

ARCH0015: Hoole Machine & Engraving Works Collection

Call: ARCH0015

Accn: 2017.0001.0003

Creator: Hoole Machine and Engraving Works

Dates: 19th and 20th centuries

Physical Description: Approximately 17 linear feet.

Language(s): English

Physical Location: All use of ABM materials must be requested 24 hours in advance and used onsite during a scheduled appointment. For more information on use or to schedule an appointment, contact the ABM librarian at collections@bookbindersmuseum.org.

Repository: Library & Archives

The American Bookbinders Museum

355 Clementina Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

Email: collections@bookbindersmuseum.org

Phone: (415) 824-9754

URL: <http://library.bookbindersmuseum.org/>

Abstract: The collection includes over 1000 pieces of brass finishing tool designs and components, as well as some documentation, all from the American finishing tool company, Hoole Machine and Engraving Works.

Administrative Information

Provenance: Paul Brubaker of Bindery Tools, LLC, donor.

Information about Access: The materials are open for research use.

Ownership & Copyright: All requests to reproduce, publish, quote from, or otherwise use collection materials must be submitted in writing to the ABM Librarian, American Bookbinders Museum, San Francisco, California 94103. Consent is given on behalf of the American Bookbinders Museum as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission from the copyright owner. Such permission must be obtained from the copyright owner, heir(s) or assigns.

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Preferred Citation: [Folder name], Hoole Machine and Engraving Works Collection. American Bookbinders Museum Library and Archives.

Biographical/Historical Note:

From Tom Conroy: John R. Hoole emigrated to America from England, where he had been a bookbinders' finishing tool maker, around 1830. This was very early in the history of specialist finishing tool makers (as opposed to general engravers, who had done the work in earlier centuries). The trade coalesced because of the great amount of work involved in engraving large dies for the stamping of edition bindings, not just the manufacture of small tools for one-off bindings. Hoole and his children built a flourishing firm in New York, and became a major retail bookbinders' supplier as well as a manufacturer of finishing tools. Several other American firms had similar 19th-century arcs. Around 1890 the firm passed out of family hands and moved to Brooklyn, and surviving Hoole tools (which are common) show that the amount of machine work increased dramatically around the time of the move. With the 20th century the binders' supplies side of the trade sloughed off, and the manufacture of finishing tools declined. Between the Great Depression and the 1960s all of Hoole's American competitors went out of business, and after the 1960s Hoole itself probably made no finishing tools, though they remained available to make them. The firm survived because it had branched out into page-numbering machines and other metal stamps, finally declining to a one-man general machinist's shop. Thus, the Hoole firm lived through the whole arc of the specialist bookbinders' finishing tool maker's trade; and all its American competitors disappeared half a century ago, leaving almost nothing to record their existence beyond the tools they made and their listings in city directories. In addition, it was at the top of the trade in America, both for size and for quality, for most of its existence. Any historical materials on the Hoole firm and how it worked are vital to understanding the finishing tool trade, which was a key supplier to the binding trade.

Hoole Machine & Engraving Works
New York and Brooklyn, NY
1832-1911

Addresses in Brooklyn: 29-33 Prospect Ave. ; 30 Main Street.

Directory of American Toolmakers Information

While the "Est" date is 1832, this name and the Brooklyn address may be post-1900. The Hooles were America's most prolific bookbinding toolmakers, including John R. Hoole and his son, William E. Hoole.

Scope & Contents:

Series 1. Engraved and Plain Line Frames - arranged by piece number

Series 2. Documents

Series 3. Incomplete finishing tool components - Gouges, Lines, Rolls, Patterns for Numbers and Individual Handle Letters, Handles

Access Terms:

Hoole, John R. -1884.

Hoole Machine and Engraving Works.

Tools.

Book ornamentation -- Finishing.

Bookbinding -- Hand Binding.

Fillet.

Gouge.

Rolls.
Stamp.
Pallet.

Identifying Marks

HOOLE/MACH.&ENG.WK'S./BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Box	Series	Folder	Folder Title
1	1	1	788
		2	835
		3	973-974
		4	976
		5	977
		6	981
		7	982
		8	985
		9	988
		10	990-991
		11	993-994
		12	996
		13	999
		14	1000
		15	1001
		16	1004
		17	1012
		18	1014
		19	1022
		20	1023
		21	1024
		22	1025
		23	1036
		24	1037/1038
		25	1041
		26	1026
		27	1052
		28	1055
		29	1056
		30	1058
		31	1064
		32	1071
		33	1088
		34	1098
		35	1101
		36	1124
		37	1151
		38	1158
		39	1170
		40	1179
		41	1182
		42	1241-1246
		43	1254-1261

2

1

1	1262-1268
2	1269-1277
3	1278-1289
4	1290
5	1292
6	1296/1589
7	1299-1308
8	1309-1321
9	1315/1316, 1332, unnumbered
10	1345/1348
11	1349-1353
12	1358
13	1360
14	1362, 1364/1455, 1365
15	1367/1448-1368
16	1369-1371
17	1372-1378
18	1382-1383
19	1384-1386
20	1389/1444
21	1390-1402
22	1404-1415
23	1416-1430
24	1421-1444
25	1468-1474
26	1475-1482
27	1483-1489
28	1490-1503
29	1504-1515
30	1516-1526
31	1529/1589
32	1538-1551
33	1552-1554
34	1556
35	1559
36	1560
37	1562-1563
38	1566
39	1569
40	1573
41	1575-1590
42	1601
43	1610
44	1618
45	1648
46	1674
47	1685-1692
48	1693-1700
49	1701-1702
50	1707

51	1711-1712
52	1714-1717
53	1731
54	1733-1739
55	1740-1746
56	1747-1754
57	1755-1761
58	1762-1763
59	1765-1769

3	1	1	1826
		2	1835
		3	1864
		4	1871-1880
		5	1881-1890
		6	1891-1897
		7	1898-1901
		8	1902
		9	1905
		10	1919
		11	1920
		12	1923-1927
		13	1927-1929
		14	1930-1935
		15	1936-1939
		16	1941-1946
		17	1948-1949
		18	1951-1953
		19	1956-1957
		20	1958-1967
		21	1968-1972
		22	1974
		23	1976 (1986)
		24	1977-8
		25	1979-1983
		26	1985
		27	1987
		28	1988-1990
		29	1993-2000
		30	2001
		31	2003
		32	2005-2007
		33	2008-2013
		34	2015-2016
		35	2022
		36	2026
		37	2031
		38	2085
		39	2169
		40	2178
		41	2180

		42	2204
		43	2211
		44	2225
		45	2227
		46	2265
		47	2294
		48	2297
		49	2319
4	1	1	2339
		2	2340
		3	2344 FRAGILE
		4	2346
		5	2349-2351
		6	2354-2358
		7	2360-2361
		8	2362-2365
		9	2368-2369
		10	2372
		11	2375
		12	2377
		13	2379-2384
		14	2385-2396
		15	2388-2389
		16	2390-2394
		17	2396-2403
		18	2404-2409
		19	2412-2413
		20	2414-2420
		21	2423-2425
		22	2426-2430
		23	2433-2436
		24	2438-2440
		25	2441-2442
		26	2444-2447
		27	2450-2451
		28	2453-2455
		29	2457
		30	2459-2462
		31	2463
		32	2464-2468
		33	2469-2473
5	1	1	2475-2483
		2	2484
		3	2486-2487
		4	2489-2490
		5	2492-2493
		6	2495-2496
		7	2505-2506
		8	2508

	9	2510-2514
	10	2521-2523
	11	2527-2528
	12	2530
	13	2532
	14	2534
	15	2536
	16	2537-2538
	17	2541-2544
	18	2546-2548
	19	2550
	20	2553-2556
	21	2572
	22	2575
	23	2577
	24	2583
	25	2585-2589
	26	2590
	27	2592-2596
	28	2597-2600
	29	2604
	30	2606
	31	2609
	32	2614
	33	No Number
2	34	Hoole Catalogue No. 94
	35	28: Hand Stamps (#1685-1730)
	36	Sample of Figures Furnished with the "Improved Champion" Paging & Numbering Machine
	37	Gouges and Lines #615-843
	38	"1079" Hoole Envelope
	39	1040 Notes
	40	9.37:1 63 Spaces
	41	Empty Envelope: 1233-1236
	42	Empty Envelope: 1237-1240
	43	Empty Envelope: 1290-1298
	44	Empty Envelope: 1336-1344
	45	Empty Envelope: 1445-1460
	46	Empty Envelope: 1461-1467
	47	Empty Envelope: 1527-1537
	48	Empty Envelope: 1552-1561
	49	Empty Envelope: 1562-1574
	50	Empty Envelope: 1703-1709
	51	Empty Envelope: 1710-1717
	52	Empty Envelope: 1718-1730
	53	Empty Envelope: 1731-1738
	54	Empty Envelope: 1739-1746
6	2	1 Single-Entry Ledger
		2 Record Book
		3 "Lo Gatto" : Notes

		4	"Lo Gatto" : Paper Patterns
		5	"Lo Gatto" : Transparencies
7	3	1	28 gouges
		2	3 sets letters and numbers
		3	33 unengraved pallets
		4	3 engraved pallets
		5	1 unengraved pallet with handle
		6	15 wooden stamp posts
		7	9 wooden pallets
		8	2 wooden gouges
		9	3 wooden stamps (2 oval)
		10	6 wooden stamp pieces
8	3	1	1 fillet
		2	1 roll
		3	26 flat design pieces
		4	2 Hoole maker's mark stamps
		5	2 bags assorted small stamp posts and stamp faces
		6	7 assorted small stamps
		7	3 flat cutouts (1 plastic)
		8	19 unengraved stamps
9	3		Roll and Fillet Metal Handles of varying sizes, with bolts