



## United Shoe Machinery Corporation Records (1887-2001)<sub>[HB1]</sub><sub>[RD2]</sub>

MSS: #011

Processed by: Barry Kernfeld (July 2024)

**Volume: 23 boxes, 18 linear feet** (not including various museum objects; see below, series XVI).

### Abstract:

The United Shoe Machinery Corporation (USMC) flourished for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, leasing shoemaking machines throughout the industry and eventually expanding into other areas, principally for military applications. Records in Beverly complement the principal USMC archives at the Smithsonian by providing unique materials in several areas: correspondence from 20<sup>th</sup> century international operations; records and publications of the employee's Quarter Century Club; and photographs not at the Smithsonian, most notably images of the construction of the company's pioneering poured concrete factory complex in Beverly, 1903–06.

### Collection Creator:

The bulk of the collection was created by the United Shoe Machinery Corporation, with additional materials coming from several individual USMC employees.

### Provenance:

The collection was given to Historic Beverly by numerous individuals over a span of many years. Donations, where they are known, are credited in the Historic Beverly data base within listings for individual items.

### Conservation Note:

Both copies of the Wonder Worker Shoe Machinery catalog (series I) have red rot in their leather bindings. These two volumes have been wrapped in archival paper to contain the red rot.

### Copyright:

Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be submitted in writing to the Curator of Collections in the Cabot House of Historic Beverly.

### Preferred Citation:

United Shoe Machinery Corporation Records, Historic Beverly, 117 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915.

### Biographical/Historical Note

In 1899 the United Shoe Machinery Company (USMC) was formed as a corporation, under the

laws of the state of New Jersey, by the consolidation of eight shoe machinery firms, among which the principals were thereafter known as “The Three Partners”: Consolidated & McKay Lasting Machine Company, directed by Sidney W. Winslow, who became the USMC president; Goodyear Shoe Machinery Company; and McKay Shoe Machinery Company – Gordon McKay was another co-founder. By this merger, conflicting patents were eliminated and patents supplementing each other were brought under USMC control to permit their prompt combination in a single machine or process. To ensure efficiency, the new company also continued the practice previously followed by its constituent firms of leasing machinery that it manufactured instead of selling it. By year’s end the USMC had 19 domestic branches, as well as subsidiaries in Canada, England, Australia, and New Zealand; over the next several years it expanded into continental Europe.

In 1903 the USMC began construction of a new factory in Beverly. The main complex was completed in 1905–06. It was substantially enlarged in 1910, by which time its designer, Ernest L. Ransome, had perfected a method of prefabricated concrete construction. Ransome added a drop forge the following year. Widely admired for its treatment of employees, the USMC concurrently built worker housing, a school, an industrial school, a hospital, and recreational facilities adjacent to the factory complex in Beverly, and it hosted an annual fair, “Sam Sam,” on its grounds.

The United Shoe Machinery Corporation was incorporated in 1905; hence, early on, the abbreviation “USMC” may refer either to the company or to the corporation. The corporation had its headquarters in Boston and its main manufacturing plant in Beverly. At its peak, the USMC employed 9,000 workers and produced eighty-five percent of all shoemaking machines in the United States.

In 1911 and 1915 the United States government brought civil anti-trust suits against the USMC. The first failed, and the second led to nothing more than a change in the corporation’s leasing policy in 1923. Neither damaged its monopoly. The government filed its last suit in 1947, charging the USMC with monopolizing the trade, manufacture, and distribution of shoe machinery. The court ruled that the USMC had clearly violated the Sherman Act, and the corporation was obliged to modify its leasing policies and restrict its purchases of other shoe machinery businesses and its acquisition of patents.

Throughout this half century, the USMC diversified extensively into research and development for military applications, alongside shoemaking. In the 1950s it established the Dynapert division to develop automated machinery for inserting wires into circuit boards. It was rebranded as the USM Corporation in 1968, and in 1976 it merged with Emhart Industries to form the Emhart Corporation. Dynapert relocated from the original USMC factory complex to an alternative location in Beverly in 1986. The following year Emhart sold the USM Machinery Division to a British firm, Ablekind, Ltd., which assumed the USM name and moved its administration from Boston to Wilmington, Massachusetts, and then to Farmington, Connecticut..

Emhart merged with the Black & Decker Corporation in 1989, and thereafter the USM operated from Black & Decker's headquarters in Towson, Maryland. This Black & Decker division became two divisions, USM and USM Texon, in 1995, by which time the abandoned Beverly

facilities were derelict. 1996 marked the demolition of the drop forge factory and the revitalization and modernization of the remainder of the original factory complex as the Cummings Center, which has preserved substantial displays of USMC machines, documents, photographs, and artifacts throughout its hallways.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The principal archives of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation (USMC) are situated at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. In 2014, when the Smithsonian USMC finding aid was revised and expanded, the collection comprised 145 cubic feet (296 boxes). The much smaller collection at Historic Beverly duplicates this material to some extent, but more significantly it complements the Smithsonian archives by providing unique materials in several areas: correspondence from international operations in the late 1920s to early 1950s; records and publications of the corporation's Quarter Century Club; and photographs not held within the Smithsonian's extensive collection, most notably images of the construction of the company's factory complex in Beverly in 1903 to 1906, and the demolition of the drop forge factory building in 1996.

This collection at Historic Beverly previously included boxes of patents belonging to individual companies acquired by the USMC as it became an industrial conglomerate. These patents, organized by company name, have been deaccessioned, as all are now readily searchable on the U.S. government's Public Patent Search website, under the acquired company names:

Campbell-Bosworth Corrugated Wire Fasteners

Globe Sewing Machine Company

Goddu Sewing Machine Company

Goddu Sons Metal Fastening Co.

Hoague-Sprague Corporation

International Shoe Company

Krippendorf Calculator Company

The Lamson Company

Littleway Process Company

Manhattan Manufacturing Company

Molly Division

Nylok Corporation

Rimmon Eyelet Company

Ross-Moyer Manufacturing Company

S.A Felton and Son Company

Safe-Pack Container Company

Service Engineers Ltd.

Shoe Form Company Inc.

Shoe Lace Company

Sibley-Pym Corporation

Trimmings Inc.

Turner Tanning Machinery Company

Victoria Self-Lacing Company

Weinon Inc.

### Related Materials

Smithsonian Museum of American History, Guide to the United Shoe Machinery Corporation Records, NMAH.AC.0277.

#### Series List:

Most of the series in the Smithsonian's 2014 USMC finding aid are relevant to materials at Historic Beverly. Hence the current finding aid follows the order established in that document, with a few series omitted (because there are no relevant items at Historic Beverly), and with oral histories and artifacts added. This arrangement comprises 16 series:

- Series I: Historical and Background Materials, 1887-2001 and undated
- Series II: Executive Records, 1905-1987
- Series III: International Correspondence, 1902-1960
- Series IV: Research and Development Department Records, 1934-1974
- Series V: Legal Records, 1914-1915 and undated
- Series VI: Employee/Personnel Materials, 1916-1986 and undated
- Series VII: Mutual Relief Association (undated)
- Series VIII: Athletic Association (1907-1936)
- Series IX: Industrial School Records (1933-1964 and undated)
- Series X: Publications (1917-1989)
- Series XI: Product Literature (1903-1992 and undated)
- Series XII: Advertising and Marketing Materials (1951-1986)
- Series XIII: Individual Employee Records (1931-1993)
- Series XIV: Images: Photographs, Postcards, and Illustrations (1899-2000 and undated)
- Series XV: Oral Histories (1996-1997 and undated)
- Series XVI: Artifacts (c1903-c2000 and undated)

#### Container List:

##### **Series I: Historical and Background Materials (1887-2001 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series consists of historical materials on the United Shoe Machinery Corporation. These are both published and unpublished, the latter including a typescript history commissioned by the USMC. There are also catalogs from other manufacturers, apparently from a USMC reference library, including shoe machinery predecessors and competitors in the U.S., England, and Germany.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	1	1	Photocopies of USMC advertisements and anti-USMC items in American Shoemaking magazine	1902-1906
	1	2	The Story of Three Partners, an illustrated history of the USMC	1911
	1	3	An Industrial City, an illustrated history of	1911

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			the USMC Beverly plant	
	1	4	Canada's Sixth Industry, an illustrated history of the United Shoe Machinery Company of Canada; also in French as La Sixième Industrie du Canada.	1911
	1	5	Goodyear Welt Shoes: How They are Made (including USMC history)	1924
	1	6	Historical flyers for USMC stockholders	1927-1929
	1	7	Shoe Knowledge: How to Tell One Kind of Shoe from Another (2 <sup>nd</sup> printing; 3 <sup>rd</sup> printing, revised)	1927-1930
	1	8	Unidentified notebook: overview of USMC, including stockholder information and lists of global holdings, some with historical summaries	1936-1949 and undated
	1	9	Clifford Roberts (USMC vice president): "Commercial Research and Development at War" (USMC military applications during World War II)	1945
	1	10	Union News: United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 271, Peabody, Massachusetts	1947-1949
	1	11	USMC 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary flyer	1949
	1	12	Beverly facilities scrapbook	1957
	1	13	United Facts and Facilities	Undated (c1960)
	1	14-17	Gaynor O'Gorman, unpublished typescript history of the USMC	Undated (c1961)
	1	18	USM 75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary flyer, with a company history	1974
	1	19	Transcript of untitled lecture on USMC history	Undated (probably 1975)
	1	19	Paul Marsella: Process or Poverty?: Some Observations Relating to the Coming of Industry to Beverly, Mass., 1900-1910	1975
	1	19	Wilbur S. Cobb: The Social Effects Upon the Local Community of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation ca. 1902	1975
	1	20	Welcome to Beverly: USM Machinery	undated (c1980)

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			Division and DYNA/PERT Division, inclusive of history	
	1	21	Emhart Corporation "family tree": chart of Emhart divisions	1983
	1	22	History of USM, compiled by the USM Industrial Relations Department	1985
	1	23	Flyer: public auction of USMC machines	1987
	1	24	Environmental notification form: USMC site remediation	1988
	1	25	USM 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary circular: photocopy of USMC terms of incorporation, 1899	1999
	1	26	Fred Hammond, typescript notes for a lecture: The United Shoe Machinery Corporation Comes to Beverly and Leaves a Big Impact	2001
	6	1	Cumming Center USMC Historic District flyers	undated (c2000)
	1	27	Catalog of boot and shoe machinery: Pearson & Bennion, Leicester, England	1887
	1	28	Descriptive Catalogue of Boot & Shoe Machinery, Carver Cotton Gin Co., East Bridgewater, Massachusetts	1895
	1	29	Taper nail tacking machine: price list: McKay Metallic Fastening Association, Boston	1897
	1	30-31	Catalogs from German competitors: Chn. Mansfeld, Leipzig; Atlas-Werke, Leipzig; Sandt-Schumachinen; Nollesche Werke, Berlin; Moenus	1907-1914 and undated
	1	32-33	The Wonder Worker Shoe Machinery Company, Boston: catalog of machines developed in protest to USMC monopoly practices	Undated  (1910)
	1	34	Catalogs of boot and shoe machinery, harness, collar, and saddle machinery: Ross, Moyer Mfg. Co., Cincinnati	1912 and undated
	1	35	Catalog: Universal Shoe Machinery, St. Louis	1913

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	1	36	Catalog: Vulco-Unit Box Toe Equipment: Beckwith Manufacturing Co., Boston	undated
	1	37	The Shoemaker, vol.1, no.2: Independent Shoe Machinery	1922
	1	38	Catalogs of tools for shoemaking: Harrington Cutlery Col., Southbridge, Mass.; J. Wiss and Sons, Newark, N.J.; William F. Horn & Bro., Philadelphia; W. H. Compton Shear Co., Newark	1922 and undated
	1	39	Standard Shoe Machinery, Standard Engineering Co., Ltd., Leicester, England	1968

### Series II: Executive Records (1905-1987)

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series consists of founding documents and financial reports. There is also an expense ledger from the Elliott Street (Beverly) factory complex.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	1	40	Certificate of Incorporation	1905
	1	41	Circular: "To the Lessees of the United Shoe Machinery Company," from S. W. Winslow, president	1910
	1	42	Report of the president to the annual meeting of stockholders	1910, 1915, 1917
	1	43	Boston News Bureau clippings on USMC annual meeting and annual report	1911
	1	44	Annual report to the stockholders	1928
	2		Elliott Street factory expense ledger	1936-1941
	3	1	USM annual reports	1965-1974
	3	2	Emhart annual reports	1980-1987

### Series III: International Correspondence (1902-1960)

**Series/Arrangement Note:** International correspondence in the Historic Beverly collection consists letters, telegrams, and memorandums exchanged between the administrative department of the British United Shoe Machinery Co., Ltd., Leicester, England, and the offices of the USMC president and vice president in Boston. There are overviews of USMC operations in England, Australia, Germany, and the Netherlands; extensive correspondence from the Spanish Civil War, involving terrorist bombings at the USMC plant in Barcelona, strikes, worker

collectivization (with an oversize poster, “Edicion United Shoe Machinery, Sociedad Obrera Colectivizada”), and the eventual decollectivization by the National Army under General Franco; discussions of the forced sale of Vereinigte Schuhmaschinen Aktien-Gesellschaft, Zurich, Switzerland, by its Jewish owners in 1938; accounts of English staff on the continent who escaped back to Leicester in 1940; German post-war requests for food aid (CARE packages) from former employees of Deutsche Vereinigte Schuhmaschinen Gesellschaft (DVSG); extensive financial disputes and legal claims from the 1950s, mainly regarding European subsidiaries, but also involving the Soviet Union, Soviet satillites, Chile, Argentina, and Cuba.

Most of the international correspondence has numerical codes: for example, Spanish Civil War documents are all marked “624”; 1950s financial disputes and legal claims are “1803.” Even though the key to these codes is unknown, their consistency provides assurance as to the organization of this correspondence.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
	4	1	France: acquisition of Manufacture Française de Porte-plumes et Oeillets métallique	1902-1904
	4	2	Letter from USMC Australia branch	1907
	4	3	Barbour, J. Milne, chairman and managing director, The Linen Thread Company, Ltd., Glasgow, Scotland	1914-1922
	4	4	Connor, John H., Boston	1914-1932
	4	5-6	Bristows, Cooke, & Carpmael, London legal firm for the British USMC	1924-1946
	4	7	Overview of British and Australian subsidiaries	1929
	4	8	Gardner, Charles F., Deutsche Vereinigte Schuhmaschinen-Gesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main, Germany	1929, 1940-1947
	4	9	Balance sheet for Italian operations	1930
	4	10	Overview of British and German subsidiaries	1936
	4	11-14	Spanish Civil War	1936-1939
	4	15	S.F. Akhurst, Administrative Dept., British USMC: Jewish owners in Zurich forced to sell, 1938; English nationals fleeing continental staff positions, to Leicester, 1940; post-war situation at Czechoslovakian firm ASPOS, Prague	1936-1947
	4	16	Stark, Donald E., Administrative Department, Leicester, England	1940-1946



Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	4	17	Compagnie de Produits Chimiques "Boston," and B. B. Chemical Company	1940-1949
	4	18	German and Czechoslovakian businesses	1945-1946
	4	19	German requests for food aid (CARE packages); transfer of Czechoslovakian assets	1947-1950
	4	20	Overview of Dutch subsidiary Verenigde Schoenmachine Hertogenbosch	1949
	4	21-22	Diverse legal and business issues, Legal Department, Boston	1948-1951
	4	23-25	Financial disputes and legal claims	1952-1960
	4	26	Envelopes from USM Pan American Division	undated

#### **Series IV: Research and Development Department Records (1934-1974)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** The Research and Development Department included activities carried out by persons trained formally or by experience in the physical sciences or related engineering fields. Ordinary experimentation related to the development and improvement of shoe manufacturing machinery, military applications, and work done in connection with the company's post-World War Two diversification effort. Although the vast bulk of this series is in the Smithsonian archives, Historic Beverly holds some progress reports on various projects, correspondence, photographs, and research.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	3	3	Pamphlet: An Introduction to USMC Research	1948
	3	4	Lectures: lasting shoes; lasts; shoe parts and materials; the foot: its function and its sole; cutting room	1934-1947
	3	5	File: improved velocity of clicking machine	1936-1939
	3	6	Lastometry [lasting geometry]	1940
	3	7	Notebook: Brophy, J. J.	1939-1952
	3	8	Notebook: Lombardi, Theresa A.	1944-1945
	3	9	Notebook: Newton, C. G., Jr.	1945-1948
	3	10	File: automated control of machines	1945-1955
	3	11	Shoemaking: the Shoe Industry:	1946

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			Conditions which Affect Machine Development	
	3	12	Notebook: Root, Andrew A.	1947-1950
	3	13	Notebook: Maxfield, H. C.: microwave data plotted	1948
	3	14-15	Notebooks: Juhola, Carl	1948-1949
	3	16	File: control mechanisms for automated shoe machinery	1948-1949
	3	17	Notebook: Wright, Barbara: x-ray diffraction	1948-1950
	3	18-20	File: applications of automatic jack to inseaming	1948-1954
	3	21	Notebook: Bullard, W. G.	1949-1950
	3	22	Section 31, Shoemaking Statistics: Outsoles; Sizes and Widths; Theory and Methods of Lasting (incl. 8x10 black and white photographs)	1949-1950
	3	23	Offprint: Robert R. Perron: Shape Recording with Ratio-Modulated Tape	1950
	3	24-25	Notebooks: Wiederhorn, N.	1952
	5	1	File: Goodyear automatic inseam sewing machine: sewing head refinements	1952-1954
	5	2-3	Notebook: Appleton, Janet	1952-1954
	5	4	Notebook: Bliss, R. H.	1953-1954
	5	5	Notebook: Chellis, Fred F.	1953-1954
	5	6	File: applications of magnetic tape recording	1954
	5	7	Notebook: Ireland, R. W.	1954-1955
	5	8	Shoemaking Manual: Shoes and How They are Made	1957
	5	9	Impact Goodyear outsole leveling final report: evaluate a pneumatic hammer for leveling Goodyear outsoles	1961
	6	2	No.12 Flesher and Unhairer detail drawings	1962-1979
	5	10	Notebook: Newton, C. G.	1963-1964

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	11	Notebook: Elliott, Richard M.	1968-1974
	16	3	Frederick D. Hammond: certificate of appreciation (oversize)	undated

**Series V: Legal Records  
(1914-1915 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series includes a few items relating to the initial anti-trust suits against the USMC. There are also approximately 100 pages of abbreviated, handwritten, undated copies of Essex County property ownership records on preprinted forms entitled “Court of Land Registration: Probate Memoranda” and “Land Court: Deeds.” Their function is unknown, but they probably relate to Beverly properties acquired by the USMC.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	12	USMC anti-trust suit documents	1914-1915
	6	3	Property ownership records	undated

**Series VI: Employee/Personnel Materials  
(1916-1986 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** The bulk of material in this series concerns the Quarter Century Club (i.e., for employees whose tenure with the USMC extended 25 years and beyond). Several volumes span 50 years of club meeting minutes, and an index card file of club membership applications spans 60 years. Other items in this series concern employee health, benefit and pension plans, and social events. There are souvenir calendars given out by the USMC in the 1920s, and staff telephone directories from the latter part of the century. (Note: there is no box 10 in this collection.)

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	13	Pamphlet: Efficiency through Hygiene	1916
	5	14	Souvenir annual calendars	1920-1929
	6	4-9	Quarter Century Club meeting minutes	1926-1975
	7-9		Quarter Century Club membership application index card file	1926-1986
	6	10	Quarter Century Club memorabilia: membership acceptance letter; program for meeting and outing	1948-1949
	6	11	Employee memorabilia: company dance; reunions; open house events	1937-2014
	5	15	Employee benefits and pension plan circulars and pamphlets	1963-1968 and undated

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	16	Machinery Division employee survey	1969
	5	17	USMC and USM telephone directories	1969-1985 and undated
	5	18	Our Partnership in Employee Benefits	1976-1979
	5	19	USM Machinery Division time card	1981

**Series VII: Mutual Relief Association  
(undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** The Mutual Relief Association was established in 1907 for the purpose of paying a death or funeral benefit or disability benefit. Except for this one item, mutual relief documents are in the Smithsonian archives, not at Historic Beverly.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	20	Flyer: United Shoe Machinery Mutual Relief Association fee schedule for enrollment	undated

**Series VIII: Athletic Association  
(1907-1936)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** Employee activities organized under the umbrella of the corporation's Athletic Association (USMAA) included baseball, billiards, bowling, cricket, golf, hockey, tennis, and trap shooting, while also extending well beyond athletics into an agricultural division (with a flower and vegetable show), a motor boat club, social events involving musical and theatrical organizations, and an annual company fair, Sam-Sam. Numerous photographs relevant to USMAA facilities and activities are in Series XIV below.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	6	12	USMC – USMAA, an illustrated history of the USM Athletic Association	Undated (c1912)
	6	13	Sam-Sam memorabilia, inclusive of Beverly Hospital fundraiser	1907-1936
Map case drawer			Poster: All Roads Lead to Sam-Sam (oversize)	1936

**Series IX: Industrial School Records  
(1933-1964 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** The USMC established the Beverly Co-operative Trade School in 1909 to train future employees. Classrooms were situated at Briscoe High School, then at the McKay School from 1911 and the new Beverly High School from 1926. The corporation withdrew its support in March 1950 after the U.S. Department of Labor refused a request for an

exemption from minimum wage requirements; the bulk of the correspondence in this file concerns this dispute. Thereafter the operation of the school transferred to the city of Beverly.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	21	Diploma: Cantley, J. Clifford: Beverly Evening Trade School	1933
	16	3	Diploma: Elwell, Charles Clifford: Beverly Co-operative Trade School (oversize)	1940
	5	22	Beverly Co-operative Trade School records and correspondence	1940-1964
	5	23	Trade School memorabilia: English for American Citizenship lesson 25; questions on USM	undated

### Series X: Publications (1917-1989)

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series contains issues of employee magazines and newsletters, and company publications on the process of shoemaking.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	24	Newsletter: The Three Partners	1917-1920
	5	25	Shoemaker's Handbook	1941
	5	26	How Modern Shoes are Made, 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> editions	1949, 1954
	11		Quarter Century Club News (incomplete run)	1949-1986
	5	27	How American Shoes are Made	1960-1961
	5	28	USM Today (several issues)	1973-1989
	5	29	USM Old Timers newsletter (4 issues)	1988-1989

### Series XI: Product Literature (1903-1992 and undated)

**Series/Arrangement Note:** Product literature includes comprehensive catalogs of machines offered by the USMC and, later, USM; service and parts manuals for specific machines; and a few items of correspondence concerning patents on specific machines.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	5	30	Illustrierter Catalog der Vordersappen-Versorir-Formen, Deutsche Vereinigte Schumachinen Gesellschaf (illustrated)	1903

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			catalog of frontal patterns, German USMC)	
	5	31	Unidentified catalog index page	undated
	5	32	Catalog of machines manufactured by the USMC (The Ott Press, New York)	undated
	5	33	Catalog of USMC shoemaking machines	undated
	5	34	Catalog: Standard Parts	1962
	12	1	Machine names and symbols	1969
	12	2	USM machinery handbook (catalog of machine functions and specifications)	1969-1980
	12	3	Chart for Beads and Wheels	undated
	12	4	Instructions for machine adjustments	undated
	12	5	Goodyear Improved Sole Laying Machines: instructions for adjustments	1940
	12	6	Goodyear Universal Rounding and Channeling Machine: Model E: instructions for adjustments	1950
	12	7	McKay automatic heel loading & attaching machine, model B: catalogue of replacement parts	1953
	12	8	Heel seat lasting machine, model E: service instructions	1954
	12	9	Bottom cementing machine, model B: catalogue of replacement parts	1956
	12	10	Lip cutting, scoring & marking machine, model A: service instructions	1958
	12	11	USMC staple side lasting machine, model D: parts catalog and service instructions	1960 and undated
	12	12	Cutters and irons manual	1961
	12	13	Goodyear insole rib attaching machine, model C: service instructions	1962
	12	14	Eyeletting Handbook: product manual	1963
	12	15	Blind Riveting Handbook: product manual	1967
	12	16	Automatic Grinder CCG-M/B: operating instructions	undated
	12	17	Goodyear insole rib attaching machine,	1969

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			model B: parts catalog	
	12	18	Ultima Cutters Manual	1992
	12	19	Emhart Worldwide Product Directory	undated
	12	20	Correspondence concerning patents on specific machines	1914-1992 and undated
	12	21	“Out” slips documenting machines lent out	1913-1917
	12	21	Letter concerning a machine repair	+ -1967

**Series XII: Advertising and Marketing Materials  
(1951-1986)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series includes manuals for salesmen, a catalog of shoemaking supplies, advertising brochures generated by the USMC Atomic Power Department, and brochures for individual machines.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	12	22-23	Salesman’s manual	1951
	12	24	Shoemaking supplies catalog	1955
	12	25	Brochure: Nuclear Fuel Handling, Atomic Power Department, USMC; and related brochures	undated  (c1960-1970)
	12	26-27	USM sales brochures	1975-1990 and undated
	12	28	USM pocket salesbook for shoe tech	1986

**Series XIII: Individual Employee Records  
(1931-1993)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series consists of materials collected by individual employees. The Harold W. Boothroyd records include a work diary, research notebook, and Research Division training program; conversion tables for engineering calculations; a file on the Thermogrip machine (inclusive of photographs); USM organizational charts, and USM circulars on its acquisition by the Emhart Corporation; memorabilia; and photographs (transferred into series XIV). Union agreement booklets, brochures, and membership cards came from W. W. Burgess, Jr.’s affiliation with the Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. The Edward P. Chase records concern his work as USMC secretary, inclusive of a late 1960s daily work diary; activities of the USMC bowling league and the Quarter Century Club; and employee benefits, pensions, and reunions. Jack P. Card records concern USMC Research Division projects. There is casual correspondence with Wilbur S. Cobb, Director of Industrial Relations (as well as a collection of photographs involving Cobb, in Series XIV below), and

there are humorous typescripts from Charles H. Duston, a USM doctor.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	12	29-35	Boothroyd, Harold W.	1948-1993 and undated
	12	36	Burgess, W. W., Jr.	1947-1970
	12	37	Card, Jack A.	1962-1969
	13	1-3	Chase, Edward P.	1931-1990
	13	4	Cobb, Wilbur S.	1976
	13	5	Duston, Charles H.	1975

**Series XIV: Images: Photographs, Postcards, and Illustrations  
(1899-2000 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series, predominantly photographic, comprises images of buildings, shoe machinery, employees, and corporate social activities. Among these are Beverly factory exteriors, including aerial photos, and interiors, and Boston office exteriors and interiors; USMC buildings elsewhere in the U.S., and abroad; a “ten-footer” (a pre-industrial home piece-work shoemaking shop) that was brought onto the grounds of the Beverly factory complex; and several non-USMC buildings. Photographs and illustrations of shoemaking machines include both freestanding images created for patent applications and catalogs, and contextual shots of shoe machinery and other industrial equipment in use by workers within the factory. There are formal individual photographic portraits of management, group photographs (mainly organized by department), and photographs of employees at work. Images deriving from social activities include photographs from the annual Sam-Sam fair and other corporation events, and group portraits of USMC music ensembles, and USMAA recreational and athletic teams.

Included are two copies of an index of thousands of USMC glass plate negatives, dating from 1904 to about 1926, donated to the Smithsonian in 1987. These are almost entirely devoted to illustrating individual shoemaking machines, but also include portraits, the USMAA club house, and some USMAA teams. A 1998 photocopy of the index has an additional cover page that provides a key to the year in which the photographs were taken.

In 2019 the Institution deaccessioned 549 of these glass plate negatives. These now reside at Historic Beverly. A complete inventory of titles of the 549 images is available on an in-house Excel spread sheet, “2019 Smithsonian glass plate negatives inventory,” and the year of each image may be ascertain from the above-mentioned 1998 index.

To some extent, images in the Historic Beverly USMC archives correspond to the Smithsonian holdings, but there are also numerous images that exist independently of that collection. The vast majority are prints, not negatives. Of exceptional importance are black-and-white prints detailing construction of the Beverly factory complex in 1903 to 1906; these are only at Historic Beverly, not at the Smithsonian. There are also numerous images date from after 1987 (when the Smithsonian acquired the USMC archives), including color prints of the demolition of the USMC drop forge factory in 1996 (replaced by a still-extant Stop and Shop supermarket), and



the factory complex in its derelict form, and its restoration as the Cummings Center.

A bundle of photographs pertaining specifically to Harold W. Boothroyd's work on the Thermagrip machine reside within the Boothroyd records in Series XIII.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
	6	14	Numerical index of United Shoe Machinery Corporation glass plate negatives #36 (1904) to #20961 (c1926)	c1962
	6	15	Numerical index of United Shoe Machinery Corporation glass plate negatives #36 (1904) to #20961 (c1926), copy 2	1998
	17-24		Glass plate negatives deaccessioned by the Smithsonian	1904-1920
	13	6	Construction of the Beverly factory complex	1903-1906
	15	1	Construction of the Beverly factory complex, incl. Beverly Evening Times poster announcement, "Coming to Beverly" (oversize images)	1902-1904
	13	7	Beverly factory exteriors, including illustrations and postcards	1906-c1942 and undated
	13	8	Beverly factory exteriors, aerial views	c1946-1978 and undated
	15	2	Beverly factory exteriors, including aerial views (oversize images)	c1930-c1955 and undated
	13	9-11	Beverly factory interiors (incl. 4 glass slides)	1907-1967 and undated
	15	3	Beverly factory interiors (oversize images)	undated
	13	12	Demolition of the drop forge factory	1996-1997
	13	13	Beverly factory complex prior to renovation	1996-1997
	13	14	Cummings Center drawings and photographs	1996-2000
	13	15	Beverly factory fire department	1917
	13	16	USMAA Club House exterior, interior, winter landscape, and aerial view	1917-c1948 and undated

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
	13	17	Boston office exteriors and interiors	1928-1955 and undated
	15	4	Boston office building (oversize)	undated
	13	18	Lynn Shoe Lab interior photo	1946
	13	19	Krentler Bros. Company building, a USMC branch, Milwaukee	1953
	15	5	Building exteriors and interiors: pre-USMC; ?USMC Brockton; USMC St. Louis; Turning Tanning Machine Co., Peabody, Massachusetts (oversize)	c1900-c1930
	13	20	Global USMC building exteriors and interiors: England, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Mexico, Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand	1959-1963 and undated
	13	21	Pre-industrial “ten-footer” shoemaking shop brought to the Beverly factory grounds	1913-1914
	13	22	Pre-industrial shoemaking shops, and historical recreations of pre-industrial shoemaking in the U.S. and the Netherlands	1930 and undated
	13	23	Shoe machinery building exteriors and interiors elsewhere in Beverly and Boston	1899-1919
	6	16	S. A. Zuckermann & Diena, Padova, Italy, shoemaking factory photographic scrapbook (not a USMC subsidiary)	undated (c1937)
	13	24-25	Photographs and illustrations of freestanding machines, for patent applications and catalogs	1904-1970 and undated
	15	6	Illustrations of freestanding machines (oversize)	undated
	13	26	Shoe displays and shoes	undated
	13	27	Departmental group photos (many with captions)	1904-1970 and undated
	13	28	Individual and group photos (with captions)	1911-1999 and undated
	14	1	Individual and group photos (without captions)	1951

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
	16	1	Group photos (some with captions)	undated (c1900) - 1958
	14	2	Employee on-site parties and Christmas caroling	1948-1960 and undated
	14	3	Boston office group photos (without captions)	1949
	14	4	Boston office group photos (with captions)	1951
	14	5	USMC exporters group photos ("JWL" and unidentified)	undated
	14	6	Glass negatives: executive portraits, P. R. Glass and James McPherson	1915
	14	none	Experimental Department rolled panorama group photo (partially captioned)	1922
	14	none	B-O floor rolled panorama group photo (without captions)	1928
	14	7	New Hampshire summer home of Sidney W. Winslow, USMC president	undated
	14	8	New York, Philadelphia, Harrisburg group photos (with captions)	undated
	14	9	Deutsche Vereinigte Schuhmaschinen-Gesellschaft (German USMC) Christmas event	1937
	14	10	Cobb, Wilbur S.	1973-1980 and undated
	14	11	Sam-Sam (incl. 1 glass negative)	1916-1936 and undated
	14	12	Sam-Sam	1930
	14	13	Factory musical organizations: opera committee, orchestra, and band group photos	c1908-1956
	16	2	Factory musical and theatrical organizations: musical and social club, andolin orchestra, band, theatrical cast photo	1911 and undated
	14	14	USMAA recreational and athletic team photos	1930-1950
	14	none	USMAA bowling league rolled panorama group photos (2 photos, 1 with captions)	1942-1955

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	14	none	Quarter Century Club: rolled panorama group photos (without captions)	1927-1935
	14	15	Quarter Century Club: new member group portraits	1954-1964
	14	16	Beverly Co-operative Trade School graduation group photo	1940
	14	17	USM logo	undated
	14	18	Unidentified photos	undated
	16	3	W. L. Douglas shoe advertisement	undated

**Series XV: Oral Histories  
(1996-1997 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** This series holds three USMC employee oral histories.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
	?		Video cassette: Harold W. Boothroyd oral history	undated
	?		Video documentary on John Condon, inclusive of an oral history of USMC employee Fred Sillars	1996
	14	19-20	Elwell, Herbert "Roy", and Don Strople: USMC oral history cassette tapes, with permissions; transcripts and portraits (2 color slides and 2 black and white prints); and secondary source materials	1997

**Series XVI: Artifacts  
(c1903-2000 and undated)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:** Some artifacts within this series may be found within the archival boxes, but many others are stored within the museum collection by material (e.g., textiles) or by type of object (e.g., buttons). There are concrete bricks salvaged from a USMC factory chimney, and postage stamps, known as "perfins," which are perforated with a USMC logo, to discourage personal use of corporate postage. Buttons represent the USMC; the USMAA and its annual fair, Sam Sam; and the corporation's associated labor organization, the Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. The USMC gave an E (for excellence) pin to employees who manufactured 37mm guns during World War II. Shoemaking objects include paper patterns for wingtip shoes, and several tools. Corporate medical personnel utilized a "sight-screener" to evaluate the vision of USMC employees. Other souvenirs include a matchbook, a brass boot, patches, a necktie, a bill clip, a mug, and a still bank.

Most of the corporation's athletic events were evidently low-key, local, and just for fun, but the USMAA long distance running team and its individual members were awarded medals at numerous cross-country championships, intra- and inter-city races, and marathons in the 1930s. More than a dozen of these medals reside in the museum objects collection. The *Boston Globe*, the *New York Times*, and other major news outlets covered these events, mentioning the United Shoe Machinery team, or identifying "USMAA" alongside individual placements in the race results.

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			Concrete bricks from a USMC factory chimney	c1903-1911
	14	21	USMAA Sam-Sam buttons	1911-1916
	14	22	"Perfins": postage stamps with a perforated USMC logo	1920-1934
			USMAA long distance running medals	1930-1939
	14	23	Leather-bound USMC memorandum notepad	undated
			USMC time clock	undated
	14	24	E pin	undated (c1945)
	14	25	Hammond, Frederick W., USMC Quarter Century Club pin	1949
			Sight screener (for testing employee vision)	undated
	6	17	Paper patterns for wingtip shoes	undated
	14	26	USMAA matchbook	undated
			USMC tape measure, tools, and gauges	undated
			Brass bric-a-brac boot with embossed USM logo	undated
			United Electrical union membership and strike buttons	undated
			USM Machinery Division Security patch	undated
			Patch with USM logo	undated
			Necktie with USM logos	undated
			USM bill clip with billiards ball attached	undated
			USMC Quarter Century Club 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary pewter mug	1976
			USM reunion still bank	1991

Location	Box	Folder	Content	Date
			USM Texon mug	c1995-2000

### **Bibliography**

Margaret Hepler: "United Shoe Machinery Corporation Plant," Massachusetts Historical Commission (1995), inventory no. BEV/AE