Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera: Finding Aid

Finding aid prepared by Diann Benti and Charla DelaCuadra.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens.
Prints and Ephemera
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
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Overview of the Collection
Title: Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera
Dates (inclusive): 1846-1990s
Bulk dates: 1890-1960
Collection Number: priJLC_ENT_Circus
Collector: Last, Jay T.
Extent: approximately 870 items
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Prints and Ephemera
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: The Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera contains more than 850 printed items that relate to circuses in the United States from the 1846 to the 1990s. The collection consists of advertising and promotional materials, business records, and illustrations produced for or pertaining to circuses, their tours and shows, staff and performers, acts and exhibits, and animals.
Language: English.
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Preferred Citation
Provenance
This collection forms part of the Jay T. Last Collection of Graphic Arts and Social History, which was donated to the Huntington Library by Jay T. Last in 2005 as a gift in progress. The bulk of the Circus Prints and Ephemera were transferred to the Library between 2010 and 2013.
Background
The Jay T. Last Collection is an unparalleled archive of printed paper artifacts that documents American lithographic, social, and business history. The collection began in the early 1970s when physicist and Silicon Valley pioneer Jay Last moved to Southern California and started collecting citrus box labels he found at local flea markets and rummage sales. As his collection grew, Last realized that these labels conveyed important information about commercial printing, graphic design, and social history, and he expanded his collection to include other forms of American visual culture. Today this collection contains more than 200,000 lithographic prints, posters, and ephemera of mostly nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American origin and represents works by more than five hundred lithographic companies.
Scope and Content
The Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera contains more than 850 printed items that relate to circuses in the United States from the 1846 to the 1990s. The collection consists of advertising and promotional materials, business records, and illustrations produced for or pertaining to circuses, their tours and shows, staff and performers, acts and exhibits, and animals.
Materials are arranged in three series: small-size prints and ephemera (11 x 14 inches or less); large-size prints and ephemera (more than 11 x 14 inches); and broadsides and handbills. The small-size items are described broadly at the series level; large-size items are fully inventoried and all printers, artists, and publishers are indexed by name; and the broadsides and handbills contain item-level entries that include the circus name, date, printer (when identified), and show
The collection has 220 large-size items comprised mainly of lithographic posters containing brightly colored images of featured circus acts, performers, and animals that were typically posted outdoors in advance of the circus coming to town. Small-size items in the collection number more than 500 and are comprised mainly of advertising and promotion ephemera and business documents such as trade cards, programs and souvenir books, route cards, envelopes, tickets, songsters, and printed billheads and letterheads.

The 130 broadsides, handbills, and related advertisements consist primarily of long, narrow broadsides printed on newspaper paper in black ink using letterpress type that advertised upcoming circus shows and were intended to be distributed by hand, left in stacks in public places, or posted on walls, fences, or in windows in advance of the circus’s arrival in a town.

This collection provides a resource for studying the history of the American circus and its impact on popular entertainment and advertising in the 19th and 20th centuries. As graphic materials, the items offer evidence of the development of printmaking techniques and trends, and of the artists, engraves, lithographers, printers, and publishers involved in the creation of these prints.

**Alternative Form of Materials Available**

Visit the [Huntington Digital Library: Jay T. Last Collection](https://www.huntington.org/) to view digitized items from this collection.

**Related materials in the Huntington Library include**

- [Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Performing Arts Prints and Ephemera](https://www.huntington.org/collections/jay-t-last-performing-arts-prints-ephemera)
- [Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Theatrical Broadsides and Playbills](https://www.huntington.org/collections/jay-t-last-theatrical-broadsides-playbills)

Note: The Huntington Library Historical Prints Collection contains one related item (priHHC_ENT_0000001) that is listed in the "Related Materials" section at the beginning of Series II in this finding aid.

**Arrangement**

Items are arranged in the following three series:

- Series I. Circus Prints and Ephemera (small size)
- Series II. Circus Prints and Ephemera (large size)
- Series III. Circus Broadsides and Handbills

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the [Huntington Library's Online Catalog](https://www.huntington.org/online-catalog).

**Genres**

- Advertisements
- Billheads
- Business cards
- Business records
- Business records -- United States -- 19th century
- Business records -- United States -- 20th century
- Chromolithographs
- Circus posters
- Ephemera
- Engravings
- Leaflets (printed works)
- Letterheads
- Lithographs
- Posters
- Printed ephemera
- Prints
- Promotional materials
- Relief prints
- Trade cards
Subjects
Acrobats -- Pictorial works.
Advertising -- Circus.
Animal trainers -- Pictorial works.
Circus -- Pictorial works.
Circus -- United States -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.
Circus -- United States -- History -- 20th century -- Sources.
Circus animals -- Pictorial works.
Circus performers -- Pictorial works.
Circus owners -- Pictorial works.
Clowns -- Pictorial works.
Curiosities and wonders -- Pictorial works.
Entertainment events -- Pictorial works.
Horsemen and horsewomen -- Pictorial works.
Women circus performers -- Pictorial works.

Printer, Publisher, Artist Index
The following is a complete list of printers, publishers, and artists represented in the large-size prints and ephemera (Series II) in this collection.
Acme Show Print (Firm)
American Show Print (Firm)
Bailey, Bill.
Biggerstaff, Bill.
Central Ptg. and Illinois Litho. Co.
Central Show Printing Co.
Chicago Show Printing Co.
Colorcraft Poster Co.
Coplan, Maxwell Frederic.
Courier Company.
Courmont Freres.
Currier & Ives.
Donaldson Litho. Co.
Erie Litho. & Ptg. Co.
Freeland, Forrest Dean, -1975.
G. & W. Endicott
Gibson & Co. (Cincinnati, Ohio)
Globe Poster Corp.
Graphics 2000 (Las Vegas, Nev.)
Howe, George, 1886-1955.
J.H. & F.F. Farwell (Firm)
Majestic Poster Press.
Neal Walters Poster Corporation.
Rimanoczy, A., 1832-1910.
Riverside Printing Company
Rothengatter, Emil, 1848-1939.
Sanford, George T.
Series I. Circus Prints and Ephemera (small size) approximately 1850-1991 (bulk 1880-1960)

Extent: approximately 520 items in 4 binders and 1 flat-top box

Scope and Content Note

This series contains over 500 printed items, 11 x 14 inches or smaller, that pertain to circuses in the United States from approximately 1850 to 1991, with the bulk of items dating from 1880 to 1960. Items consist of advertising and promotion ephemera that promote circuses or were used as business documents by circuses. Item types include trade cards, programs and souvenir books, route cards, envelopes, tickets, songsters, and printed billheads and letterheads. While some of the stationery is filled out in manuscript with miscellaneous correspondence or invoices, the series does include a substantial amount of blank letterhead.

Arrangement

Items smaller than 8 x 10 inches are housed in binders, while items that are between 8 x 10 inches and 11 x 14 inches in size are arranged numerically by call number in one box.

Binder 1  Circus, A-B by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)

Physical Description: approximately 180 items

Binder 2  Circus, C-G by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)

Physical Description: approximately 120 items

Binder 3  Circus, H-Q by company, also performers (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)

Physical Description: approximately 100 items

Binder 4  Circus, R-Z by company, also performers (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)

Physical Description: approximately 110 items

Note

Items pertaining to Ringling Bros. are housed in Binder 1 with Barnum & Bailey materials.

Box 1  Circus (between 8 x 10 inches and 11 x 14 inches in size)

Physical Description: approximately 10 items
Series II. Circus Prints and Ephemera (large size) 1846-1980s (bulk 1890-1960)

Extent: 220 items

Scope and Content

This series contains more than 200 printed 19th and 20th century circus posters. The posters date from 1846 to the 1980s, with the bulk of the items spanning from the 1890s to the 1960s. These prints were used as promotional materials and typically posted outdoors in advance of the circus coming to town. These posters, primarily color lithographs, were produced by American printers for American circuses, though there are approximately seven posters with French or German text that Barnum & Bailey used for shows in Europe in the late 1890s and early 1900s.

The posters typically contain brightly colored images of featured circus acts, performers, or animals. Many of the items include depictions of clowns, gymnasts, aerialists, acrobats, jugglers, animal trainers, or equestrians, portraits of circus owners such as P. T. Barnum, J. A. Bailey, and the Ringling Brothers, or scenes of street parades, historical pageants, circus wagons and railroad cars, tents, arenas, spectators and crowds, zoo menageries, and animals including bears, elephants, giraffes, gorillas, horses, lions, monkeys, rhinoceroses, and tigers.

The posters, primarily color lithographs, range in size from approximately 12 x 16 inches to 117 x 41 inches, and while outdoor circus posters might take up entire building walls, most of the items in the collection consist of “one-sheet” posters sized to approximately 28 x 42 inches. Approximately twenty American printing firms are represented in the collection, though the Strobridge Lithographing Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, printed more than sixty of the posters, and the Erie Litho. and Printing Company of Erie, Pennsylvania, printed nearly thirty. About a quarter of the posters have date sheets, which are small strips with printed text containing information about the date and location of a particular upcoming show, pasted to the bottom of the poster.

Among the earliest items is an 1850s four-sheet poster for A. Turner & Co’s Combined Menagerie and Circus, and one of the most recent is a 1980s poster for the Ford Bros. Circus. While over fifty circuses are represented, most have between one and ten posters; the circuses of Barnum and Bailey and the Ringling Brothers comprise the largest subset in the collection with more than eighty posters among them.

Related Material

Items in the Huntington Library Historical Prints collection:

priHHC_ENT_0000001 Al. G. Barnes trained wild animal circus : four big steel arenas in which are presented marvel acts by ferocious jungle animals. (Al G. Barnes Wild Animal Circus) 192-.
View online image.

Arrangement

Items in this series are arranged numerically by call number and described in the following format:

Title of print. (Circus name) Date

Artist(s) (when known) Printer(s) Publisher(s)

priJLC_ENT_000001

The Barnum & Bailey big free street parade : is the most magnificent, largest, greatest processional spectacle ever seen given absolutely free at 10 o’clock a.m. preceding the initial exhibition of the greatest show on earth. (Barnum & Bailey Circus) ©1913.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

priJLC_ENT_000002

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on earth : the world’s grandest, largest, best, amusement institution. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1890.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company
The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on earth : l'institut de divertissement le plus grand et le plus magnifique du monde. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1898.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : 1000 skits by 50 original clowns. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1916.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : the Ching-Ling-He and Tia Pen troupes. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1914.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : a complete horse show of the most beautiful, best trained and sagacious equines ever exhibited. ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1903.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : the Dunbar Trio the world's most famous aerialists. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1895.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : the great Florenz Troupe 12 in number ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1904.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : Imre Kiralfy's Columbus and the discovery of America ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1891.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : interior view of the great double menageries ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1903.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : les plus vastes les plus prodigieux spectacles du monde. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1902.

Printers: Courmont Freres; Publishers: Courier Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth : more than 200 international lady artists a worlds congress of famous performing beauties. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1917.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company
The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: a partial display of the new enormous menagerie & characteristic groupings of strange and savage people. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1894.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: scene excitante dans le cirque des enfants, par les mignons poneys Shetland, montes par des singes bavards, vivants, finissant une course chaudement contestée. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1898.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth scenes in the grand water circus. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1895.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: section 2. Circus division of the new million dollar free street parade ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1894.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: section 4. Performing wild beast division of the new million dollar free street parade ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1894.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey latest and greatest thriller the balloon horse Jupiter ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Barnum & Bailey's new superb spectacle Cleopatra. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1912.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Die Barnum & Bailey groesste schaustellung der welt. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1898.

Artists: Potthast, Edward Henry, 1857-1927

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Die Barnum & Bailey groesste schaustellung der welt: 70 dressirte pferde in einer nummer. ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1898.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Die Barnum & Bailey groesste schaustellung der welt: ein wahrer wirrwar der drolligsten einfalle von spassmachern in menge. ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1898.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company
| priJLC_ENT_000023 | P.T. Barnum’s greatest show on Earth, & the Great London Circus combined with Sanger’s Royal British Menagerie & Grand International Allied Shows. ... (Barnum & London Circus) approximately 1882.  
Artists: Rothengatter, Emil, 1848-1939  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| priJLC_ENT_000024 | P.T. Barnum’s greatest show on Earth, & the Great London Circus combined with Sanger’s Royal British Menagerie & Grand International Allied Shows. ... (Barnum & London Circus) approximately 1882.  
Artists: Rothengatter, Emil, 1848-1939  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| priJLC_ENT_000025 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1944.  
Artists: Bailey, Bill |
| priJLC_ENT_000026 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1944.  
Artists: Bailey, Bill |
| priJLC_ENT_000027 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1969.  
Artists: Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958 |
| priJLC_ENT_000028 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.  
Artists: Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958 |
| priJLC_ENT_000029 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.  
Artists: Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958 |
| priJLC_ENT_000030 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.  
Artists: Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958 |
| priJLC_ENT_000031 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: the incomparable Alfred Court master trainer. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.  
Artists: Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958 |
| priJLC_ENT_000032 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: see you at the greatest show on Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1973.  
Artists: Coplan, Maxwell Frederic |
| priJLC_ENT_000033 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Circus: 100 double length steel railroad cars crammed and jammed with wonders from all corners of the Earth. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1933.  

Jay T. Last Collection of  
Entertainment: Circus Prints and  
Ephemera: Finding Aid
| priJLC_ENT_000037 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Circus : the circus kings of all time ... (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1936. Printers: Erie Litho. & Ptg. Co. |
| priJLC_ENT_000041 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Circus presenting the greatest educational feature in amusement history : direct from the African jungles - herd of the smallest full grown pigmy elephants on the face of the globe! (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1936. Printers: Erie Litho. & Ptg. Co. |
| priJLC_ENT_000042 | Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows : Gargantua the great the largest and fiercest gorilla ever brought before the eyes of civilized man! (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1938. Artists: Sharp, Howard Bird, 1877-1952 Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
**Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows**

- **Pallenberg's wonder bears.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1938.
  - **Printers:** Erie Litho. & Ptg. Co.

- **Presenting one hundred and fifty horses in “the fete of the garlands.”** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1927.
  - **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

- **Terrell Jacobs the lion king presenting the world’s most sensational group of jungle-bred performers.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1938.
  - **Printers:** Erie Litho. & Ptg. Co.

- **Francis Brunn greatest juggler the world has ever known.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1948.
  - **Artists:** Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975
  - **Printers:** Chicago Show Printing Co.

- **The greatest show on Earth.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.

- **Introducing Mr. & Mrs. Gargantua the great : for 80 years the greatest show on Earth.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.
  - **Artists:** Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958

- **Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey presents Old King Cole and Mother Goose a spectacular fantasy.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1941.
  - **Artists:** Howe, George, 1886-1955; Geddes, Norman Bel, 1893-1958

- **Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey : the world's biggest menagerie.** (Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus) ©1944.
  - **Artists:** Bailey, Bill

- **Ringling Bros Barnum & Bailey.** (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1943.
  - **Artists:** Wood, Lawson, 1878-1957

- **Ringling Bros Barnum & Bailey the greatest show on Earth.** (Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus) approximately 1940.
Ringling Bros free street parade greatest the world has ever seen 10 o'clock a.m. preceding first exhibition. (Ringling Brothers) approximately 1914.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling Bros: Miss May Wirth somersaulting queen of the arena. (Ringling Brothers) ©1917.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling Bros shows: Hillary Long who puts his skates upon his head and wears his hat upon his feet while accomplishing apparently impossible stunts. (Ringling Brothers) approximately 1918.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling Bros stupendous spectacle Solomon and the queen of Sheba: Solomon receiving Balkis the queen of Sheba ... (Ringling Brothers) approximately 1915.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum Bailey greatest show on Earth. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1908.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey musical elephant prodigies. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1945.

Artists: Bailey, Bill

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1945.

Artists: Bailey, Bill

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1945.

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1927.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows: world's biggest menagerie. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1925.

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company
**Series II. Circus Prints and Ephemera (large size) 1846-1980s (bulk 1890-1960)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Artists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000066</td>
<td><em>Ringling Bros and Barnum &amp; Bailey: Francis Brunn greatest juggler the world has ever known.</em> (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1948.</td>
<td><em>Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000067</td>
<td><em>Ringling Bros and Barnum &amp; Bailey: The great Alzanas world renowned high wire daredevils.</em> (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1947.</td>
<td><em>Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000068</td>
<td><em>80th season Ringling Bros and Barnum &amp; Bailey &quot;the greatest show on earth&quot;.</em> (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1950.</td>
<td><em>Chicago Show Printing Co.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000069</td>
<td><em>Ringling Bros and Barnum Bailey: incredible Unus the talk of the universe.</em> (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1948.</td>
<td><em>Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000071</td>
<td><em>Ringling Bros and Barnum &amp; Bailey.</em> (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1945.</td>
<td><em>Bill Bailey</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000072</td>
<td><em>The Adam Forepaugh shows. Historic scenes and battles of the American Revolution: inauguration of George Washington, ...</em> (Great Forepaugh Show) ©1893.</td>
<td><em>Strobridge Lithographing Company</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000073</td>
<td><em>The Adam Forepaugh shows. Historic scenes and battles of the American Revolution: interior of the great tent, ...</em> (Great Forepaugh Show) ©1893.</td>
<td><em>Strobridge Lithographing Company</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000074</td>
<td><em>The Adam Forepaugh shows. Historic scenes and battles of the American Revolution: Washington's state carriage ...</em> (Great Forepaugh Show) ©1893.</td>
<td><em>Strobridge Lithographing Company</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000075</td>
<td><em>Al. G. Barnes quality circus of the world &quot;the show that's different&quot;: Champion artists present the supreme circus of all times.</em> (Al G. Barnes Wild Animal Circus) approximately 1926?</td>
<td><em>Erie Litho. &amp; Ptg. Co.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera: Finding Aid**
Al G. Barnes - Sells-Floto and John Robinson combined circuses: Janet May world's foremost aerial gymnaste in thrilling one-arm planges. (Al G. Barnes - Sells-Floto Circus & John Robinson Combined Circuses) approximately 1938.


Al G. Kelly and Miller Bros. 2nd largest circus: largest, most varied and valuable collection of rare animals. (Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. Circus) approximately 1945.

Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. circus. (Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. Circus) approximately 194-.

Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. 2nd largest circus. (Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. Circus) approximately 1950-.

An attraction without parallel: Achille Philion the marvelous equilibrist and originator. ©1899.

Printers: Courier Company

Buffalo Bill's wild west: Sells Floto circus. (Sells-Floto Circus) approximately 1926.


Carson & Barnes big 3 ring circus. (Carson & Barnes Circus) approximately 1960?

R.S. Printers: Neal Walters Poster Corporation


Printers: Acme Show Print (Firm)

Carson and Barnes big 3 ring largest circus. (Carson & Barnes Circus) 196?.

Printers: Acme Show Print (Firm)

Carson and Barnes big 3 ring 2nd largest circus. (Carson & Barnes Circus) 196?.

Printers: Acme Show Print (Firm)


Printers: Acme Show Print (Firm)


Clyde Beatty and Cole Bros. world's largest circus. (Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus) 196?

Printers: Globe Poster Corp.
Printers: Globe Poster Corp.

Printers: Majestic Poster Press

Cole Bros. Circus: two railroad trains of double length cars jammed with wonders from all parts of the world. (Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1935.

Cole Bros. Circus. (Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1935?


Cole Bros. Circus: Cole Bros. Circus presents quarter-million pound act of performing elephants the most colossal trained animal display ever presented. (Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1935?

Artists: Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Code</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000102</td>
<td><strong>Cristiani Bros. Wild-Animal Circus</strong> : amazing leaps over a big herd of elephants. (Cristiani Bros. Circus) approximately 1958.</td>
<td><strong>Artists</strong>: Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000103</td>
<td><strong>Cristiani Bros. Wild-Animal Circus</strong> : amazing leaps over a big herd of elephants. (Cristiani Bros. Circus) approximately 1958.</td>
<td><strong>Artists</strong>: Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000105</td>
<td><strong>Cronin Bros. Big 3 Ring Circus.</strong> (Cronin Bros. Circus) approximately 1944.</td>
<td><strong>Printers</strong>: Globe Poster Corp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000106</td>
<td><strong>Cronin Bros. big 3 ring circus : Cal and Ruth Thompsons famous white horse troupe.</strong> (Cronin Bros. Circus) approximately 1944.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000107</td>
<td><strong>Dailey Bros. Big 3 Ring Circus : traveling on its own steel train of double length railroad cars.</strong> (Dailey Bros. Circus) between 1944 and 1950.</td>
<td><strong>Printers</strong>: Central Show Printing Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000108</td>
<td><strong>El Zaribah Shrine Circus.</strong> (El Zaribah Shrine Circus) approximately 1967.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000111</td>
<td><strong>The Great Forepaugh &amp; Sells Brothers shows combined : phenomenal acts of contortion, ...</strong> (Adam Forepaugh &amp; Sells Bros. Circus) ©1899.</td>
<td><strong>Printers</strong>: Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000112</td>
<td><strong>The great Morton wonder show and combined thrill circus big tent theatre : world's most beautiful tented attraction.</strong> (Great Morton Wonder Show) approximately 1948?.</td>
<td><strong>Printers</strong>: Central Show Printing Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000113</td>
<td><strong>Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus : Capt. Robert McPhearson and his group of forest-bred, trained, royal Bengal tigers.</strong> (Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus) approximately 1923.</td>
<td><strong>Printers</strong>: Erie Litho. &amp; Ptg. Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000114</td>
<td><strong>Hagenbeck-Wallace trained wild animal circus.</strong> (Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus) approximately 1930s.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000115</td>
<td><strong>Hanneford Circus.</strong> (Hanneford Circus) 1977</td>
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<td>Document ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000116</td>
<td><em>Hobart’s big united circus acts.</em> (Hobart’s Big United Circus Acts) ©1905.</td>
<td>1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000117</td>
<td><em>Hobart’s big united circus acts.</em> (Hobart’s Big United Circus Acts) ©1906.</td>
<td>1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000118</td>
<td><em>Hoxie Bros. big 3 ring circus.</em> (Hoxie Bros. Circus) approximately 196-.</td>
<td>196-</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000119</td>
<td><em>Hunt’s 3 Ring Circus.</em> (Hunt’s Three Ring Circus) approximately 192-?</td>
<td>192-?</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000121</td>
<td><em>Ken Maynard’s Diamond K Ranch wild west circus and Indian congress.</em> (Ken Maynard’s Wild West) approximately 1936.</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000122</td>
<td><em>Ken Maynard’s wild west circus and Indian congress.</em> (Ken Maynard’s Wild West) approximately 1936.</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000125</td>
<td>“Believe It or Not” featured with the Ripley Road Show : Medusa child of the sea.</td>
<td>193-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000126</td>
<td><em>International congress of oddities... presenting famous “believe it or not” subjects as cartooned by Robert L. Ripley.</em> (Ripley’s Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) 193-?</td>
<td>193-?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Artists: Ripley, Robert L. (Robert LeRoy), 1890-1949</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000127</td>
<td><em>Miss Bertha Curtis weight 540 Lbs.</em> (Ripley’s Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) 193-?</td>
<td>193-?</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000128</td>
<td><em>Museum of living wonders freaks curiosities and oddities : made famous by Robt. L. Ripley in newspaper cartoons.</em> (Ripley’s Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) 193-?</td>
<td>193-?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Artists: Ripley, Robert L. (Robert LeRoy), 1890-1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000129</td>
<td><em>New York World’s Fair Museum presents believe it or not” weight 540 lbs. : subjects as cartooned by Robt. L. Ripley.</em> (Ripley’s Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) approximately 1939.</td>
<td>1939</td>
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<td>Artists: Ripley, Robert L. (Robert LeRoy), 1890-1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000130</td>
<td>New York World's Fair Museum presents “believe it or not” : Edna Price - queen of sword swallowers. (Ripley's Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) approximately 1939.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Artists: Ripley, Robert L. (Robert LeRoy), 1890-1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000131</td>
<td>The pain proof man : as cartooned by Robt. L. Ripley : world famous oddity. (Ripley's Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) 193-?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Artists: Ripley, Robert L. (Robert LeRoy), 1890-1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000132</td>
<td>Lady Leona psychic marvel girl with a radio mind : “she sees all knows all” (Ripley's Believe It or Not! [Ripley Entertainment Inc.]) 193-?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000134</td>
<td>Robbins Bros. Circus : two railroad trains of double length cars jammed with wonders from all parts of the world. (Robbins Bros. Circus) approximately 1938.</td>
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<td>Printers: Globe Poster Corp.</td>
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<td>Printers: Acme Show Print (Firm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000137</td>
<td>Sells Bros. 3 ring circus. (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1962.</td>
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<td>Printers: Neal Walters Poster Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000138</td>
<td>Sells Brothers : Roman hippodrome 3 ring circus two elevated stages, 5 continent menagerie imperial Japanese troupe combined with Hassan Ben Ali’s Moorish caravan Arabian nights' entertainment and spectacular pilgrimage to Mecca. (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1892.</td>
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<td>Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000139</td>
<td>Sells Brothers in Perpetual Union with S. H. Barrett’s Roman hippodrome three ring circus elevated stage 5 continent menagerie new monster shows : the children's dream of fairy-land ... (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1889.</td>
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<td>Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000140</td>
<td>Sells Floto Circus. (Sells-Floto Circus) 192-?</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000141</td>
<td>Tom Mix Circus : tomfoolery supreme. (Tom Mix Circus) between 1935 and 1938.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Walter L. Main 3 Ring Trained Wild Animal Shows: high wire artists: introducing the most difficult and dangerous feats ever devised by human ingenuity. (Walter L. Main Circus) between 1890 and 1904.

*Printers:* Riverside Printing Company

**Royal American Shows:** world's largest midway. (Royal American Shows Inc.) 195-?

1869 *Circus.* (1869 Circus) 1969?

*Artists:* Biggerstaff, Bill

**Bentley Bros. Circus international 3-ring.** (Bentley Bros. Circus) after 1977.

*Capell Bros. Shows: and free circus.* (Capell Bros. Shows) approximately 1950.

*Printers:* Colorcraft Poster Co.

**Carson & Barnes Big 3 Ring Circus:** 'under the big top' ...

* (Carson & Barnes Circus) approximately 1966.

*Printers:* Acme Show Print (Firm)

**Carson & Barnes Big 3 Ring Circus:** 'Under the Big Top' ...

* (Carson & Barnes Circus) approximately 1966.

**Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Combined Circus:** Clyde Beatty in person.


*Artists:* Butler, Roland, 1887-1961

**Clyde Beatty Cole Bros. Combined Circus:** Big Otto blood sweating hippopotamus from the river Nile.


*Artists:* Butler, Roland, 1887-1961

**Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros:** the world's tallest giraffe. (Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1962.

**Cole Bros. Circus:** something new! direct from England "boxing horses" first time in America. (Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1942.

**Cole Bros. Circus:** blood sweating hippopotamus from the river Nile: world's largest traveling zoo. (Cole Bros. Circus) approximately 1937.


**Coming! the mastodon! of the age! with the great New York and New Orleans zoological and equestrian exposition!** (New York and New Orleans Zoological and Equestrian Exposition) ©1874.

*Printers:* Gibson & Co. (Cincinnati, Ohio)  
*Publishers:* Gibson & Co. (Cincinnati, Ohio)

**Cristiani Bros. Circus.** (Cristiani Bros. Circus) approximately 1959.

**Cristiani Bros. Circus:** world's largest. (Cristiani Bros. Circus) approximately 1958.

*Artists:* Freeland, Forrest Dean, approximately 1899-1975
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Document ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Printers</th>
<th>Artists</th>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000169</td>
<td><em>Kunz Century 21 Shows</em>: world's largest motorized midway. (Century 21 Shows) approximately 1966.</td>
<td>Triangle Poster &amp; Printing Company</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_000172</td>
<td><em>Sells Floto Circus</em> second largest show in the world*. (Sells-Floto Circus) approximately 1923.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tex Carson’s Wild Animal Circus. (Tex Carson's Circus) between 1951 and 1956.
Printers: Neal Walters Poster Corporation

The Walter L. Main grandest and best shows consolidated. (Walter L. Main Circus) approximately 1898.

Phineas Taylor Barnum. approximately 1889?
Artists: Rimanoczy, A., 1832-1910

Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: représentation emouvante dans l'air introduisant la flèche humaine. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1900.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Ringling and Barnum Bros & Bailey Combined Shows fabulous pageant of oriental magnificence “Nepal” … (Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus) approximately 1938.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: Déry the most intricate and difficult balancing act in the world. : the 3 Lienerts sensational act the promenade on the horizontal mirror. : The 3 Arleys marvelous act performing the feats exactly as shown in the picture. (Barnum & Bailey) ©1914.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

Artists: Butler, Roland, 1887-1961

John Robinson’s Circus: Miss Billie Ward world’s champion lady aerial gymnast. (John Robinson’s Circus) approximately 1929.

John Robinson’s Circus: the capture of Victor largest hippopotamus in captivity performing daily on the hippodrome track. (John Robinson’s Circus) approximately 1929.
PrijLC_ENT_001312  Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows: dainty Miss Leitzel world's most marvelous lady gymnast. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) approximately 1925.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001313  The wonderful albino family: Rudolph Lucasie, wife and children, from Madagascar. They have pure white skin, silken white hair and pink eyes! Have been exhibited at Barnum's Museum N.Y. for three years. (Barnum's Museum) approximately 1863.
Printers: Currier & Ives

PrijLC_ENT_001314  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: Pallenberg's wonder bears the only bicycle-riding, roller-skating, acrobatic bears in the world. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1915.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001315  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: the four Silbons, America's greatest troupe of aerialists, ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1893.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001316  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: first American appearance the great Hungarian riders the "Konyot" family absolutely the world's foremost equestrians. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001317  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: only trained giant living hippopotamuses. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 189-?
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001318  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 1898.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001319  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: one group of the many superb and most sagacious stallions. The noblest & most beautiful horses, in original wise and graceful tricks. (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 189-.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001320  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: an equestrian academy of high school trick horses, park drivers and cake-walking equines. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1904.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company

PrijLC_ENT_001321  Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: strange and savage tribes: a glimpse of the great menagerie tent, showing the loose led animals and grand ethnological congress. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1894.
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company
Series II. Circus Prints and Ephemera (large size) 1846-1980s (bulk 1890-1960)

**priJLC_ENT_001322** Barnum & Bailey: the four sisters Deike first American appearance. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001323** Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: Miss Duray Leonora. ... (Barnum and Bailey) approximately 189-.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001324** Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth the thriller supreme Desperado's terrible leap for life ... (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001325** Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: the greatest high air exhibition ever presented in the world: the 10 Seigrist-Silbons the 5 La Mar Troupe and the 5 marvelous flying Neapolitans in a superb number. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1909.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001326** Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: Winston's remarkable riding, juggling aerobatic seals most wonderful trained animal feature of the age. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1911.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001327** Barnum & Bailey greatest show on Earth: Carl Clair's grand military band & orchestra. (Barnum and Bailey) ©1895.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001328** Ringling Bros & Barnum & Bailey: big new free parade. (Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows) ©1917.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001329** M.L. Clark & Son's combined shows and trained animal exhibition: the lion queen and her den of untamables. (M.L. Clark & Son's Circus) between 1910 and 1918.

- **Printers:** Donaldson Litho. Co.

**priJLC_ENT_001330** The original Adam Forepaugh shows: Miss Aimee Parnella. ... (Great Forepaugh Show) approximately 1898.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

**priJLC_ENT_001331** Adam Forepaugh & Sells Brothers greatest shows consolidated. (Adam Forepaugh & Sells Bros. Circus) ©1900.

- **Printers:** Strobridge Lithographing Company

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Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera: Finding Aid
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Document ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Printers</th>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_001332</td>
<td>The Adam Forepaugh &amp; Sells Brothers America's greatest shows united. (Adam Forepaugh &amp; Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1898.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_001333</td>
<td>Sells Brothers' enormous united shows : rare zoological marvels ... (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1894?</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_001334</td>
<td>Sells Brothers' enormous united shows : 4 horse chariot race ... (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1894?</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_002336</td>
<td>A. Turner &amp; Co's combined menagerie and circus ... (A. Turner and Company) approximately 1851.</td>
<td>J.H. &amp; F.F. Farwell (Firm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004725</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004726</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey greatest show on earth. : Section 3 - of the new half million dollar grand street pageant. (Barnum &amp; Bailey) ©1903.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004727</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey greatest show on earth. : Section 6. Historical division of the new million dollar free street parade. (Barnum &amp; Bailey) approximately 1903.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004728</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey greatest show on earth. : Section 8 Racing and zoological division of the new million dollar free street parade. (Barnum &amp; Bailey) approximately 1903.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004729</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey greatest show on earth. : Section 10. Delightful illustrations of Arabian nights' tales and nursery rhymes. (Barnum &amp; Bailey) approximately 1903.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004730</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey greatest show on earth. : Section 12. Delightful illustrations of childrens fairy tales... (Barnum &amp; Bailey) approximately 1903.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004731</td>
<td>The Barnum &amp; Bailey supreme pageant Aladdin and his wonderful lamp. (Barnum &amp; Bailey) ©1917.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_ENT_004732</td>
<td>Ringling Bros and Barnum &amp; Bailey &quot;first and only genuine sacred white elephant ever permitted to leave his native land. (Ringling Bros. and Barnum &amp; Bailey Circus) approximately 1927.</td>
<td>Strobridge Lithographing Company</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| prijLC_ENT_004733 | Adam Forepaugh and Sells Brothers America's greatest shows consolidated. (Adam Forepaugh & Sells Bros. Circus) ©1897.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| prijLC_ENT_004734 | Sells Brothers sole proprietors founders and managers in person of the only show that bears their name. (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1872-1895.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| prijLC_ENT_004735 | Sells Brothers in perpetual union with S. H. Barrett's ... Billy Burke & brother. (Sells Bros. Circus) approximately 1890.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| prijLC_ENT_005068 | Madame Louisa Howard as she appeared in her unequaled equestrian act. Welch & Mann's National Amphitheatre. Philadelphia. 1846.  
Artists: Sanford, George T. Printers: G. & W. Endicott (Firm) |
| prijLC_ENT_005069 | The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on earth: the Dunbar trio. (Barnum & Bailey) ©1896.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| prijLC_ENT_005070 | The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on earth: a genuine African giraffe. (Barnum & Bailey) approximately 1891.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
| prijLC_ENT_005071 | The Barnum & Bailey greatest show on earth: selected rare specimens of the antelope species never before seen in captivity. (Barnum & Bailey) approximately 1891.  
Printers: Strobridge Lithographing Company |
Series III. Circus Broadsides and Handbills 1820s-1930s (bulk 1860-1920)

Extent: approximately 130 items in 10 oversized folders

Scope and Content Note

This series contains more than 120 printed 19th and early 20th century circus broadsides, handbills, and related advertisements. These bills publicize shows for approximately 60 different American circuses between the 1820s and 1930s, with the bulk of the items dating from 1860 to 1920. The printed text typically includes the name of the circus, featured attractions, acts, and performers, admission prices, and the date and location of shows.

The materials range in size from approximately 10 x 6 inches to 42 x 7 inches and consist primarily of single-sheet advertisements for circus shows that were intended to be distributed by hand, left in stacks in public places, or posted on walls, fences, or in windows in advance of the circus’s arrival in a town. Among the names given to these advertisements, according to their size and mode of distribution, are broadsides, dodgers, handbills, hangers, heralds, posters, playbills, and show bills. The notices in this series are primarily long, narrow broadsides printed on newsprint paper in black ink using letterpress type of varying fonts and sizes, though some have colored ink, colored paper, or woodcut illustrations. The series also includes one 1881 circus courier (a four-page bill) and four newspaper issues with articles or advertisements about circuses.

Among the most commonly credited printers in this series are Clarry & Reilley (New York, New York); the Courier Company (Buffalo, New York); Erie Litho & Printing Co. (Erie, Pennsylvania); and the Russell & Morgan Printing Company (Cincinnati, Ohio). The bills that include show location information promote shows in the following states: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, and Washington, D.C.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically by the name of the circus in ten oversized folders.

• Folder 1: A-Bai (Bailey - Barnum)
• Folder 2: Barr-C (S. H. Barrett & Co. - W.C. Coup)
• Folder 3: D-F (Howard Damon - A.K. Fulford & Co.)
• Folder 4: G-L (Grand Circus Royal - J.H. LaPearl)
• Folder 5: M (Sam MacFlinn - Mullen & Quinette)
• Folder 6: N-Ric (New York Circus - George W. Richard)
• Folder 7: Rin-Sc (Ringling Bros. - William K. Schulz)
• Folder 8: Se (Sells Bros. - Sells-Floto)
• Folder 9: Sp- Z (Sparks - Wheeler Bros.)
• Folder 10: Couriers and Newspapers

Individual items are described in the following format:
Circus name, Date
Printer (when identified)
Show location (when applicable)

OV Folder 1

A-Bai (Bailey - Barnum)

Scope and Content Note

This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: G. F. Bailey & Co.; Barnum's Museum; P.T. Barnum; Barnum & Bailey; and Barnum & London.

G. F. Bailey & Co. Circus and Menagerie, 1860

Show location: New Haven, Connecticut

Jay T. Last Collection of Entertainment: Circus Prints and Ephemera: Finding Aid
G. F. Bailey & Co's Quadruple Combination, [1872]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

G. F. Bailey & Co's Menagerie, [1872]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Barnums American Museum, 1854
Show location: New York, New York

Barnum Museum, [approximately 1860]
Printer: Clarry & Reilley, Printers and Engravers, 12, 14 & 16 Spruce St.
Show location: New York, New York

Museum of Wonders! Containing the Greatest Curiosities ever exhibited to be seen during the day and evening, in the small tent adjoining that of the European Circus! ..., [approximately 1860?]
Likely an advertisement for Barnum's Museum based on advertising for the French Giant, "What is it?", the Aztec Children, and the Circassian Lady from Anapa.

Barnum's Museum, 1862
Show location: New York, New York

P.T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, [1877]
Printer: Chicago Evening Journal Print
Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

P.T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, [1879]
Printer: Chicago Evening Journal Print
Show location: Ottawa, Illinois

P.T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, 1879
Show location: Calais, Maine

Barnum & Bailey, [1889]
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
Show location: Lowell, Massachusetts

Barnum & Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, 1910
Printer: Central Printing and Engraving Co., 221 Institute Place, Chicago
Show location: Marysville, California

B. & O. R. R. Excursions : The Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, [1912]
Also an advertisement for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.
Show location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

P. & R. Ry. Excursions : The Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, [1912]
Also an advertisement for the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad.
Show location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Fort Dodge Line Excursions ... Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, [1915]
Also an advertisement for the Fort Dodge, Des Moines & Southern Railroad.
Printer: Central Printing and Engraving Co., 221 Institute Place, Chicago
Show location: Fort Dodge, Iowa
Illinois Central R.R. Excursions to the greatest circus in the history of the world
The Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, 1911
Also an advertisement for the Illinois Central Railroad.
Printer: Central Printing and Engraving Co., 221 Institute Place, Chicago
Show location: Fort Dodge, Iowa

P.T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth and the great London Circus ..., [1881]
Printer: James Reilley, Steam Job Printer and Engraver, 12, 14 & 16 Spruce St., N.Y.
Show location: Lewiston, Maine

OV Folder 2 Barr-C (S. H. Barrett & Co. - W.C. Coup)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: S. H. Barrett & Co.; Batcheller & Doris; Big Circus (?); Burk; Christy Bros.; Circus Bowery; W. W. Cole; Cole & Cooper; Cole Bros.; and W. C. Coup.

S. H. Barrett & Co., [approximately 1884]
Printer: [Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y.]

S.H. Barrett & Co's New, United, Monster Railroad Shows!, [approximately 1884]
Batcheller & Doris Great Inter-Ocean Largest Show on Earth, between 1879 and 1882
Batcheller & Doris' Greatest Rail Road Show on Earth!, [1879]
Five-panel cartoon of "Street Gamin" on verso.
Show location: York, Pennsylvania

Batcheller & Doris Great Double Circus and trained animal exhibition, [1882]
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y.
Show location: Logansport, Indiana

Big Circus 3 ring exposition Manistee Mich. Thursday July 30,
Show location: Manistee, Michigan

Burk's Great Shows, between 1887 and 1892
Printer: Jeffery Printing Co., Chicago
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Christy Bros. Big 5 Ring Wild Animal Circus, approximately 1920s
Circus Bowery ... Les Freres Francais ... M. Cassimir ... Aymar!, [approximately 1844]
Show location: New York, New York

W. W. Cole's World-Famous, Five-Continent New Mammoth Circus, [1882]
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

W. W. Cole's Tidal Wave of unparalleled amusement novelties, 1886
Multi-color background.
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri
### W. W. Cole's New Colossal Shows, [1886]
- Printer: Great Western Printing Co., Show Printers and Engravers, St. Louis
- Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

### Cole & Cooper Great United Shows, [approximately 1913?]

### Cole Bros. Circus, [1936]
- Show location: San Francisco, California

### Cole Bros. Circus, [1936]
- Show location: [Columbus, Ohio]

### W. C. Coup's Mammoth, Monster United Shows, [1881]
- Printer: Jno. B. Jeffery Mammoth Show Printing and Engraving House, Chicago.
- Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

### W. C. Coup ... Vast United Monster Shows, [1882]
- Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
- Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

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**OV Folder 3**

**D-F (Howard Damon - A.K. Fulford & Co.)**

**Scope and Content Note**
- This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Howard Damon; Adam Forepaugh; Adam Forepaugh & Sells Bros.; J.M. French; and A. K. Fulford & Co.

#### Howard Damon Big Australian Railroad Circus, [approximately 1909?]
- Printer: Riverside Printing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

#### Great Forepaugh Show, [1875]
- Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
- Show location: Vermont

#### Great Forepaugh Show, [1877]
- Printer: Chicago Evening Journal Print
- Show location: Atchison, Kansas; St. Joseph, Missouri

#### Great Forepaugh Show, [1881]
- Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
- Show location: Logansport, Indiana

#### Great Forepaugh Show, [1884]
- Printer: Jno. B. Jeffery Mammoth Show Printing and Engraving House, Chicago
- Show location: Atchison, Kansas; Leavenworth, Kansas; Topeka, Kansas

#### Adam 4-Paw Shows, [1892]
- Printer: Morrell Brothers, Show Printers, 511 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Show location: Binghamton, New York

#### [Forepaugh and Sells Brothers]... Two Greatest Menageries. Two Greatest Circuses..., [1896]
- Fragment: circus name missing.
- Printer: Russell & Morgan Factories, Cincinnati
- Show location: Dayton, Ohio
**Adam Forepaugh Sells Brothers, [1896]**
Printer: Russell & Morgan Factories, Cincinnati
Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

**J. M. French's Oriental Circus, [1870]**
Printer: Van Benthuysen & Sons’ Printing House, Albany, N.Y.
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

**A. K. Fulford & Co.’s Monster United Shows New London Circus, Museum, Aviary and Great World’s Menagerie [fragment], [approximately 1890]**

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**OV Folder 4**

**G-L (Grand Circus Royal - J.H. LaPearl)**

Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Grand Circus Royal & English Menagerie & Astley; Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus; William P. Hall; Richard Havemann; Holland & MacMahon; Howe; Ireland Bros.; Jones Brothers; King & Franklin; and J. H. La Pearl.

**Grand Circus Royal, English Menagerie, and the Great Astley’s Museum and Aquarium of Ocean Wonders!, 1882**
Show location: [Dayton, Ohio]

**Carl Hagenbeck and Great Wallace Shows Combined,**
Show location: Eastport, Maine

**Carl Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, 1919**

**Great Wm. P. Hall Shows, [1905]**
Printer: Riverside Printing Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

**Richard Havemann’s Wild Animal Indoor Circus, [1928]**
Handbill
Show location: Decorah, Iowa

**Holland & McMahon's Great World's Circus, [1888]**
Printer: St. Joseph Steam Printing Co.
Show location: St. Joseph, Missouri

**Howe’s NewLondon Shows, [1887]**
Printer: Great Western Printing Co., Show Printers and Engravers, St. Louis

**Ireland Bros.’ Amusement Company ... The St. Louis World’s Fair, [1904]**

**Jones Brothers World Tour Show,**
Printer: Erie Litho. & Printing Co., Erie, PA.

**King & Franklin’s Monster Shows, [1888]**
Printer: Jeffery Printing Co., Chicago
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

**J. H. La Pearl's Big One-Right Railroad Show, [1896]**
Printer: Hennegan & Co., Show Print., Cincinnati, O.
Show location: Muncie, Indiana
OV Folder 5

M (Sam MacFlinn - Mullen & Quinette)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Sam MacFlinn; John S. McMahon (or John S. MacMahon); Maginley & Co.; Walter L. Main; Merlin & Co.; Miller, Stowe & Freeman; Circo Modelo; Monier; and Mullen & Quinette.

Sam MacFlinn's New Great European Gigantic Shows; Sam MacFlinn's World's Wonderland Exposition!, 1888

John S. McMahon's Great Olympian Circus and Monster Trained Elephant Exhibition, 1892
Show location: Greenwood; James

Maginley & Co's Circus, Menagerie Museum & Trained Animals!, [1874]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Walter L. Main ... Grandest and Best Railroad Shows, [1895]
Walter L. Main New Fashion Plate Shows!, [approximately 1900s]

Merlin & Co.'s Big City One Ring Circus, [1897]
Printer: H.C. Saffen Printing House. 172 Skillman Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Show location: Washington, D.C.

Miller, Stowe & Freeman's Circus & Menagerie, [1889]
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Modelo Show,
Text in Spanish; printer based on credit line for image.
Printer: [Ackermann Quigley Litho Co.]
Show location: Oakland

Circus. Mr. Monier's Benefit, [approximately 1820s?]
Show location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mullen's Big 25 R.R. Show, [approximately 1892]
Printer: Great Western Printing Co., St. Louis

OV Folder 6

N-Ric (New York Circus - George W. Richard)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: New York Circus; Paris Pavilion; Pawnee Bill; Dan Rice; and George W. Richard.

New York Circus, [1865]
Printer: Clarry & Reilley, Engravers and Decorative Steam Job Printers, 12 & 14 Spruce Streets
New York Circus, [1868]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

New York Circus, 1869
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

New York Circus, 1872
New York Circus, 1872
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Paris Pavilion Circus: The Great River Show Circus, [approximately 1870s]
Printer: Democrat Litho. and Print. Co., St. Louis
Show location: Kansas City, Missouri

Pawnee Bill's Historic Wild West and Great Far East, [1905]
Printer: Hennegan Show Print, Cincinnati
Show location: Leavenworth, Kansas

Dan Rice's Great Show, Circus, Menagerie and School of Educated Animals, [1868]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Richard's Stupendous Combination 10-Cent Shows and Original Novelty Canine Circus!, [1886]
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

OV Folder 7

Rin-Sc (Ringling Bros. - William K. Schulz)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Ringling Bros.; Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey; Frank A. Robbins; John Robinson; Schell Bros.; and William K. Schulz.

Ringling Brothers World's Greatest Shows, [1892]
Printer: Courier Company, Buffalo, N.Y. Show Printing House
Show location: Memphis, Missouri

Ringling Bros. World's Greatest Shows, [approximately 1915?]
Show location: Iowa

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, [1919]
Printer: Central Printing and Engraving Co., 221 Institute Place, Chicago
Show location: Mansfield, Ohio

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, [1919]
Printer: Central Printing and Engraving Co., 221 Institute Place, Chicago
Show location: Minneapolis, Minnesota; Mankato, Minnesota; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Sioux City, Iowa; Omaha, Nebraska; Lincoln, Nebraska

Frank A. Robbins New and Greatest All Feature Shows, [approximately 1900s or 1910s]

Frank A. Robbins Shows (also titled Frank A. Robbins New and Greatest All Feature Shows), [approximately 1909?]
John Robinson's Great World Exposition!, [1884]
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Sig Sautelle's Shows, [approximately 1926?]
Printer: Curtiss Show Print, Continental, O.

Schell Bros. Circus Presents Jack Hoxie ..., [approximately 1931]
Captain Wm. K. Schulz presents "The King of the Beasts", [1934]

OV Folder 8  Se (Sells Bros. - Sells-Floto)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Sells Bros. and Sells-Floto.

Sells Brothers Millionaire Confederation of Stupendous Railroad Shows, [1881]
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Sells Brothers 50 Cage Menagerie and Great 4 Ring Circus, [1884]
Printer: Russell & Morgan Printing Co., Cincinnati, O.
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Sells Brothers 50 Cage Menagerie and Great 4 Ring Circus, [1884]
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Sells Brothers 50 Cage and Four Ring Circus & Menagerie, [1884]
Printer: Russell & Morgan Printing Co., Cincinnati
Show location: Dayton, Ohio

Sells Brothers' Roman Hippodrome, [1891]
Printer: Russell & Morgan Printing Company, Cincinnati

Sells Brothers' Enormous United Shows, [1893]
Also advertisement for the Chicago & North Western Railroad.
Printer: Journal-Gazette Printing House, Columbus, Ohio
Show location: Aurora, Illinois; Rockford, Illinois; Mankato, Minnesota

Sells-Floto, [1906]
Text in Spanish.
Printer: Imp. De Webb. - Mexico
Show location: Monterrey

Big Sells Shows; El Grandioso Sells ... El Grandioso Floto, [approximately 1906]
Text in Spanish.
Printer: Great Western Publishing Co., Denver, Colo.

OV Folder 9  Sp- Z (Sparks - Wheeler Bros.)
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains show bills produced for the following circuses: Sparks; Stone & Murray; William Thompson; Van Amburgh & Co.; Welch; R. W. Weldon & Co.; Wheeler & Sautelle; and Wheeler Bros.
Sparks World Famous Circus (also titled Sparks 3 Ring Circus), [1917]
Show location: Eastport, Maine

Stone & Murray's Circus, [1870]
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Great Stone & Murray Circus, 1871
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Wm. Thompson's New Australian Railroad Circus, [1892]
Show location: [Franklin, Pennsylvania]

Van Amburgh & Co's New Great Golden Menagerie, 1868
Show location: New Bedford, Massachusetts

Welch's New National Circus & Theatre, 1855
Show location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

R. W. Weldon & Co.'s New Railroad Circus and Menagerie, [1883]
Printer: Russell Morgan Printing Co., Cincinnati
Show location: Hickman, Kentucky

Wheeler and Sautelle's Combined Shows (also titled Wheeler and Sautelle's Greater Menagerie), [1932]

Wheeler and Sautelle's Combined Shows (also titled Wheeler and Sautelle's Greater Menagerie), [1932]
Show location: Danielson, Connecticut

Wheeler Bros. Enormous Shows, [1916]
Also an advertisement for the Toledo, St. Louis & Western Railroad.
Show location: Delphos, Ohio

Couriers and Newspapers
Scope and Content Note
This folder contains a circus courier for the Grand Circus Royal & English Menagerie & Astley and P.T. Barnum, as well as newspapers with articles or advertisements about circuses.

The Grand Circus Royal English Menagerie and the Great Astley's Museum Aquarium &c., [1881]
Show location: Mount Joy

P.T. Barnum's Illustrated News, c1879
Printer: Courier Company Show Printing House, Buffalo, N.Y.
Show location: Haverhill, Mass.

Daily Evening Standard, 1851 July 3
4 pages with a front-page article on P.T. with a Barnum's Museum and Menagerie
New Bedford, Massachusetts
**Philadelphia Inquirer (uncut), 1865 July 14**

8 pages with a front-page article on the Barnum Fire Museum
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Denison Daily News, 1875 September 21**

4 pages with a back full-page advertisement for the Great International Menagerie, Museum, Aviary, Aquarium, Colossal Hippodrome, Grecian Circus and Calisthenic Exhibitions
Denison, Texas

**Harper's Weekly, 1876 May 13**

Pages 395-6 with an advertisements for P.T. Barnum's New and Greatest Show on Earth