

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Ames Plow Company
Records

1999.FIA.05

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
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Collection Information

Abstract: The Ames Plow Company operated a factory in Worcester from ca. 1876 through ca. 1911. The company manufactured plows, and other agricultural machinery and implements. The collection provides an overview of the products of the company.

Finding Aids: Finding Aid in print form available in the Repository. Item level control.

Preferred Citation: Archives of the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Found in Archives, provenance unknown. Two items transferred from PMF files, provenance unknown.

Access: The Finding Aid is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsb, gmgpc, tgm, etc.)

Ames Plow Company (Worcester, Mass.)

Oliver Ames & Sons Corp. (N. Easton, Mass.)

Plows.

Agricultural machinery industry – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Agricultural implements – Trade and manufacture – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Historical Information

The Ames Plow Company was established in 1864 as manufacturer and dealer of plows and other agricultural implements. It was a part of the Oliver Ames & Sons Corporation, formed in 1861. The company's predecessors were Nourse, Mason & Co. (1856), and Ruggles, Nourse & Mason (1837). The company erected a new factory complex in Worcester about 1867 for the manufacture of plows and other agricultural machines and tools. In addition to manufacturing, the company was also a wholesale dealer in agricultural implements. The company is not listed in Worcester after 1911.

Scope and Content

The collection includes an illustrated 1876 catalog of plows and other agricultural equipment made or supplied by the company, with descriptive information about the products, and some historical background on agricultural practices and on the Ames Plow Company. A bill of sale and two orders from the early 1900s provide an example of the company's business practices.

The collection provides insight into 19th century agricultural practices, prior to mechanization of the farming industry.

Series Description

Series 1: Catalogs. Visual documentation of plows and other machines and implements manufactured or provided by Ames Plow Company during the 19th century, with historical notes on agricultural practices.

Series 2: Orders, etc. Includes orders for bulk purchase of tools by Ames Plow Company, and bill of sale of tools by the company to retail dealers. This series also provides examples of business/industrial letterheads.

Ames Plow Company Records
1999.FIA.05
Series 1, Catalogs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1999.FIA.05.1.1	Catalog: Ames Plow Company illustrated catalog, 1876, showing agricultural machinery and implements manufactured and provided by the company, with historical notes about agricultural practices. 1 v., 188 ill., 28 cm.

Ames Plow Company Records
1999.FIA.05
Series 2, Orders, etc.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	1999.FIA.05.2.1	Bill of Sale: Ames Plow Company to Sydney R. Baxter & Co., for 6 shovels, \$3.75, November 23, 1900. Aqp.
1	2	1999.FIA.05.2.2	Order: to O. Ames & Sons, Corp., North Easton, Mass., from Ames Plow Company, for assorted shovels, May 1, 1909.
1	3	1999.FIA.05.2.3	Order: to O. Ames & Sons, Corp., No. Easton, Mass., from Ames Plow Company, for shovels, August 11, 1909.