

# Guide to the Whitney Arms Company Papers

MS 618



compiled by Marguerite S. Witkop

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 618

**CREATOR:** Whitney Arms Company

**TITLE:** Whitney Arms Company papers

**DATES:** 1862-1886

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, financial papers, and miscellanea of the Whitney Arms Company of New Haven, Connecticut.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0618>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0618>.

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

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the New Haven Water Company, 1947.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## **Conditions Governing Use**

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## **Preferred Citation**

Whitney Arms Company Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## **Biographical / Historical**

The Whitney Arms Company was established in New Haven by Eli Whitney, who sought to create a more accurate musket, that would still be durable enough for use by soldiers. He located the plant on both sides of the Mill River. Though founded in 1798, operations were still small at the time of Whitney's death in 1825. The factory was eventually handed down to Whitney's son, Eli Whitney, Jr., who ran the company for much of the nineteenth century. In 1888, the Whitney Arms Company was sold to the Winchester Repeating Arms Company.

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## **Scope and Contents**

Correspondence, financial papers, and miscellanea of the Whitney Arms Company of New Haven, Connecticut.

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## Collection Contents

### Letterbooks (indexed)

b. 1	1862 Jun 20-1863 Feb 4	
b. 2	1863 Feb 4-1863 Aug 7	
b. 3	1878 Sep 24-1879 Jan 27	
b. 4	1882 May 12-1882 Nov 6	
b. 5	1883 Mar 5-1883 Sep 10	
b. 6	1885 Mar 19-1885 Aug 28	
b. 7	Correspondence	1882-1884
b. 7	Checkbook stubs	1886
b. 7	Three indexes to missing letterbooks	undated
b. 7	Miscellaneous financial papers	undated

## **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**

Business

Firearms, American

Manufactures -- Connecticut -- New Haven

### **Corporate Body**

Whitney Arms Company