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

Finding aid prepared by 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 Maritime Prints and Ephemera

Dates (inclusive): 1704-approximately 1942

Bulk dates: 1840-1890

Collection Number: priJLC_MAR

Collector: Last, Jay T.

Extent: approximately 1,150 items

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Abstract: The Jay T. Last Collection of Maritime Prints and Ephemera contains approximately 1,150 printed items that pertain to travel, shipping, and other maritime-related activities and businesses in the United States primarily dating from the second half of the 19th century. The collection consists of advertising and promotional materials, business records, and illustrations produced for or relevant to steamship companies, sailing vessels, shipping entities, passenger lines, and related businesses and publications.

Language: English.

Note: Finding aid last updated on September 24, 2015.

Access
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Preferred Citation
[Item title, Call number]. Jay T. Last Collection of Maritime Prints and Ephemera, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

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 Maritime Prints and Ephemera was transferred to the Library between 2010 and 2012.

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 Maritime Prints and Ephemera contains approximately 1,150 printed items that pertain to travel, shipping, and other maritime-related activities and businesses in the United States primarily dating from the second half of the 19th century. The collection consists of advertising and promotional materials, business records, and illustrations produced for or relevant to steamship companies, sailing vessels, shipping entities, passenger lines, and related businesses and publications.

Materials are arranged in two series: small-size items (11 x 14 inches or less) and large-size items (bigger than 11 x 14 inches). Small-size items are described broadly at the series level; large-size items are fully inventoried, and all printers,
The collection has more than 55 large-size items comprised mainly of lithographic and engraved prints of ships, certificates and contracts, and advertising materials for passenger and shipping routes. Small-size items in the collection number approximately 1,100 and are comprised mainly of advertising and promotional ephemera and business documents. The vast majority of these items are bills of lading and steamship passes, but the collection also has trade cards, timetables, booklets, directory ads, menus, passenger lists, postcards, handbills, and printed billheads and letterheads with manuscript text.

Subjects addressed within the collection include commerce, advertising, technology and engineering, and tourism as related to river, lake, and ocean travel mostly in the United States. The images are primarily promotional and provide information about the history of passenger travel and commercial shipping, as well as the advertising strategies employed by these industries in the 19th and early 20th centuries. As graphic materials, the items offer evidence of visual culture and printmaking techniques and trends, as well as information about the artists, engravers, lithographers, printers, and publishers involved in the creative process.

Alternative Form of Materials Available
Visit the Huntington Digital Library: Jay T. Last Collection to view digitized items from this collection.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in the following two series:
- Series I. Maritime Prints and Ephemera (small size)
- Series II. Maritime Prints and Ephemera (large size)
Items are arranged numerically by call number and described in the following format:

Title of print. Date
Artist(s) (when known). Printer(s). Publisher(s)

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Genres
- Billheads.
- Broadsides.
- Business cards.
- Business records.
- Certificates.
- Chromolithographs.
- Contracts.
- Ephemera.
- Ephemera -- United States -- 19th century.
- Ephemera -- United States -- 20th century.
- Engravings.
- Handbills.
- Intaglio prints.
- Leaflets (printed works).
- Letterheads.
- Lithographs.
- Maps.
- Menus.
- Newspapers.
- Passenger lists.
- Postcards.
- Printed ephemera.
- Promotional materials.
- Relief prints.
Stationery.
Tickets.
Timetables.
Trade cards.

**Subjects**
Advertising -- Tourism.
Advertising -- Transportation.
Boats and boating -- Pictorial works.
Docks -- Pictorial works.
Dry docks -- Pictorial works.
Fenians.
Flags -- Pictorial works.
Hudson River (N.Y. and N.J.) -- Pictorial works.
Industrial buildings -- Pictorial works.
Mississippi River -- Pictorial works.
Palms -- Pictorial works.
Rivers -- Pictorial works.
Sailboats -- Pictorial works.
Sailors -- Pictorial works.
Ship captains -- Pictorial works.
Shipbuilding.
Ships -- Pictorial works.
Shipwrecks -- Pictorial works.
Steamboats -- Pictorial works.
Steamboats.
Transportation accidents -- Pictorial works.

**Printer, Publisher, Artist Index**
The following is a complete list of printers, publishers, and artists represented in the large-size items in this collection.

A. Hoen & Co.
American Lithographic Co.
Bixler & Corwin.
Britton & Rey.
Bufford, John Henry, 1810-1870.
Century Lith. Co.
Clapp, David, 1806-1893.
Clay, Cosack & Co.
Cleveland, James A., 1811-
Currier & Ives.
Davids, Oscur.
De Young, M. H. (Michael Harry), 1849-1925.
Democrat Print.
Drew, Clement, 1806-1889.
Endicott & Co. (New York, N.Y.)
F. Sala & Co.
Forbes Lithograph Manufacturing Company.
George F. Nesbitt & Co.
Gies & Co.
Gladwin, George.
Physical Description: approximately 1,090 items in 11 binders and 1 flat-top box

Scope and Content

This series contains approximately 1,090 small-size printed items that pertain to travel, shipping, and other maritime-related activities and businesses in the United States from 1704 to 1939. The materials consist of advertising and promotional ephemera, illustrations, and business records relevant to steamship companies, sailing vessels, shipping entities, passenger lines, and related businesses and publications. The vast majority of these items are bills of lading and steamship passes, but the collection also has trade cards, timetables, booklets, directory ads, menus, passenger lists, postcards, handbills, and printed billheads and letterheads with manuscript text.

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 individually sleeved and arranged in folders in one box.

Arrangement

Small-size items are arranged by company, with the exception of bills of lading. Bills of lading are organized geographically by state followed by city of departure, and then ordered chronologically within each city grouping.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Binder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Binder 1 | Bills of Lading, AL-MD by state (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 85 items |
| Binder 2 | Bills of Lading, MA-NJ by state (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 80 items |
| Binder 3 | Bills of Lading, NY, 1760-1859 (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 85 items |
| Binder 4 | Bills of Lading, NY, 1860-1899 (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 60 items |
| Binder 5 | Bills of Lading, NC-PA by state (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 85 items |
| Binder 6 | Bills of Lading, RI-VA by state & Wash. D.C. (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 75 items |
| Binder 7 | Steamboat Lines, U.S. & Canada, A-Z by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 125 items |
| Binder 8 | Steamboat Lines, Transoceanic, A-N by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 105 items |
| Binder 9 | Steamboat Lines, Transoceanic, O-Z by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 60 items |
| Binder 10 | Steamboat Passes, A-L by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 155 items |
| Binder 11 | Steamboat Passes, M-Z by company (8 x 10 inches or smaller in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 165 items |
| Box 1 | Maritime Prints and Ephemera (between 8 x 10 inches and 11 x 14 inches in size)  
Physical Description: approximately 15 items |

**Series II. Maritime Prints and Ephemera (large size) 1825-approximately 1942 (bulk 1840-1890)**

Physical Description: 57 items  

Scope and Content  
This series contains 57 large-size printed items pertaining to travel, shipping, and other maritime-related activities and businesses in the United States from 1825 to approximately 1942, with the majority of items dating from 1840 to 1890. The series is comprised mainly of lithographed advertising prints produced for steamship companies, including both domestic and transoceanic passenger and commercial services.  
Genres represented include advertising prints, certificates, broadsides, and documentary prints. The series contains color-printed, hand-colored, and uncolored images that range in size from approximately 11 x 14 inches to 30 x 40 inches.  

Arrangement  
Items are arranged numerically by call number and described in the following format:  
*Title of print.* Date  
Artist(s) (when known). Printer(s). Publisher(s).
The packet-boat Shenandoah, Capt. S. Compson, will hereafter leave Montezuma for Geneva daily ... Sept. 12, 1845. 12 September 1845

Printers: Democrat Print

Enrollment. : No. 44 Forty Four. 25 August 1837

Warden's Office of the Port of Philadelphia. 14 March 1877

Midnight race on the Mississippi. approximately 1872-1883


View of the English steamer Caledonia wrecked on Cape Cod, Jan. 1st. 1863.

1863-1864

Printers: Tidd, M. M., 1827-1895

View of the U.S. Mail Steamship Company's premises, : Aspinwall N. G. ©1854

Artists: Parsons, Charles, 1821-1910; Otis, Fessenden N. (Fessenden Nott), 1825-1900

Printers: Endicott & Co. (New York, N.Y.)


Printers: Clapp, David, 1806-1893

Plymouth Rock. Official paper of the most superb steam excursion palace in the world. 1875

The Suffolk and California Mutual Trading & Mining Association. approximately 1850

Printers: Propeller Power Presses

State line : Austin, Baldwin & Co. General agents. 1871-1886


Bark Catalpa, of New Bedford. ©1876

Artists: Russell, E. N. Printers: Forbes Lithograph Manufacturing Company

Pilot boat “Gypsey.” approximately 1856-1861

Artists: Drew, Clement, 1806-1889 Printers: Weingartner, A.

From the old to the new world--German emigrants for New York embarking on a Hamburg steamer. 7 November 1874

Publishers: Harper & Brothers
**Explosion of the Alfred Thomas at Easton PA. March 6th. 1860. 1860**

Artists: Queen, Jas. (James), 1824-approximately 1877  
Printers: P.S. Duval & Son  
Publishers: Bixler & Corwin

**View in Boston harbour. 1835-1840**

Printers: T. Moore’s Lithography

**The missionary steam-barkentine, “Morning Star.” 1884**

Artists: Webber, W.  
Printers: Forbes Lithograph Manufacturing Company

**Screw Dock Co. between Market and Pike Streets East River. 1853-1886**

Printers: Endicott & Co. (New York, N.Y.)

**New-York and New-Haven steamboat line. 1825**

**Charles Houghton. 1856-1864**

Printers: Bufford, John Henry, 1810-1870

**Lake Superior Transit Co. 1875-1892**

Printers: Gies & Co.

**Scene on the upper Mississippi. approximately 1857-?**

Printers: F. Sala & Co.

**[Washington Irving] approximately 1913-1926**

**The grandest palace drawing room steamers in the world. Drew and St. John. 1877-1893**

Artists: Parsons, Charles, 1821-1910  
Printers: Currier & Ives

**The Great Eastern. Designed by I. K. Brunel Esqr. approximately 1858**

Printers: Magnus, Charles

**Anchor Line sailing regularly between New York Glasgow via Londonderry. Henderson Brothers, general agents New York - Chicago. 1891-1898**

**Cunard Line New York, Boston, Liverpool and Queenstown. 1901-1905**

Printers: American Lithographic Co.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Artists</th>
<th>Printers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001429</td>
<td>Cunard Line between New York or Boston, Queenstown and Liverpool, passage tickets to &amp; from all parts of Europe at lowest prices. 1882-1888</td>
<td>1882-1888</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp Engraving, Manufacturing &amp; Lithographic Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001430</td>
<td>Mallory Line to and from Florida. 1873-1888</td>
<td>1873-1888</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp Engraving, Manufacturing &amp; Lithographic Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001431</td>
<td>Mallory S. S. Lines to Texas and Florida. 1873-1888</td>
<td>1873-1888</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp</td>
<td>Major &amp; Knapp Engraving, Manufacturing &amp; Lithographic Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001438</td>
<td>Steamer Drew. 1867</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td>Parsons, Charles</td>
<td>Parsons, Charles, 1821-1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001444</td>
<td>Empire City Line Pacific steam ship Northerner. 1842-1851</td>
<td>1842-1851</td>
<td>Palmer &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Palmer &amp; Co. (1842-1851)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001446</td>
<td>Appearance of the U.S. steamer Massachusetts when dismasted at 2 p.m. Sepr. 22d 1854. approximately 1854</td>
<td>approximately 1854</td>
<td>Davids, Oscur</td>
<td>Davids, Oscur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001447</td>
<td>Anchor Line transatlantic &amp; Mediterranean steamships sail regularly every Wednesday &amp; Saturday. approximately 1871-1875</td>
<td>approximately 1871-1875</td>
<td>George F. Nesbitt &amp; Co.</td>
<td>George F. Nesbitt &amp; Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>priJLC_MAR_001450</td>
<td>High pressure steamboat Mayflower. ©1855</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>Parsons, Charles</td>
<td>Parsons, Charles, 1821-1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N. Currier (Firm)</td>
<td>N. Currier (Firm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jay T. Last Collection of Maritime Prints and Ephemera: Finding Aid**
R. Cornell White's new palatial excursion steamer Grand Republic. approximately 1878


Chesapeake Steamship Company. approximately 1900-1941

Printers: A. Hoen & Co.

Palace Steamer Republic. approximately 1890-1893

Printers: Century Lith. Co.

Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company's steamer Great Republic. 1867


Steamer Hu Quang. approximately 1863

Printers: Endicott & Co. (New York, N.Y.)

Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company's steamer China. 1867-1879


Merchants & Miners Transportation Company steamship lines. 1895-1942

Printers: A. Hoen & Co.

Pittsburgh & Cincinnati [sic] Packet Buckeye State. 1851

Artists: Gladwin, George; Wickersham, S. Printers: Weale, John, 1791-1862

[Crowd on dock waving at steamship Italy] 1875-1885

Printers: Strobridge & Co. Lith.

Narragansett Steamship Co. New York to Boston, via Newport and Fall River. 1871. 13 May 1871

Printers: J.O. Seymour & Co.

Norwich Line for Boston Worcester via New London. 8 May 1878

Steam packet Chancellor Livingston (- entering the harbour of Newport.) approximately 1828

Artists: Swett, Moses Printers: Pendleton's Lithography
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Printers</th>
<th>Artists</th>
<th>Print Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_002605</td>
<td><em>The Catalpa the rescuers and the rescued.</em> approximately 1876</td>
<td>Britton &amp; Rey</td>
<td>Hoogland, William, 1794 or 1795-1832</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_002606</td>
<td><em>Hamburg American Packet Company. Imperial German U.S. mail steamships.</em> approximately 1873-1885</td>
<td>Rand McNally and Company</td>
<td>Wade, William, active 1844-1852</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_002607</td>
<td><em>The Union Steamboat Company. 1868-1877</em></td>
<td>Clay, Cosack &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Pollock &amp; Doty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_003313</td>
<td><em>These certify that ___ was legally admitted a member of the Pilots’ Charitable Society.</em> ... approximately 1825</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_003314</td>
<td><em>This is to certify that Edwin M. Snow, M.D. ... American Seamen’s Friend Society.</em> ... approximately 1853</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_003315</td>
<td><em>United States of America. No ardent spirits allowed on board.</em> 28 June 1861</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prijLC_MAR_003378</td>
<td><em>San Francisco Chronicle Sunday supplement Sept. 2nd 1906. California’s great inland water ways.</em> 2 September 1906</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>