

## **Record Group 31**

### **Whitman Barnes**

1941-1999

1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI

Finding Aid Written by Lena Packer, 15 September 2005

Updated by Jennifer Meekhof 12 Oct 2011

- Creator:** Whitman-Barnes  
**Acquisition:** The Whitman-Barnes records were deposited in the archives in 1999.  
**Language:** Materials in English  
**Access:** Records are open for research  
**Use:** Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines  
**Notes:** Citation Style: "Whitman-Barnes," Record Group 31, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

#### **Abstract**

The Whitman-Barnes Company began as a Detroit business that moved to Plymouth, MI in 1949 after a century of operation. The company was a Michigan division of the United States Drill and Tool Corporation. When the company moved to Plymouth it occupied a building 250,000 square foot building sitting on 26 acres that was later occupied by Durr Industries. Some of the products made by Whitman-Barnes include drills, drill sets, and carbide tipped tools.

#### **Scope and Content**

The Whitman-Barnes record group consists of records information about the company such as product catalogues, newspaper clippings, company data, and photographs. The majority of the records in the collection come from a time capsule buried by the company in 1949.

#### **Entries**

[Entry 1](#): Time Capsule

[Entry 2](#): Newspaper Clippings

[Entry 3](#): Company documents from the time capsule

[Entry 4](#): Catalogues

[Entry 5](#): Photographs

#### **Important Subjects**

Carbide tipped tools

Drills and Drill sets

Local Business—Plymouth, MI

United States Drill and Tool Corporation—Plymouth, MI

**Box 1, Shelf 55**

***Entry 1: Time Capsule***

*Folder 1*

List of items buried in time capsule by Whitman-Barnes of Sept.10, 1949  
Proof set of 1948 coins from time capsule (Acc. #99.149.13)

***Entry 2: Newspaper Clippings***

*Folder 1*

“Unearthed time capsule brings back the past,” *Observer & Eccentric*, 1999  
“Whitman-Barnes to begin second century of business in Plymouth,” *Plymouth Mail*, Jan. 14, 1949 (Acc. #99.149.2)  
“Boring named by J.A. to Plymouth Committee,” *Plymouth Mail*, August 31, 1966

***Entry 3: Company documents from time capsule***

*Folder 1*

Employees' hourly rate earnings, 1948 (Acc. #99.149.30)  
Bulletin of results of union election of April 15, 1949 (Acc. #99.149.21)  
Roster of 25 Year Club (Acc. #99.149.22)  
Annual report of 1948 (Acc. #99.149.29)  
Factory overhead statement of 1948 (Acc. #99.149.15)  
Factory and office personnel on Sept. 15.1948 (Acc. #99.149.26)  
Customer lists of various salesmen (Acc. #99.149.35)  
    New York  
    Chicago  
    H.J. Lincoln  
    T.W. Quin  
F.W. Hertrich, Jr.  
H. Richmond  
E.R. Smith  
H.S. Logan, Jr.  
E.L. Foreman  
B.J. Rohde  
Taylor Bros.  
D.M. Patterson  
Open  
M.B. Snow  
Foreign export  
Northeast District  
Earl Hoffman  
“Drill and Reamer Facts” booklet (Acc. #99.149.18)  
Blueprint of #7 Detroit automatic milling and clearing machines (Acc. #99.149.28)  
Organization chart, 1948 (Acc. #99.149.6)  
Anniversary booklet, “The First 100Years” (Acc. #99.149.5)  
Program of Army and Navy “E” Award ceremony on Feb. 23, 1945 (Acc. #99.149.19)  
Booklet, “Your Job with Whitman-Barnes” 1925 (Acc. #99.149.8)

***Entry 4: Catalogs***

*Folder 1*

Drill and Reamer catalog #97-S (Spanish) includes discount sheet effective January, 1940  
(Acc. #99.149.16)

Drill and Reamer catalog #100 includes discount sheet effective Sept. 1, 1948  
(Acc. #99.149.9)

Drill and Reamer catalog #100 (Portuguese) includes discount sheet effective January,  
1949 (Acc. #99.149.17)

Hercules Retainers and Interchangeable Punches catalog #99 (Acc. #99.149.27)

Domestic and Export discount sheets for catalog #100 (Acc. #99.149.23)

Carbide Tipped Tools catalog #101 (Acc. #99.149.20)

Drills-Drill Sets and Drill Assortments catalog including discount pricing sheet effective  
Sept., 1949 (Acc. #99.149.31)

Leaflets (Acc. #99.149.25)

Hercules Major Drills

Hercules Carbide Tipped Die Drills

W&B Spotting and Centering Drills

W&B Altercut Reamers

Hercules Retainers and Interchangeable Punches

Twist Drills

Micro Chucks and Collets

Short Length Screw Machine Drills

Carbide Tipped Masonry Drill

Auger Bit

***Entry 5: Photographs***

*Folder 1*

Unearthing Whitman-Barnes time capsule at Durr Industries, 1999 (Acc. #99.149.10,  
99.149.11, 99.149.12)

Twenty-Five Year Goldwatch Award to William Rucker, March 18, 1944 (Acc.  
#99.149.36)

Employees of Whitman-Barnes who gave their lives in WWII, 1941-1945 (Acc.  
#989.149.36)

New Plant-south side of factory and west side of office (3 copies) (Acc. #99.149.4)

East end of factory and office building of new plant from Plymouth Rd. (3 copies) (Acc.  
#99.149.4)

Groundbreaking ceremonies on June 19, 1948 (3 copies) (Acc. #99.149.4)

New plant-office building from Plymouth Rd. (3 copies) (Acc. #99.149.4)

Groundbreaking ceremonies on June 12, 1948 (3 copies) (Acc. #99.149.4)

*Map Case 2, Drawer 2*

Ground Breaking for New Whitman & Barns Factory, 40600 Plymouth Road, 19 June  
1948 (2 copies) (Acc #77.190.3)