Arthur Tooth & Sons stock inventories and accounts, 1871-1959

Finding aid prepared by J. Gibbs.
Descriptive Summary

Title:  Arthur Tooth & Sons stock inventories and accounts,

Date (inclusive):  1871-1959

Number:  860679

Creator/Collector:  Arthur Tooth & Sons

Physical Description:  36.0 volumes

Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, California, 90049-1688
(310) 440-7390


Request Materials:  Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the catalog record for this collection. Click here for the access policy.

Language:  Collection material is in English

Biographical/Historical Note

Arthur Tooth, the son of a framer, made his fortune selling etchings to wealthy Victorian patrons. Arthur Tooth & Sons was founded in London, in 1842, with galleries in Haymarket. In its first years, the firm dealt primarily in 18th and early 19th-century British paintings and drawings. After circa 1880, contemporary paintings and occasional old masters were increasingly added to stock. Other works of art and artefacts, such as china, furniture, and books, begin to be listed in the stock inventories after 1892. In the early 1900s, the firm opened a subsidiary branch in New York and closed it in 1924.

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Preferred Citation
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa860679

Acquisition Information
Acquired in 1986.

Processing History
Processed by J. Gibbs

Related Collections
Later Tooth stockbooks for the London office are in private hands, in London.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Tooth records comprise a continuous and incomplete series of stock inventories of the main London branch of the firm from 1871-1941. Inventories include detailed listings of purchases made and sales completed. Paintings sales are listed until 1945 and details of sales to 1957 are furnished in annotations in the latest stock inventory. An associated series of consignments, 1929-1959, provides information on works consigned to the firm by practising artists, private owners, and commercial enterprises. The accounts of the London branch for 1913-1937 and 1942-1945 are chronicled in a series of 9 ledgers. The collection includes records of the New York branch of the firm; stock inventories, 1906-1912, and accounts, 1919-1924. There appears to have been regular movement of paintings between the two branches until the New York subsidiary closed in 1924. Records of a Paris subsidiary of the firm are not represented in this collection.

Arrangement note

Subjects - Names

Arthur Tooth & Sons stock inventories and accounts,
1871-1959
Smith, Matthew, 1879-1959

Subjects - Corporate Bodies
Arthur Tooth & Sons
Tooth Galleries, London
Tooth Paintings, London

Subjects - Topics
Art dealers--Great Britain
Art dealers--United States
Art--Collectors and collecting
Art--Exhibitions
Decorative arts--Europe
Drawing--Europe
Painting--Europe

Genres and Forms of Material
Account books
Merchandise inventories

Series I. London branch stock inventories, 1871-1945, 1957
Physical Description: 21.0 volumes
Scope and Content Note
Inventory recorded by stock numbers. Information includes date of acquisition, subject, artist, dimensions, bought of, cost, sold for, date sold, to whom sold, and occasionally, remarks. If the work was unsold and remained in stock, this is usually specified in the columns of "sale....to whom" by "Stock" and year it was carried over.

Box 1
Drawings, 1 January 1871-31 December 1878
Scope and Content Note
First entry is dated into stock as of 7 May 1868

Box 2
Ledger, 1 January 1879-31 December 1891
Scope and Content Note
On spine: Drawings. First entry is dated into stock as of 8 April 1873.

Scope and Content Note
Alphabetical index in front (referencing to ledger folio sheet).

Box 3
Drawings: Index, 1 July 1901
Scope and Content Note
Alphabetical index with references to folio/page numbers in another ledger.

Box 4
Paintings, 1 January 1871-16 July 1874
Scope and Content Note
First stock entry is numbered "1" and dated into stock as of 9 January 1868.

Box 5
Paintings, 1 July 1874-31 December 1880
Scope and Content Note
On spine: Pictures. First stock no. entry numbered "859" and dated into stock as of 18 July 1874. For year 1875, first stock no. entry is numbered "1" and dated into stock as of 8 January 1868.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6</th>
<th>Paintings, 1 January 1881-31 December 1886</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First stock entry is numbered &quot;1&quot; and dated into stock as of 16 February 1872.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7</th>
<th>Paintings, 1 January 1887-31 December 1891</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| First stock entry is numbered "1" and dated into stock as of 19 January 1878.  
Alphabetical index of artists: in front, and preceding folio sheet 1891 (referencing particular artist stock number, not Tooth’s stock inventory number). |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 8</th>
<th>Paintings, 1900</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On cover: Pictures Stock, 1 July 1903. Date on first page: 1 July 1900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First stock entry is numbered &quot;1&quot; and dated into stock as of 17 January 1878.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 8</th>
<th>Total Stock No.1, 1 January 1892-30 June 1896</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date on first page for &quot;Painting&quot;: 31 December 1891. First stock entry for &quot;Painting&quot; is numbered &quot;1&quot; and dated into stock as of 19 January 1878.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 9</th>
<th>Total Stock No. 2, 1 July 1896-30 June 1901</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First stock entry for &quot;Painting&quot; is numbered &quot;1&quot; and dated into stock as of 17 January 1878.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10</th>
<th>Total Stock No. 3, 1 July 1901-30 Aug 1905</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On spine: Stock, No. 3 (1 July 1901-30 June 1904). Date on first page for &quot;Painting&quot;: 1 May 1901. Date of last entry for &quot;Painting&quot;: 30 August 1905</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First stock entry for &quot;Painting&quot; is numbered &quot;1145.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 11</th>
<th>Total Stock No. 4, 1 July 1905-30 June 1913</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| First stock entry for "Painting" is numbered "1" and dated into stock as of 14 July 1878.  
Separate sections for paintings, drawings, graphics, sculpture, china, and furniture. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 12</th>
<th>Total Stock No. 5, 1 July 1913-23 October 1923</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| First stock entry for "Painting" is numbered "1" and is dated into stock as of 17 July 1878.  
Separate sections for paintings, drawings, graphics, sculpture, china, and furniture. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13</th>
<th>Total Stock No. 6, November 1923-May 1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On binder: Stock, No. 6, 1 November 1923-6 April 1935. First stock entry for &quot;Painting&quot; is numbered &quot;1&quot; and is dated into stock as of 31 July 1902. Separate sections for paintings, drawings, graphics, sculpture, china, and furniture.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series I. London branch stock inventories, 1871-1945, 1957

Box 14  Total Stock, January 1928-January 1943  
Scope and Content Note  

Box 15  Picture Sales No. 2, 25 April 1902-16 October 1914  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Box 16  Picture Sales No. 3, 26 November 1914-13 September 1927  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Box 17  Picture Sales No. 4, 15 September 1921-27 June 1928  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Box 17  Picture Sales No. 5, 27 June 1928-28 May 1934  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Box 18  Picture Sales No. 6, 1 June 1934-31 December 1937  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Box 18  Picture Sales No. 7, 3 January 1938-29 June 1945  
Scope and Content Note  
Chronological listing of paintings sales.

Series II. London branch consignments, 1928-1959  
Scope and Content Note  
Some volumes arranged similarly to the Inventories in Series I. Many listings are consignments by the artists themselves.

Box 19  Paintings, Sculpture & Pottery, January 1928-1932  
Scope and Content Note  
Mostly artists’ consignments (among them Augustus John, Ben Nicholson, Matthew Smith, Brandon Davis). Index on f. 24.

Box 20  Paintings & Sculpture, 1932-1935  
Scope and Content Note  
First section devoted to consignments by artists, with subsequent sections for Augustus John and other artists. “Pictures consigned by other than artists”: folio 85 to 96. Alphabetical index in front (referencing to folio sheet).
Series II. London branch consignments, 1928-1959

Box 21

**Consignments, 1928-1940**

Scope and Content Note
On cover: Consignments, from 1-1-38. Earliest entry is in 1928 ("Sculpture"); majority of entries in 1930s. Consignments by artists, dealers, private individuals—all separately listed. Consignments for exhibitions at Tooth (e.g., Modigliani 1938; Monet 1939; Fleche d’Or 1938)—separately listed. Index (partially alphabetical) at front (referencing to folio sheet).

Box 21

**Consignments, 1932-1959**

Scope and Content Note
Earliest entry is in 1932, beginning with consignment no. 545.

Series III. London branch accounts, 1913-1937, 1942-1945

Physical Description: 9.0 volumes

Scope and Content Note
Ledgers numbered 13 through 22, listing payments and sales. Usually include stock number, and/or the Tooth exhibition catalogue number. Each volume includes an alphabetical index in front, which references to ledger folio sheet. Titles are from the spines of the volumes.

Box 22

Ledger No. 13, 1 July 1913-31 October 1914

Box 23

Ledger No. 14, 1 November 1914-31 October 1918

Box 24

Ledger No. 15, 1 November 1918-31 October 1921

Box 25

Ledger No. 16, 1 November 1921-31 October 1924

Box 26

Ledger No. 17, 1 November 1924-31 October 1927

Box 27

Ledger No. 18, 1 November 1927-31 October 1930

Box 28

Ledger No. 19, 1 November 1930-31 October 1934

Box 29

Ledger No. 20, 1 November 1934-31 October 1937

Box 30

Ledger No. 22, 1 November 1942-31 October 1945

Series IV. New York branch, 1906-1924

Physical Description: 2.0 volumes

Scope and Content Note
Series includes 1 volume of stock inventory, and 1 book of accounts.

Box 30

Stock Inventories, December 1906-September 1912

Scope and Content Note
Chronological listing of sales (includes stock no., artist, medium, title, purchaser, sometimes consignor/prior collection and or cat. rais. no.

Box 30

Accounts, New York House, 6 December 1919-29 April 1924

Scope and Content Note