Guide to the A. Nees & Co.
decorative paper sample books

GEN MSS 1465

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2017 December

P. O. Box 208330
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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 1465

**CREATOR:** A. Nees & Co

**TITLE:** A. Nees & Co. decorative paper sample books

**DATES:** 1865–1930

**BULK DATES:** 1880–1914

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.5 linear feet (19 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Nineteen volumes containing circa 44,000 undated samples of decorative papers manufactured by A. Nees & Co., circa 1865-circa 1930, most circa 1880-1914. Volumes contain small samples of marbled, embossed, coated, and other colored and printed papers affixed to pages within printed borders. Samples are identified by numbers in manuscript annotations or printed labels, some also citing paper names or manufacturing techniques. Volumes contain varying samples, with some overlapping content.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.nees

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.nees.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**


Box 139: Purchased from Susanne Schulz-Falster Rare Books on the Gift of Frank H. Sommer, Class of 1944, Fund, 2017.
Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation
A. Nees & Co. Decorative Paper Sample Books. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Biographical / Historical
A. Nees & Co., Aschaffenburg, Germany, a manufacturer of decorated papers, was founded in 1862 by brothers Albert Nees (1836-1874) and Theodor Nees. In 1866 A. Nees & Co. invented Cambricpapier, a colored paper coated with shellac.

Scope and Contents
Nineteen volumes containing circa 44,000 undated samples of decorative papers manufactured by A. Nees & Co., circa 1865-circa 1930, most circa 1880-1914. Volumes contain small samples of marbled, embossed, coated, and other colored and printed papers affixed to pages within printed borders. Samples are identified by numbers in manuscript annotations or printed labels, some also citing paper names or manufacturing techniques. Volumes contain varying samples, with some overlapping content.
Collection Contents
Series I. Sample books

| b. 1 | Sample book | circa 1865 |
| b. 2 | Sample book | circa 1875 |
| b. 3 | Sample book | circa 1880 |
| b. 4 | Sample book | circa 1885 |
| b. 5 | Sample book | circa 1885 |
| b. 6 | Sample book | circa 1890 |
| b. 7 | Sample book | circa 1895 |
| b. 8 | Sample book | circa 1900 |
| b. 9 | Sample book | circa 1900 |
| b. 10 | Sample book | circa 1905 |
| b. 11 | Sample book | circa 1912 |
| b. 12 | Sample book | circa 1914 |
| b. 13 | Sample book | circa 1920 |
| b. 14 | Sample book | circa 1920 |
| b. 15 | Sample book | circa 1920 |
| b. 16 | Sample book | circa 1920 |
| b. 17 | Sample book | circa 1930 |
| b. 18 | Sample book | circa 1930 |
| b. 19 | Sample book | circa 1930 |
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
Decorative paper -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg
Marbled papers -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg
Paper industry -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg

Geographic Names
Aschaffenburg (Germany) -- Economic conditions -- 19th century
Aschaffenburg (Germany) -- Economic conditions -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats
Colored paper -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 19th century
Colored paper -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 20th Century
Decorated papers -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 19th century
Decorated papers -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 20th Century
Marbled paper -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 19th century
Marbled paper -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 20th Century
Sample books -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 19th century
Sample books -- Germany -- Aschaffenburg -- 20th Century

Names
Nees, Albert, 1836-1874
Nees, Theodor

Corporate Body
A. Nees & Co