



National Watch and Clock Museum

Library and Research Center

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NAWCC, Inc. • 514 Poplar St. • Columbia PA 17512-2130

## Theodore Crom Collection, 1922-2000

### Overview/Collection Description

- **Title:** Theodore Crom Collection
- **Dates:** 1922-2000 [bulk 1950-1990]
- **Creator:** Theodore Crom
- **Call Number:** MG 352
- **Language:** English, French, German
- **Extent:** 8 ½ linear feet in 15 boxes

### Conditions of Access

- **Restrictions:** These records are open to researchers for personal or scholarly research. Most of the records in the collection are available for photocopy, depending on the preservation needs of the material as well as other variables not specified here. Researchers, however, are responsible for obtaining copyright permission to use materials and documents. These records are part of the permanent collection in the archives of the Library & Research Center of the National Watch and Clock Museum and researchers are required to comply with the Archive Rules when using the collection.
- **Technical Access:** This collection contains one 3x5 floppy disk.

### Administrative Information

- **Preferred Citation:** *Theodore Crom Collection, 1922-2000*. Library & Research Center, National Watch & Clock Museum, NAWCC.
- **Processing Information:** This collection was processed and partially described before May 2016. During the summer of 2016, the collection was revisited and the archival description was expanded. It is unclear if the order of the collection present at the time

of the revision accurately reflected the original order. The order in which the collection was found in 2016 has been maintained as it is presented here.

- **Archivist and Date Processed.** Finding aid compiled by Kate Van Riper, Archivist at the Library and Research Center, National Watch and Clock Museum, Summer 2016. Biography written in part by Alexa Sleeper, Intern at the Library and Research Center, Summer 2011

### Subjects & Related Materials

- **Related Archival Material:**
  - MG 353: *Theodore Crom NAWCC Papers, 1955-1986.*
- **Subjects:**
  - National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
  - NAWCC International Convention of 1994
  - Photographs
  - Correspondence

### Biographical Sketch

- Theodore R. Crom was born on the 4th of July in 1920 in Evanston, IL. He was educated at three separate institutions including the University of Maryland, Columbia University, and the University of Florida. After having served in World War II stationed in the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, he returned to Gainesville, Florida to win the love of his future wife, Wynona (Nonie). After having married Wynona, he found the Crom Corporation, which was an engineering corporation that was founded on his education in civil structural engineering and his honorary doctorate he received after having made important contributions to the field. This corporation was run by himself, his father, and his brother with Ted acting as president.

It was most likely his engineering background that was the lay the foundation for his fascination with horology and the intricate workings of watches and clocks. However, Ted's focus shifted as his collections grew to include more and more clock and watch making tools. He delved into the history of the first and foremost innovators in the subject and the role of clock and watchmakers during the Industrial Revolution as well as during other important moments in history. Ted was a prolific writer. When he was not writing correspondences with his multitude of friends, he was writing and researching for his six books and plentiful articles in an attempt to teach and share.

Ted and Wynona attended many NAWCC conventions, traveling incredible distances in order to be an integral part of the 68th Chapter of the NAWCC, the Jean Ribault Chapter as it was named after the first protestant to set foot on the shores of the New World in 1562 near what is now Jacksonville, Florida. As Ted was one of the charter members of Chapter 68, he was an important part of choosing the name. Every August, Ted and Wynona would invite the Chapter to meetings in order to share his collection of horological tools and present workshops and speak in order to bring a set of people with a common interest together.

### Content & Structure

- **Scope & Content:** This collection consists of pieces collected by Theodore Crom to include correspondences, papers, research, receipts, information on tools, photographs, etc.

### Container List

#### Series I: Tool Information and Pictures, 1953-1999

Box	Folder	
1	1	Photographs: Cur Off Tools, not dated
	2	Photographs: Cylinder Tools, not dated
	3	Photographs: Demagnetizers, not dated
	4	Photographs & Correspondence: Demilt, S& B, 1984
	5	Photographs: Depthing, not dated
	6	Photographs: Dial, not dated
	7	Photographs: Dishes (Small Trays) Screw, Jewel, 1979
	8	Photographs: Dividing, Dividing Plates, 1981-1986
	9	Photographs & Correspondence: Drilling, 1974-1982
	10	Photographs: Engraving, not dated
	11	Photograph: Equalizers, Swiss Crown Wheel, 1997
	12	Photographs: Escapement, not dated
	13	Photographs: Eyeloops, not dated
	14	Photographs: Fastenings, not dated
	15	Fastenings; Article, 1983-1986
	16	Filing, 1983-1985
	17	Photographs: Filing, circa 1983-1985
	18	Photographs & Correspondence: File Hammer, 1985-1986

Box	Folder	
1	19	Foot Wheels, Hand Wheels, not dated
	20	Ford, Whitmore, Brunton, not dated
	21	Photographs: Forming, not dated
	22	Photographs: Fratelli Bergeon (original circa 1890), not dated
	23	Photographs: Fusee Makers/Tools—German, French, English, Swiss, circa 1991
	24	Photographs: Fusee Adjusting Rods, not dated
	25	Photographs: Gauges, not dated
	26	Photograph: Glass Cutters, 1982
	27	Photographs: Hairspring, not dated
	28	Photographs: Hammers, not dated
	29	Photographs: Joe Sasek & George Shaw, 1960; 1983
	30	Heal Trade Cards, not dated
	31	Photographs: Ingold Fraise, not dated
	32	Photographs: Jeweling, 1980
33	Photographs: Jeweling Lathes: Bottum, Swiss, 1973	
34	Lathes, 1953-1982	

Box	Folder	
2	1	Photographs: Mainspring Winders, not dated
	2	Photographs: Mandrels, 1970-1999
	3	Photographs: Micrometers, 1983
	4	Photograph: Milling, Slotting, not dated
	5	Photographs: Specials, 1982
	6	Photographs: Movement Holders, not dated
	7	Photographs: Nonie Vacation, circa 1980
	8	Photographs: Ornamental Turning, 1986-1989
	9	Photographs: Dan Parkes, 1984
	10	Photograph: Pin Filing, not dated
	11	Photograph: Pin Vices, not dated
	12	Photographs: Pinion Engines, 1987
	13	Photograph: Pivoting, note dated
	14	Photographs: Pivot Polishing, not dated
	15	Photograph: Planes: Holtz & D, not dated
	16	Photographs: Pliers, not dated
	17	Photographs: Polishing, not dated
	18	Photographs: Prescott, England & Museum, not dated
	19	Photographs: Presses, Fly, not dated
	20	Photographs: Prints, Paintings, not dated
	21	Photograph: Pullers, not dated
	22	Photographs: Punches, Wheel Springs, not dated

Box	Folder	
2	23	Photographs: Machine à Raboter, 1984
	24	Photographs: Roger Viollet, "Negatives—Paris," not dated
	25	Photograph: Repeating Parts/Tools, not dated
	26	Photographs: Rounding Up, not dated
	27	Photographs: Saws, 1973
	28	Scraping (as Flat Planes), 1982
	29	Photograph: Screw Extractors, not dated
	30	Photographs: Screw Driver, Tour a Vis, not dated
	31	Photograph: Screw Head Polishers, not dated
	32	Photographs: Screw Plates, not dated
	33	Photographs: 1 Foot Sectors, 1993
	34	Photograph: Shovels, not dated
	35	Photographs: Spring, not dated
	36	Photographs: Staking Tools, not dated
	37	Photographs: Stubs, not dated
	38	Photographs: Swing Tools, not dated
	39	Thumb & Wing Nuts & Screws, not dated
	40	Photographs: Throws, Clocks, 1973
	41	Photograph: Blacksmith Tongs, not dated
	42	Photographs: Tour en l'Air, not dated
	43	Photographs: Tower Clock, not dated
	44	Photographs & Article: "Un Tour Ancien;" Turns (French), 1988
	45	Photographs: Tweezers, not dated
	46	Photographs: Unidentified, not dated
	47	Photographs: Uprighted, not dated
	48	Photographs: Verge Twisters, not dated
	49	Photographs: Vices, 1958
	50	Photographs: American Wheel Cutting Engines, 1984-1999
	51	Photographs: French Wheel Cutting Engines, 1982-1999

Box	Folder	
3	1	Photographs: German Wheel cutting Engines, 1982-1999
	2	Photographs: Wheel Cutting Engine, Auto Geo Shaw, 1982
	3	Photographs: Wheel Stretchers, not dated
	4	Photograph: Woodworking, not dated
	5	Photographs: Wrenches, not dated
	6	Photographs: English Turns, not dated
	7	Photographs: Swiss Turns, 1973
	8	Photographs: Swiss Wheel Cutting Engines (1/2), not dated
	9	Photographs: Swiss Wheel Cutting Engines (2/2), not dated
	10	Photographs: English Wheel Cutting Engines, note dated

Box	Folder	
3	11	Photographs: Unidentified Wheel Cutting Engines, not dated
	12	Photographs: Watch Draw Bench, 1968
	13	Photographs: Books, Prints, Swiss Catalogues: Chateau des Monts, 1981
	14	Photographs: Bowman Catalogue, not dated
	15	Photographs: German Books, not dated
	16	Photographs: English Books, 1982
	17	Photographs: French Books, not dated
	18	Photographs: Spanish & American Books, not dated
	19	Photographs: Bows, not dated
	20	Photographs: Bowley, not dated
	21	Photographs: Boxes, not dated
	22	Photographs: Broaching, not dated
	23	Photographs: Case Making, not dated
	24	Photographs: Calipers, not dated
	25	Photograph: Castings, not dated
	26	Photograph: Catalogues, not dated
	27	Photographs: Tools to Make Chains, not dated
	28	Photographs: Chronometers & Tools, not dated
	29	Photographs: Chucks, lathes, not dated
	30	Photographs: English Clocks, not dated

Box	Folder	
4	1	Photographs: Clocks, Tabernacle Germany, 1968-1973
	2	Photographs: Compasses, 1968-1994
	3	Photographs: Crossing Out Wheels, not dated
	4	Photographs: Bond Chrono Shop, 1965
	5	Photographs: Books, Plates, Trade Cards, 1980
	6	Photographs: Books, J&T Jones, not dated
	7	Photographs: Photo Sequences, not dated
	8	Photographs: Arbors, Turning, not dated
	9	Photographs: Balance, not dated
	10	Photographs: Barrel Groovers, Closers, not dated
	11	Photographs: Beam Compass, not dated
	12	Photographs: Belk Center Punch, not dated
	13	Photographs: Bergeon, c. 1860, Paure Freres, not dated
	14	Photographs: Dan Joseph Fenn, 1979
	15	Photographs: Watches Photos, 1968
	16	Photographs: Clocks Photos, not dated
	17	Photographs: Shops Photos, 1976
	18	A Voyage Thru Time Brochure, 1971

Series II: Places, 1964-1998

Box	Folder	
4	19	Amer. Sect. Antiquarian Horological Society, 1988-1998
	20	Amsterdam University Library, 1987
	21	Bibliothèque Nationale, 1971-1987
	22	Bibliography, 1986-1987
	23	Bibliothèque Historique de la Ville de Paris, 1987
	24	Birmingham Library, 1985-1990
	25	Bodleian Library, 1974-1990
	26	Bowker ISBNs, 1986-1998
	27	Brit. Horo. Institute, Upton Hall, 1987
	28	British Museum & Library, 1982-1990
5	1	Brown University, John Carter Brown, John Hay, 1964-1989
	2	Colonial Williamsburg, 1987-1992
	3	Conservatoire Nationale des Arts et Métiers, Paris, 1987
	4	Corning Glass, 1989-1990
	5	Essex Institute, Salem, Mass, 1989-1991
	6	Ford Museum Library, 1988-1989
	7	Florida State Watchmakers, 1990-1993
	8	Guildhall Library, 1987-1988
	9	Harvard University, 1989
	10	University of Keele, Wedgewood, 1987-1994
	11	Library of Congress, 1987-1994
	12	Liverpool Library, 1968-1988
	13	Manchester Library, 1987-1997
	14	Metropolitan Museum of Art (1/2), 1988-1993
	15	Metropolitan Museum of Art (2/2), 1969-1989
	16	Mulholland Library, 1989
	17	Various Museums & Libraries, 1986-1987
	18	Museum of History of Science, 1968-1987
	19	Museum of London, 1982-1990
	20	National Trust, 1997
	21	Prescot Watch Museum, 1988
	22	Preston Record Office, 1987-1992
	23	Redwood Library, Newport, RI, 1989
	24	Rhode Island School of Design, 1989

Box	Folder	
6	1	Science Museum Library, 1988-1993
	2	Photographs: Sheffield Library, 1985-1987
	3	Sheffield Library, 1985-1987
	4	Smithsonian Institute—Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum; National Museum of American History, 1988-1993
	5	Time Museum, 1985-1994
	6	University of Florida Library, 1984-1997
	7	Sveriges Tekniska Museum; Stockholm, Sweden, 1986-1990
	8	University of California in Santa Barbara, 1987
	9	Victoria & Albert Library, 1978-1988
	10	William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, 1989
	11	Winterthur Museum & Library, 1973-1995

Series III: Correspondence, 1941-1999

*Subseries A: Clock Correspondence, 1950-1999*

Box	Folder	
6	12	Misc. Clock Correspondence, 1982-1985
	13	English Correspondence, 1980-1981
	14	English Correspondence, 1976-1979
Box	Folder	
7	1	English Correspondence, 1950-1975
	2	Clock Correspondence, 1977
	3	Clock Correspondence, 1975-1976
	4	Clock Correspondence, 1975
	5	Clock Correspondence, 1973-1974
	6	Clock Correspondence, 1997-1998
	7	Clock Correspondence, 1995-1996
	8	Clock Correspondence, 1992
	9	Clock Correspondence, 1991
	10	Clock Correspondence, 1993-1994
	11	Clock Correspondence, 1981; 1983; 1985-1989
	12	Clock Correspondence, 1989-1990
	13	Clock Correspondence, 1981-1982
Box	Folder	
8	1	Clock Correspondence, 1979-1980
	2	Clock Correspondence, 1977-1978
	3	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1995-1999



Box	Folder	
8	4	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1993-1994
	5	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1992
	6	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1986-1987
	7	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1985
	8	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1982-1984
	9	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1982
	10	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1991
	11	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1989-1990
	12	English & Scottish Correspondence, 1988
	13	Clockmaker's Company, 1995-1998
	14	Bowman Tech School, Lancaster, PA, 1971

*Subseries B: Personal Correspondence, 1941-1996*

Box	Folder	
8	15	Hugh J. Barbour, 1966-1971
	16	Hugh J. Barbour, 1960-1965
	17	Harold Burnham, 1957-1964
	18	G.H. Bell, London, 1955-1958

Box	Folder	
9	1	Van F. Belknap, 1962-1970
	2	Van F. Belknap, 1959-1962
	3	Van F. Belknap, 1956-1958
	4	Earl Strickler and NAWCC Headquarters, 1958-1975
	5	Arnold & Walker, 1974-1977
	6	Ward Francillon, American Clock & Watch Museum, Bristol Connecticut, 1996
	7	Malcolm Gardner, 1975-1987
	8	Malcolm Gardner, 1971-1974
	9	Malcolm Gardner, 1970
	10	Malcolm Gardner, 1969
	11	Malcolm Gardner, 1941; 1958-1968
	12	Jesse Coleman, 1962-1974
	13	Ken Roberts, 1967-1978
	14	Richard Whittington, Clock Lightner Museum, 1978-1991

Series IV: NAWCC, 1953-2000

Box	Folder		
9	15	Florida Mid-Winter Regional Convention, 2000	
	16	Conventions—Atlanta National, 1985-1986	
	17	Florida Regional Convention, 1983-1984	
	18	Conventions, 1971; 1978-1979	
	19	Florida Mid-Winter Regional Convention, 1996-1997	
	20	Chicago National Convention, 1977	
	21	Florida Regional Convention, 1984-1985	
	22	Cleveland National Convention, 1975	
	23	Florida Regional Convention, 1980	
	24	Indianapolis National Convention, 1984	
	Box	Folder	
10	1	Detroit National Convention, 1981	
	2	Orlando Winter Regional, 1990	
	3	Orlando winter Regional 1991	
	4	Florida Conventions, 1988-1989	
	5	Pre-1999 NAWCC Files, 1995-1998	
	6	Pre-1999 NAWCC Files, 1988-1994	
	7	Pre-1999 NAWCC Files, 1977-1987	
	8	Catalogs, 1978-1980	
	9	Campaign, National Office, 1970-1971	
	10	NAWCC Membership Committee, 1967-1973	
	11	NAWCC Headquarters Committee, 1972-1973	
	12	NAWCC Inc. Business, 1968-1974	
	13	NAWCC Inc. Business, 1953-1969	
	14	NAWCC Council Correspondence, 1972-1973	
	15	NAWCC Council Correspondence, 1970-1972	
	16	Booklists, circa 1980	
	17	Horological Wheel Cutting Engines Reprint Sales, 1968-1980	
	18	1976 Reprint, Horological Wheel Cutting Engines, 1976-1979	
	19	Houston Seminar, October 25-27, 1990	
Box	Folder		
11	1	NAWCC Seminar, Hartford, Connecticut, October 26-27, 1984	
	2	NAWCC Museum Trustees, 1977-1979	

Series V: Clippings and Collections, 1922-2000

Box	Folder		
11	3	Clock Pictures, 1966-1973	
	4	Clock and Watch Tool Purchases, 1962-1970	
	5	Clock and Watch Tool Purchases, 1961-1970	
	6	Clock and Watch Tool Purchases, 1951-1959	
	7	Clock Work, 1938-1980	
	8	Clock Work, 1937-1978	
	9	Clippings, 1951-2000	
	10	Clippings, 1937-1969	
	11	Clippings & Catalogs, 1985-1995	
	12	Collectors Door, 1969-1972	
	13	NAWCC Museum Trust, 1978-1980	
	12	1	Clippings, 1939-1993
		2	Clippings & Catalogs, 1939-1997
3		Adams Brown Company: Catalogs, circa 1970-1980	
4		Adams Brown Company, 1967-1980	
5		Adams Brown Company, 1963-1969	
6		Adams Brown Company, 1956-1967	
7		Correspondence, Helen Spivey, 1961-1969	
8		Horological Booklists & Clippings, 1977-1997	
9		Horological Booklists & Clippings, 1975-1977	
10		Horological Booklists & Clippings, 1965-1975	
11		Horological Booklists & Clippings, 1956-1967	
12		Clippings, 1922-1985	
13		Mart and Similar, 1965	

Series VI: Book, 1948-1998

Box	Folder	
13	1	Research on Mather/Lassall, 1985-1991
	2	Research on Mather/Lassall, 1985-1991
	3	Research on Mather/Lassall, 1984-1987
	4	Research on Mather/Lassall, 1984-1987
	5	Paper & Watermarks on Catalogues of Mather & Lassall, 1984
	6	Research Booklets on Mather & Lassall, 1984
	7	Photographs: Samuel Rogers Watchmaker, 1997-1998
	8	Samuel Rogers Watchmaker, 1991-1997
	9	Mather & Lassalls, 1997

Box	Folder	
13	10	Reference Pages, not dated
	11	18 <sup>th</sup> Century Lancashire Toolmakers, 1992-1997
	12	Book Sales, 1993
	13	G.K. Hadefield & Chapiro, Books Sent, Prescott Museum Sales, 1987-1998
	14	Willard-Grafton Museum, 1970-1971
	15	Book Sales—Orders, 1970-1975
	16	Book Sales—Orders, 1970-1975
	17	R.J. Low, England Hatton & Harris Chrono, 1964-1965
Box	Folder	
14	1	R.J. Low, England Hatton & Harris Chrono, 1961-1964
	2	R.J. Low, England Hatton & Harris Chrono, 1959-1961
	3	NAWCC International 1994: Speakers, 1991-1994
	4	NAWCC International 1994: Speakers, 1990-1994
	5	NAWCC International 1994: Speakers, 1991-1994
	6	Master of Ceremonies, 1994; 1998
	7	NAWCC International 1994: Speakers, 1992-1995
	8	1994 National NAWCC, 1990-1997
	9	John Poltock, Modern Tech Supply Etc., 1960-1976
	10	John Poltock, Modern Tech Supply Etc., 1954-1961
	11	John Poltock, Modern Tech Supply Etc., 1955-1964
	12	Correspondence: AHS Lecture by Professor Alan A. Treherne at the University of Florida, 1984
	13	“Horological Shop Tools 1700-1900” – Book Correspondence, 1981-1988
	14	“Horological Shop Tools 1700-1900” – Book Correspondence, 1972-1982
	15	“Horological Shop Tools 1700-1900” – Book Correspondence, 1979-1981
	16	“Horological Shop Tools 1700-1900” – Book Correspondence, 1969-1979
Box	Folder	
15	1	Research: Early Toolmaking, “an article that never got written,” 1986-1994
	2	Correspondence: Chris Williams & NAWCC, 1991-1993
	3	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Program Schedule, 1993-1994
	4	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – John Wyke Talk Outline, 1994
	5	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Hotel Reservations, 1993-1994
	6	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – House Guests, 1993
	7	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Convention Correspondence, 1993
	8	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Things to Take, 1993-1994
	9	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Budget, 1993-1994

Box	Folder	
15	10	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Speaker Refusals, 1991-1994
	11	NAWCC International Convention 1994—Exhibit Items, 1993
	12	NAWCC International Convention 1994 – Equipment for Speakers, 1994
	13	Research—18 <sup>th</sup> Century Brass Catalogues, 1991-1996
	14	Great Exhibition 1851 – List of exhibitors (photocopy), not dated
	15	Article & Correspondence – “An Eighteenth Century English Watch in America,” Bowly-Pierce Watch, 1996
	16	Unit 3 Main Building, 1948-1985