

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Richardson Manufacturing Company
Collection (ca. 1880-ca. 1915)

2000.39

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
July 2000

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Collection Information

Abstract : Richardson Manufacturing Company was established in Worcester in the early 1860s as a manufacturer of agricultural equipment, primarily mowers, rakes, tedders, and related equipment. The company also manufactured manure spreaders and other horse-drawn farm machinery. Operations in Worcester ceased in the early 1920s.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Purchased (in part) from Kenneth E. Schneringer, Woodstock, Ga., June 2000; unknown purchase, March 1978; other purchases; bulk found in archives.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcs, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Richardson Manufacturing Co. (Worcester, Mass.)
Richardson Manufacturing Co. (Worcester, Mass.) – Catalogs.
Worcester (Mass.) – Manufactures.
Industries – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Agricultural machinery – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Agricultural machinery industry – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Agriculture – New England.
Catalogs. lcs

Historical/Biographical Notes

The Richardson Manufacturing Company was established in Worcester by Albion Richardson in the early 1860s. The company manufactured mowing machines under the name Buckeye Mowers, rakes, harrows, and tedders, and the Worcester Kemp manure spreader. Manufacturing plant was on Prescott Street. Much of the company's production was designed to be used in New England with its small farms, hills, and stony soil. Various sizes of mowers and spreaders required one to three horses, and the company designed and made special hitches and equalizers for use by two or three horses. The company no longer had a Worcester presence after the early 1920s.

Scope and Content

The collection is comprised largely of catalogs, some topical, printed by the company between ca. 1880 and ca. 1915. The collection also includes parts lists and price lists of parts printed in the 1890s.

The catalogs, with the supplemental information contained in many, provide insight into farming practices and equipment of the late 19th – early 20th century.

Series Description

Series 1 : Catalogs. Includes catalogs of mowers, manure spreaders, rakes and tedders, published between ca. 1880-1915.

Series 2 : Lists. Parts lists, price lists for replacement parts, mostly ca. 1890s.

Richardson Manufacturing Company Collection
2000.39
Series 1, Catalogs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2000.39.1.1a-b	“A savings bank on wheels”, catalog of Worcester Kemp manure spreader, with section on the fertilizing quality of manures. 24 p. ca. 1910. 2 copies
1	1	2000.39.1.2	“A savings bank on wheels”, catalog of Worcester Kemp manure spreader. 20 p. ca. 1890.
1	2	2000.39.1.3	“Worcester mowers, rakes, tedders”, catalog of Richardson manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1904. 20 p.
1	2	2000.39.1.4	“Worcester mowers, rakes, tedders”, catalog of Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., imprinted R.B. Dunning & Co., Ag’ts., Bangor, Me., 1906. 20 p.
1	3	2000.39.1.5	“Worcester Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., imprinted J.H. Underwood, Agent, Newfane, Vt., 1898, 16 p.
1	3	2000.39.1.6	“Worcester Buckeye Mowers”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1901, 20 p., col. ill.
1	3	2000.39.1.7	“Worcester Buckeye Mowers”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1899, 20 p.
1	3	2000.39.1.8	“Worcester Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., imprinted L.C. Payne & Co., Agts., Lisbon, N.H., 1892, 20 p. Accessioned as 1986.58.
1	4	2000.39.1.9a-b	“The Standard Worcester Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1890. 2 copies.

Series 1, continued

1	5	2000.39.1.10	“The Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1882. 16 p.
1	5	2000.39.1.11	“The Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1881. 28 p.
1	5	2000.39.1.12	“The Buckeye Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1885. 16 p.
1	5	2000.39.1.13	“The Buckeye Mower”, Richardson manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1883. 16 p.
1	6	2000.39.1.14	“Kemp’s Patent Manure Spreader”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1883. 12 p.
1	6	2000.39.1.15	“The America Chain-gear Mower”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., 1900. 4 p.
1	6	2000.39.1.16	“The Simplicity Engine”, Richardson Manufacturing Co., Worcester, Mass., ca. 1915. 8 p. Photocopy. Accessioned as 1980.135.
1	6	2000.39.1.17	Advertising card for J.M. Whiton, Jr., Marlboro’, farmer’s and Mechanic’s tools, sole agent for ... Buckeye Mowers ... n.d.

Richardson Manufacturing Company Collection
2000.39
Series 2, Lists

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	7	2000.39.2.1	Price list of parts of Lever Wheel Harrow, n.d.
1	7	2000.39.2.2a-b	Price list of "Bullard Tedder" and duplicate parts; price list for self-operating "Whitcomb Rake." n.d. 2 copies.
1	7	2000.39.2.3	Price list of duplicate parts, Worcester Horse Rake. n.d.
1	7	2000.39.2.4	Price-list of extra parts of Worcester 1899 Buckeye Mower and Chain-Gear Buckeye. 1900. 8 p. Accessioned as 1978.29.13.
1	7	2000.39.2.5	Price list of duplicate parts for the Bullard hay tedder. n.d. Accessioned as 1978.29.12.
1	7	2000.39.2.6	Price list of duplicate parts, Worcester "B" 6-foot chain-gear mower. 1899. (With directions for setting up.)
1	7	2000.39.2.7	Price-list of duplicate parts, the "America" chain-gear mower, 4 ½ and 5 feet. 1900.