



Smithsonian

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

## Hooker-Howe Costume Company Records

NMAH.AC.1475

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Hooker-Howe Costume Company Records
<b>Date:</b>	1922-1938, undated
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.1475
<b>Creator:</b>	Hooker-Howe Costume Company
<b>Source:</b>	Renaud, Claire (Donor)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 Cubic feet (1 box)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Archival material documenting Hooker-Howe Costume Company, located in Haverhill, Massachusetts and manufacturer of costumes, wigs, make-up, props and other items for minstrel shows and amateur theater.
<b>Container:</b>	Box 1

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Collection donated to the Archives Center in 2019 by Claire Renaud.

### Related Materials

*Archives Center, National Museum of American History*

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Theater, NMAH.AC0060

John B. Rogers Producing Company Collection, NMAH.AC0245

Hazen Collection of Band Photographs and Ephemera, NMAH.AC0253

Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 3: African-American Music, NMAH.AC0300

Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 11: Entertainment, NMAH.AC0300

Archives Center Collection of Business Americana, NMAH.AC0404

George and Hart's Georgia Up To Date Minstrels Scrapbook, circa 1876-1901, NMAH.AC0576

B. Thomas Smith Minstrel Show Posters, NMAH.AC1409

Henry "Buddy" Graf and George Cahill Vaudeville and Burlesque Collections, NMAH.AC1484

Phillip Graneto Broadway Theater Collection, NMAH.AC1486

*Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections, Smithsonian Institution*

Moses and Frances Asch Collection, CFCH.ASCH

Monitor Records Business Records, CFCH.MONI

Ralph Rinzler Papers and Audio Recordings, CFCH.RINZ

Smithsonian Folklife Festival records: 2002 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, CFCH.SFF.2002

### Preferred Citation

Hooker-Howe Costume Company Records, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

The Hooker-Howe Costume Company, created in 1905, was located in the Bradford District of Haverhill, Massachusetts. According to one of its catalogues the company was headed by Mr. C. E. Hooker. It consisted of a reception room; a show room; the main office; several wardrobe departments; alteration, cleansing, and pressing room; and the shipping department. Hooker-Howe manufactured costumes in addition to other items such as sets. Its merchandise was shipped all across the country. The company operated until about 1940.

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## Content Description

Archival material documenting the Hooker-Howe Costume Company which was located in Haverhill, Massachusetts. It provided costumes, wigs, make-up, props, and other items for minstrel shows and amateur theater. The collection includes advertisements, catalogs, trade literature, photographs of actors in costume, and placards intended for advertising current or upcoming shows.

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## Arrangement

Collection is arranged in one series.

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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:

- Costumes
- Minstrel shows
- Set Designers
- Set design -- United States
- Stage Props -- 1930-1940

Theater  
Theater -- History -- 20th century  
Wigs

Types of Materials:

Advertisements -- 20th century  
Black-and-white photographs  
Catalogs  
Trade catalogs -- 20th century

Names:

Renaud, Claire