

**TRADE CARDS IN
SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
"SCRAP BOOK OF PICTURE CARDS"**

Descriptions and Synopses of Featured Companies and Products

**by members of
Puget Sound Chapter
Association of Professional Genealogists**

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INTRODUCTION

A scrapbook, presented to Seattle Public Library in the 1920s by George Waith Lee, consists of handwritten ledger entries for steamships and propellers that traversed various Great Lakes ports in the 1850s. On top of the pages, either glued or inserted into diagonal corner slits, were picture cards, smaller than a postcard but larger than a business card that showed unique historical illustrations and advertisements. Many of these cards—185 to be exact—were removed, then photographed individually using a digital camera. Using Adobe® software, the images were saved on a compact disk. (Additional cards, glued on so tightly that removal might have seriously damaged the book, were photographed as they appeared on the pages, but were not researched.)

After Bonnie Jean MacDonald prepared a descriptive inventory of the cards, Evelyn M. Roehl grouped some of the data into a table according to the companies mentioned on the cards. Patricia Hackett Nicola, CG then researched twenty-six businesses, Melonie Soper Ramsey researched twenty-four companies, Ms. MacDonald researched twelve enterprises, and Ms. Roehl did supplemental research on various individuals and firms.

The following pages provide brief information about these establishments, in alphabetical order: Company Name, Location, Years of Operation, Product, Owner or Principal, Card Number or numbers on which their product was featured, Descriptions of the cards, Comments, and Sources. Some cards had only illustrations, and their descriptions are at the end, in card number order.

For general information on trade cards and their popularity in the late 1800s, as well as other examples, visit (<http://www.americanantiquarian.org/tradecards.htm>), (<http://www.tradecards.com>), or (<http://www.antiquebottles.com/tradecards/>).