ENGINES ca.1829-1936 (3 cubic feet; 6 DB)

Scope and Content Note

This material consists primarily of scattered correspondence on letterhead stationery, bills/receipts, catalogues, descriptive literature, illustrations, brochures, price lists, bulletins, caricatures, seals, advertising cards, photographs, handbills, leaflets, printed advertisements, operating instructions and pamphlets from manufacturers and distributors of engines. There is a wide variety of types of engines represented among the materials including gas or gasoline, steam, oil, kerosene, diesel oil, and alcohol. The engines were manufactured for automobiles and boats. A number of the companies that manufactured engines for vehicles also tended to be the manufacturer of that particular mode of transportation, therefore would be included in the subject category for those vehicles within the Warshaw Collection.

Although engines are the primary products being advertised there is also a number of other products available throughout these materials. Some of these products would include portable sawing outfits, powered mills for grinding grain, feed cookers, boilers, injectors, and generators.

There are a number of publications including trade catalogs, articles, pamphlets, manuals, reports, periodicals and books. Most of the trade catalogs were created by the manufacturer or distributor and therefore are included with the rest to the company related materials. Articles discuss such topics as early history of the development of the Corliss engine.

Materials are arranged alphabetical by name of company. There are a few folders of material grouped by type including photographs, and specifications.

Subject Terms:

Engines
Automobiles
Boats

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For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
NOTE TO RESEARCHERS

This portion of the Warshaw Collection has been processed, however, at this time a finding aid for the materials has not been completed. Researchers are welcome to look at the materials. If further information is needed the researcher is asked to consult either the survey forms for the collection or to ask the reference archivist for assistance.
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