletins, and a book of testimonials from Nagle customers. In addition, this series contains some loose sheets including ads and articles referencing Nagle products and an instruction sheet for a Hassle Oil Engine.

Series 4: Photographs, undated, is divided into folders based on subject. There are photographs featuring standard boilers, vertical and wheeled boilers, steam engines, and miscellaneous parts. One folder contains images of Nagle products printed on cardstock for use in publication.

Series 5: Drawings, 1890-1938, includes oversize blueprints, tables, and diagrams produced by Nagle Engine and Boiler Works and Pennsylvania Boiler Works. Steam engines make up the bulk of the series, although boilers and miscellaneous parts are also represented.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into five series.

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1912-1915

Series 2: Correspondence, 1914

Series 3: Catalogues and Price Lists, 1903-1926

Series 4: Photographs, undated

Series 5: Drawings, circa 1890-1938

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Boilers  
Manufacturing  
Steam-engines

Types of Materials:

Blueprints  
Correspondence -- 20th century  
Drawings

Names:

Buffalo Forge Works  
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of History of Technology  
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering  
Pennsylvania Boiler Works

Places:

Erie (Penn.)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Personal Papers, 1912 - 1915

|                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Correspondence, 1912 - 1915          |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Building Specifications, 1912 - 1915 |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Miscellaneous Notes, 1912 - 1914     |

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## Series 2: Correspondence, 1914 - 1914

Box 1, Folder 4

Correspondence, 1914 - 1914

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## Series 3: Catalogues/Price Lists, 1903 - 1926

Box 1, Folder 5      Catalogues, 1910 - 1910, 1907 - 1907, 1905

Box 1, Folder 6      Catalogues, 1915, multi-volume

Box 1, Folder 7      Catalogues, undated

Box 1, Folder 8      Price Lists and Bulletins, 1903 - 1926

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## Series 4: Photographs, undated

|                 |                                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Boilers, undated                        |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Steam Engines, undated                  |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Vertical and Wheeled Boilers, undated   |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Prints and Miscellaneous Parts, undated |

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## Series 5: Drawings, circa 1890-1938

|               |                                                                        |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Map-folder 1  | Miscellaneous boiler plans, 1914 - 1938                                |
| Map-folder 2  | Scotch Marine boiler plans, 1918                                       |
| Map-folder 3  | Miscellaneous boiler plans, 1894 - 1931                                |
| Map-folder 3  | Size chart, 1893                                                       |
| Map-folder 4  | 11x15 Class A Engine, 1896                                             |
| Map-folder 5  | 12x15 Class A Engine, 1905                                             |
| Map-folder 6  | 8x12 Class A Engine, 1897                                              |
| Map-folder 7  | 10x12 Center Crank Engine, 1908, 1908                                  |
| Map-folder 8  | 7x10, 8x10 Center Crank Engine, 1908                                   |
| Map-folder 9  | 16x24 Class A Engine, index, size chart, miscellaneous assorted plans  |
| Map-folder 10 | 10x15, 8x8 Vertical Engine                                             |
| Map-folder 11 | Standard Corliss engine blueprints                                     |
| Map-folder 12 | 5x8, 6x8, 6x9, 7x9 Center Crank Engine                                 |
| Map-folder 13 | Blueprints for a gate commissioned for T.M. Nagle's house, 1912 - 1914 |
| Map-folder 14 | Miscellaneous plans, 1890, circa 1890                                  |
| Map-folder 15 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series A, 1908 - 1929                       |
| Map-folder 16 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series B, 1898 - 1923                       |
| Map-folder 17 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series C, 1903 - 1925                       |
| Map-folder 18 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series D, 1901 - 1933                       |
| Map-folder 19 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series E Part 1, 1913 - 1936                |
| Map-folder 20 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series E Part 2, 1913 - 1938                |
| Map-folder 21 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series E Part 3, 1912 - 1919                |

|               |                                                                            |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Map-folder 22 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works, Series E Part 4, 1912 - 1919                    |
| Map-folder 23 | Miscellaneous engine manufacturing diagrams, undated                       |
| Map-folder 24 | Miscellaneous engine and water tube boiler manufacturing diagrams, undated |
| Map-folder 25 | Pennsylvania Boiler Works 9x36 engine plans, undated                       |
| Map-folder 26 | 10x15 Engine assembly plans, undated                                       |
| Map-folder 27 | 14x18, 16x18, Class H Engine, 1899                                         |
| Map-folder 29 | 12x16, 13x16, 14x16, and 15x16 Class A + B Engines, undated                |
| Map-folder 30 | Miscellaneous boiler and engine plans                                      |
| Map-folder 32 | Franklin Water Tube Boiler Part 1, 1913 - 1928                             |
| Map-folder 33 | Franklin Water Tube Boiler Part 2, 1913 - 1928                             |
| Map-folder 34 | Miscellaneous plans including center crank and vertical engines, undated   |
| Map-folder 35 | Miscellaneous blueprints, undated                                          |
| Map-folder 36 | Miscellaneous blueprints, including Class A, B, and H Engines, undated     |
| Map-folder 37 | Plans for Class A, B, H, and F Engines, 1897 - 1929                        |
| Map-folder 38 | Plans for Class B and H Engines, 1897 - 1927                               |
| Map-folder 39 | Stationary Boiler Plans, 1889 - 1892                                       |
| Map-folder 39 | Miscellaneous plans, 1916 - 1934                                           |
| Map-folder 40 | Miscellaneous plans, 1889 - 1913                                           |

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