



**100 Artifacts  
for  
100 Years**

**CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL  
OF THE PATERSON MUSEUM**

**February 10, 2025—February 27, 2026**



# 100 *Artifacts* THE PATERSON 100 museum *Years*

On February 9th, 1925, the Paterson Free Public Library Board of Trustees made a motion that created the Paterson Museum. In the 100 years since that meeting, the Museum has developed and changed with its City. Beginning with temporary displays in the assembly room at the Danforth Memorial Library, today, the Museum is a permanent fixture in the former Erecting Shop of the Rogers Locomotive Works. The collection, originally focused more on ancient world cultures and natural history, transitioned to one focused on the products and people of Paterson.

In honor of our centennial, the Museum staff have selected 100 artifacts to represent this milestone. The artifacts were selected for a number of different reasons, but all were selected for the important role they play in the story of the Paterson Museum. The highlighted artifacts are scattered throughout the museum. Look for the 100 years logo, to learn more about their unique stories and their part in the Museum's rich history.



## The Origins of the Paterson Museum



This year marks the centennial celebration of the Paterson Museum. The Museum has its origins in an even older institution, the Paterson Free Public Library. Following the opening of the Danforth Memorial Library in 1905, exhibits became an integral part of the library's programming. In 1916, the Library Board created a Special Committee on Art, Exhibitions and Lectures. At that time, the exhibits were on display in the assembly room.

At a meeting of the Library Board on February 9, 1925, two motions were made which launched the Paterson Museum as its own institution. The first was the formation of a standing Museum Committee, which held among its responsibilities: to supervise the erection or reconstruction of buildings, or the fitting and furnishing of rooms for museum use. The second was to hire the first curator, James F. Morton.



The Committee took their responsibilities regarding a building very seriously. By May 1925, they were accepting plans and contracts to remodel the carriage house of former Mayor Nathan Barnert. The new museum opened in January 1927. With its own dedicated building, the museum was able to expand its collections, which included an ever-growing mineral collection. While located on Summer Street, the focus of the museum remained very broad, as was common in museums of this period. The exhibits ranged from local history to natural history, including artifacts of the ancient world, as well as modern technical marvels.



After more than five decades, the museum's collection was outgrowing the building. Mayor Frank Graves decided to move the museum and its collections to the newly renovated Erecting Shop of the Rogers Locomotive Works, located in the Great Falls Historic District. The move took place in August 1982. Since relocating to Market Street, the Museum has revised its mission. Less focused on natural history, the collections and exhibitions continue to expand to include more local history, with a focus on the machines and products that represented Paterson's many great industries.



#1

## **Nail Mill by Thomas Whitley**

This painting offers a glimpse at Paterson's early industry. The nail mill (1814-1835) shown here was an early mill on the site of the later Colt Gun Mill. This representation by English painter Thomas Whitley is one of the most important depictions of the Raceway System.

## **Great Falls Engraving**

This engraving, produced in 1761, is the first published image of the Great Falls. *A View of the Falls on the Passaick, or second River, in the Province of New Jersey, sketch'd on the spot by his Excellency Governor Pownal* was created by Thomas Pownal between 1755-1757. It was later engraved by Paul Sandby.

#2



#3

## **Roswell Colt Portrait**

Whenever anyone is talking about the founding of Paterson, Alexander Hamilton gets top billing. However, Roswell Colt deserves just as much credit, if not more, for creating the city we know today. Colt served as the Governor of the S.U.M. from 1814 until his death in 1856. During that time, he changed the Society's focus to leasing water rights, transitioning the S.U.M. from landlords to power brokers. When he died, the city stopped as many mills and businesses closed for a day of mourning.

## **Organic Evolution (2012) by A. Boone**

Most known for our historic artifacts, the Paterson Museum also has a collection of fine art. Most of the artworks were created by Paterson artists, or depict a Paterson scene or resident. This painting by A. Boone was given to the city by the artist. Distinct from the many idealized landscapes of the Great Falls, this modern piece approaches the history and landscape of Paterson in a unique way.

#4





#5

## Mr. Shiner- Restaurateur- Paterson Businessman by Don Kommit

Don Kommit, the self-proclaimed Count of Passaic County, was at the center of the art community here in the city for several decades. Not just a visual artist, Don also wrote and performed poetry as a part of the Silk City Poets. This painting is very typical of his unique style. This posthumous portrait of Mr. Shiner was commissioned by the deceased's son. When it was completed the son did not like the piece and refused to purchase it.

## Larry Doby Jersey

In 1947, Lawrence Eugene Doby became the first African American baseball player in the American League. During his MLB career, he played ten seasons for the Cleveland Indians. In 1997, Cleveland honored his contributions by inducting him into their team Hall of Fame and retiring his number, 14.

#6



## S.U.M. Lottery Tickets

These lottery tickets represent one of the many failures that make up the early history of the Society for establishing Useful Manufactures to create America's first planned industrial city here in Paterson. The lottery was an attempt to raise some quick cash for the business. Lottery tickets were significantly less expensive to purchase than company shares. Had it been successful, the lottery would have generated \$100,000, roughly equivalent to \$3,356,308 today. However, not enough people purchased tickets and the whole experiment was a flop.

#7



## Mayor Kramer at the Republican National Convention

Lawrence "Pat" Kramer served as Mayor of Paterson in two, non-consecutive terms: 1967-1971 and 1975-1982. During his tenure, historic preservation of the city's industrial landscape began, including the creation of the Great Falls Historic District and the debut of the Great Falls Festival in 1971.

#8





#9

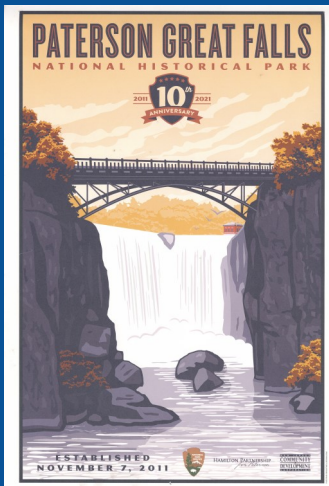
## Welcome to Paterson Sign

The image of the Great Falls is synonymous with this city. As a decorative element or mascot, the image of the waterfalls is everywhere. The Great Falls represents Paterson, NJ.

## Rowe and Costello Street Signs

The Museum is not alone in its efforts to preserve the rich history of Paterson and its many citizens. One of the many ways the City of Paterson commemorates its leading citizens is through street renaming ceremonies. These signs represent the many streets that have been rededicated to represent the individuals or groups who have made an impact on Paterson.

#10



#11

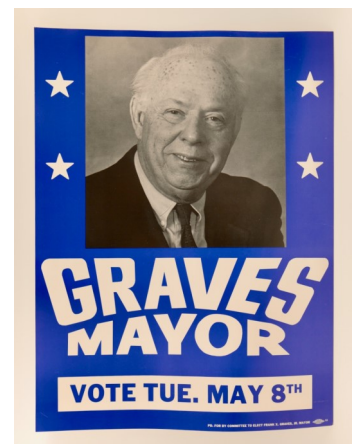
## NJCDC Poster

The New Jersey Community Development Corporation has been serving the Paterson community for thirty years. In that time, they have been a supportive neighbor and worked hard to help maintain the Great Falls Historic District. Among the many ways they go above and beyond to support the city's history and heritage, over the years they have issued a series of free posters to commemorate important historic events.

## Mayor Frank Graves Re-election Poster

Frank X. Graves Jr. served as Mayor of Paterson in two, non-consecutive terms: 1961-1966 and 1982-1990. When he served as Mayor, he was everywhere- the Paterson Evening News photograph collection can prove it! When he served as Mayor, his focus was on public safety. Mayor Graves also appointed Giacomo Destefano Director of the Museum, a position he has held for 36 years.

#12



# #13

## City of Paterson, 1840



This is a rare, early map of the City of Paterson. Maps such as this have great value for a number of reasons. They are an important resource as we study and share the history of the City. They also generate interest in Museum patrons. Visitors are often excited to lean in and really examine a map, find familiar landmarks and reflect on the differences to the cityscape as compared to the Paterson of today.

## Gasworks, Paterson N.J. by Otto Benz

Local artist Otto Benz (1882-1962) began his career as a textile designer. An American impressionist, he was best known for his northern New Jersey landscapes, which include a number of cityscapes of Paterson. Many of his paintings, such as this one, depict landmarks long gone. The natural gas tanks shown here, once located in the Bunker Hill neighborhood, no longer exist and there is no known photograph of the tanks in place. This painting then represents the sole record of this structure.

# #14



## Flood Meter



# #15

The Passaic River has always been the lifeblood of the city. Its power is what first attracted industry to this area. Today, the river attracts tourists to Paterson. However, despite the many advantages, proximity to the river comes with some drawbacks. Flooding is very common in many parts of the city, with heavy flooding occurring at least once a year. Both Hurricane Irene (2011) and Hurricane Sandy (2012) caused the river to overflow and attracted national attention.

## Bridge Topper

The Museum has many larger, structural elements in our collection. Their size often makes them difficult to exhibit. This item is a bridge topper, which once decorated the Spruce street bridge. One of a pair, which would have stood at each end of the bridge. This topper both decorated the bridge and served as a dedication.

# #16



# #17

## Paterson Morning Call Sign



Paterson has had several newspaper publications in its history. However, the Paterson Morning Call became Paterson's leading morning newspaper for the majority of the 20th century. Founded by Edward B. Haines in 1885, the Morning Call would later merge with Haines's other publication, the Paterson Evening News.

## Senator Grossi Senate Desk

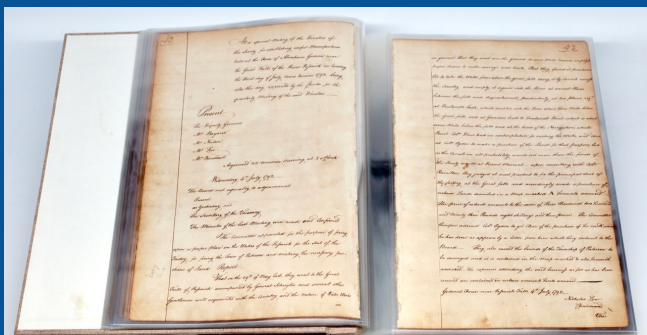
This desk served as NJ Senator Anthony Grossi's desk when he served as State Senator for Passaic County between 1957-1967. During the restoration of the State House in the late 1980's, this desk was borrowed by the restorers to serve as a model for the new desks in the senate chamber.

# #18



# #19

## S.U.M. Minute Book

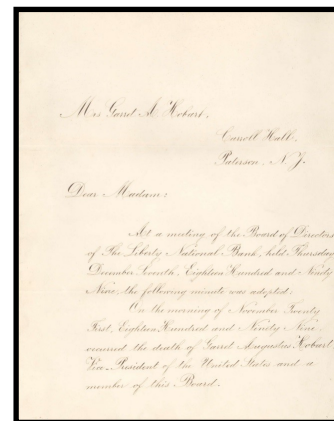


Older than the City of Paterson itself, the SUM minute book records the meetings of the Board of Directors from its inception, November 22, 1791. These records include details about the development of Paterson as America's first planned industrial city. That includes the main difficulties, failures and false starts the company experienced. This record is not only important on a local level, but has national significance.

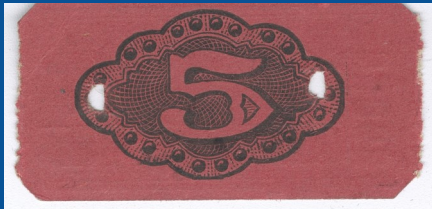
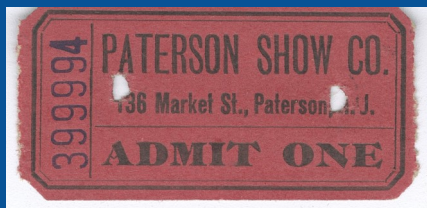
## Letter to Mrs. Hobart from Liberty National Bank

Garret A. Hobart came to Paterson at age 19 to study law. He spent the rest of his life as a resident of the city practicing law and actively participating in many business ventures. This included the formation of the Liberty National Bank. He served on the board of Directors until his death. Hobart also had a political career, which peaked when he was elected 24<sup>th</sup> Vice President of the United States in 1896. This letter is one of many that Mrs. Hobart received in condolence for the untimely death of her husband on November 21, 1899.

# #20







#21

## Paterson Show Ticket

In September 1911, Patersonian Minerva Miller attempted to purchase a 5 cent ticket to the movies at the Paterson Show. She was informed that admission was 25 cents for African American patrons. She won the resulting lawsuit against the proprietor, in a groundbreaking decision, which was the first successful Civil Rights case in New Jersey. We included this ticket to represent this amazing woman and her fight to end racial discrimination.

## V for Victory Banner

Like many cities across America, Paterson played an important role on the home front during WWII. Many of the companies in Paterson, including most obviously Wright Aeronautical Corporation, shifted gears and produced products needed for the war effort. The National Park Service recently proclaimed Paterson an American WWII Heritage City in honor of those efforts. This banner represents the men and women of Paterson who worked around the clock for the war effort.

#22



#23

## California Quail



The mission and focus of museums have changed a lot since we were founded in the 1920s. Back then, museums were focused on bringing the outside world to their community. With that goal, the Paterson Museum once had a large natural history collection, including shells, nuts and seeds, and taxidermy. Most of those items were removed from the collection as our mission evolved to preserving local history. This quail is one of the few remaining connections to that early history.

## Dean McNulty's Kneeler

Dean William McNulty, affectionately known as Father "Mac," was a force to be reckoned with. First assigned to St. John's Church (then on Oliver Street) in 1863, in two years he was spearheading the efforts to build a larger church. Upon the Dean's insistence, the church included a cathedra or Bishop's seat, usually reserved for cathedrals. Forty-seven years after the church was consecrated, in 1937, the Diocese of Paterson was formed and McNulty's church became St. John the Baptist Cathedral.

#24





## Locomotive Stop-Cock

# #25

The stop-cock regulates the air, for the air-brake system. This valve was invented in 1906, by Samuel Dunning, who lived here in Paterson and worked for American Locomotive Company (ALCO). This valve is only one of Dunning's inventions. The museum has many of his patents in our collection.

## Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor Lease Agreement

This agreement between the Society for establishing Useful Manufacturing and Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor is establishing the lease for the land on which we are currently standing. The company formed in 1832 and expanded to include seventeen buildings. One of these buildings, the Erecting Shop, is now home to the Paterson Museum.

# #26



## Glass Plate Negative

Along with our 3-D artifacts, the Paterson Museum has an extensive collection of photographic prints and negatives. Between 2021 and 2023, our partner the Paterson Museum Foundation spearheaded an effort to have all 7000+ glass plate negatives in our collection digitized and stored in archival sleeves. Efforts are ongoing to identify those places and people depicted in the negatives, and to provide wider access to them. This negative was selected to represent that important preservation project.

# #27



## Photograph- Paterson in 1865

The Museum has over 250,000 photographs in its collection. We selected this image to represent them because it is Director DeStefano's favorite. This photograph was taken in the location that would later be named Monument Heights, near the future Vista Park.

# #28



# #29

## First Presbyterian Church Bible

This bible is believed to be the first pulpit bible used by the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church. The congregation was formed in 1813 and worshiped in the Old Dutch Church, the only house of worship in Paterson at that time. They built their own church in a parcel of land between Cross, Spring (now Oliver), Ward and Main Streets between 1814-1819. The First Presbyterian congregation included the Colt family and many of the other early industrialists. Two New Jersey Governors would later worship there, Philemon Dickerson and John W. Griggs.



## Albert Strange Memorial Book

On the rise as America's Silk City, Paterson attracted businessmen from around the world. Albert Strange had started an import business with his brother in 1838. In 1868, he moved his manufacturing base from Brooklyn to Paterson. Now known as William Strange & Co., daily operations were managed by Albert's son William. Upon Albert's death in 1886, the Silk Association of American presented this book to his family.

# #30



## Silk Thread Glass Tapers

Here is an interesting and different way to enjoy the visual beauty of silk. These glass candle tapers have been filled with different colored silk threads. We do not know much about the origins of these decorative pieces, but we think they were manufactured around 1920. We selected them because they demonstrate the versatility of Paterson's favorite fiber.

# #31



## Paterson Postcards

"Having a great time! Wish you were here!" The phenomenon of sending postcards became popular in the 1880s as an inexpensive way to send short messages. Publishers began printing city views that included bank buildings, courthouses, churches and street scenes. There are over 350 different postcard views of Paterson in our collection. These artifacts of daily life are significant for the moments they capture on the front, as well as the glimpses of daily life they provide on the back.

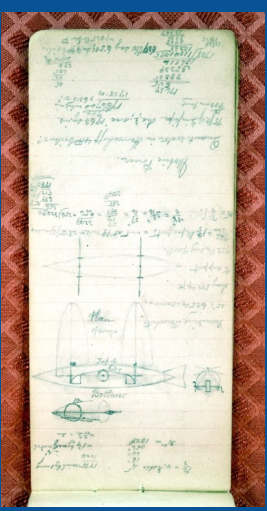
# #32



## John Holland's Notebook

Besides being the home of two of John Holland's submarine prototypes, the Paterson Museum is the repository for an extensive collection of the inventor's original notes, blueprints and correspondence. Inventor John Holland was a perfectionist, constantly tweaking and changing his designs. He also corresponded with many other inventors working on similar projects around the world. This unique document collection is of both national and international significance.

#33



## Prescription Book

Today, we are so used to our medical records and prescriptions being electronic. However, before computers, pharmacies were still responsible for tracking the medications they dispensed and the patients they assisted. This is the prescription book from Pinchak Pharmacy in Paterson, open from 1919 to 1985.

#34



## Butterflies

Insect collecting became a very popular hobby in the mid-1800s. Considered to be both educational and fun, many children and adults curated their own specimens. These displays often bridge the gap between artistic beauty and science. These butterflies are some of the first artifacts to become part of the Paterson Museum's permanent collection, back when our focus was more extensively natural history.

#35



## Capt. Danforth's Footlocker

This chest was owned and used by Captain Charles Danforth Jr. when he served in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Charles served in Company I of the Second New Jersey Volunteers. He was killed on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1862 at Gaines Mill, VA. He is buried at Cedar Lawn Cemetery. Charles was one of over 200 Patersonians who lost their lives during the American Civil War. This chest is commonly known as a footlocker because it would usually be placed at the foot of a bed and locked.

#36





# #37

## Pottery Sherds

At quick glance these artifacts may not look very exciting, but you are looking at pot sherds from approximately 3000 years ago. While nowhere as common as stone tools, pottery sherds can also be found on some sites. If you look closely at these fragments, you can see the designs that were placed on them by the potter, helping us to connect to someone who lived 30 centuries ago.

## Mortar and Pestle

Most of the items First Peoples used and made were comprised of organic materials. As a result, the archaeological remains of these items are quite rare. Stone tools are the most robust exception to this phenomenon. Of our hundreds of stone tools, in all shapes and sizes, we have chosen to highlight this mortar and pestle because it is rare to find such a large tool in such good condition.

# #38



# #39

## Radial Arm Router

This is the oldest machine the in Museum's collection. This router was built here in Paterson by John Royle and Sons around 1865. It was sold to the Manhattan Photo Engraving Company and used until 1920.

## School Slide

One of the Museum's few artifacts which reflects on childhood in Paterson, this wooden slide was enjoyed by Paterson school children at P.S. #10 since 1922. Originally outside, the slide was placed inside the kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom, where it was used for many years. The slide was donated to the Museum in 2023.

# #40



# #41



## Libby's Chili Sauce Pot

Libby's Lunch and the Texas Weiner put Paterson on the culinary map. Opened in 1936, Libby's played a part in the origin story of several similar grills and restaurants in the area including Johnny and Hanges, Falls View Grill, Olympic Grill and Colonial Grill. Located near several busy factories and the Great Falls, Libby's attracted both members of Paterson's work force, as well as waves of tourists. Of course, a Texas Weiner All the Way, with its special, secret, sauce was a must have for most patrons. This pot is the actual pot in which the chili sauce was cooked up until the restaurant closed in 2020.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry National Guard, New Jersey

The Museum's collection is full of group photographs like this one. These images are really compelling, as they provide faces, if not always a name, to those who have come before us. This image depicts the 6<sup>th</sup> infantry's Officers and Non-commissioned Officers present at Fort Edward in Sea Girt for the annual, two week encampment. The infantry included men from seven New Jersey counties, including Passaic. The Paterson men were enlisted in Companies E and F.

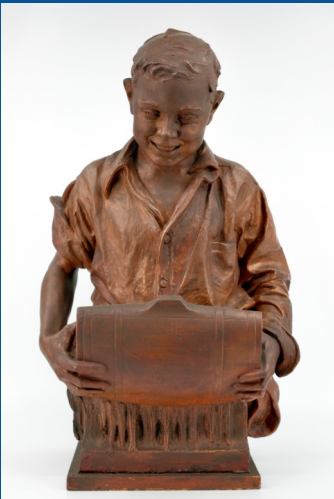
# #42



## *Dublin Spring* by Gaetano Federici

This plaster sculpture is a study for *Dublin Spring*. The final version, cast in bronze, was located on the corner of Oliver Street and Mill Street in 1931. It was later moved to the end of Oliver Street. The sculpture commemorates the Irish-American community, which once resided in our neighborhood, known as Little Dublin. The sculptor was a local legend in his own right, producing more than 40 public works within two miles of City Hall.

# #43



## City Hall Silk Wallpaper

Paterson is known as Silk City, so the idea of having Silk wallpaper in our public buildings makes sense. This silk panel was designed as a wall covering for City Hall. Designed and woven here in Paterson, the fabric design incorporates the City's seal, a figure planting a mulberry tree. We do not know why, but this silk was never used to adorn the walls of City Hall and to our knowledge, this is the only sample.

# #44





#45

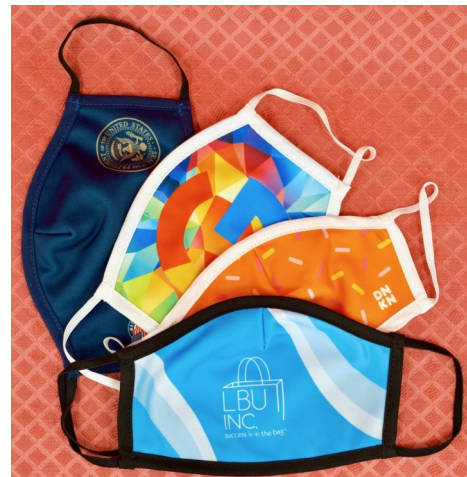
## City Hall Dome

The current City Hall building was built in 1896. A part of the City's centennial celebrations, the Beaux Art style borrowed heavily from the European sophistication of Lyons, France. Located in the heart of the downtown area, it was badly damaged by the Great Fire of 1902. The original architects, Carrere and Hastings, returned after the fire and made all necessary repairs. City Hall was placed on the National Register in 1995. This section of dome was removed in 1993 following some restoration work.

## Face Masks

These face masks were produced by LBU Inc. in Paterson during the Covid- 19 Pandemic in 2020. In March of 2020, the company repurposed their factory to produce cloth face masks and medical gowns, manufacturing 100,000 a week. Today, these masks are part of the museum's ever expanding collection of products produced here.

#46



#47

## Meyer Brothers Box

Downtown Paterson once served as a shopping destination for much of Northern New Jersey. Main Street and Market Street were filled with stores and shoppers all year round. One of the larger stores that many people remember was Meyer Brothers Store, also known as the Boston Store. Located at 239 Main Street from 1879 until 1987, the department store is still remembered fondly by Patersonians.

## Barbour Thread

Paterson is most well-known for its silk production, but the city has been home to other textile production as well. Cotton duck cloth and other cotton was produced here in the late 1820s. The Barbour Flax mill, just down Spruce Street, was home to a company focused on linen thread production.

#48





# #49

## Bottle from Hinchliffe Brewery

We have over 200 bottles in our collections. Together these artifacts tell the story of Paterson's breweries and the many spring water bottlers that also operated in the city. Ordinary, everyday objects like these are also a fun way to relate to people of the past. Hinchliffe Brewery was in operation from 1861 to 1920.

## Continental Can Company Tray

Throughout the city's history, Paterson has attracted manufacturing firms that produce a variety of different products. In 1949, Continental Can Company opened a plant in Paterson on Getty Avenue, the former home of Wright Aeronautical Corporation. The company began in 1913 producing metal cans but then diversified into plastic, paper and other household wares. The Paterson plant, plant No. 48, focused on metal can production.

# #50



# #51



## Griddle

This is a griddle made from a reconstituted builder's plate. The builder's plate, which reads "Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor," dates to before 1856. We do not know when the handle was added, nor the exact reason why. The Museum's collection is full of these interesting puzzles of history. Sometimes we find the answers to our questions, but sometimes we will never know the motivations of the people who owned or created these artifacts.

## Owl Reed Machine

Very little is known about this machine or the Owl Specialty Company of Paterson who produced it. It seems the goal of the company was to create small and lightweight instruments that could be moved around a mill, from loom to loom. This reed machine could be operated by either an electric motor or a battery. We believe it was used in relation to the ribbon looms.

# #52





# #53



## Textile Cart

Not sure why, but Director Giacomo Destefano has a thing for carts. He really wants to put on an exhibition, "The Art of the Cart" but since we think he is probably the only one who would find that interesting, we decided to compromise. All joking aside, this cart was used in the Messer Works. The drop front allows for easy loading and unloading.

## Sipp Ball-Bearing Measuring Reel

Much of the machinery you see here at the Paterson Museum was used by Paterson. However, many of our visitors do not realize that many of these machines were also made here in Paterson. There were several machine works companies located in the city, creating the machines needed for the various industries that called the city home. This reel was made by the Sipp Electric and Machine Company of Paterson. The reel was used to measure threads and to spread the fibers for close quality examination.

# #54



# #55

## Jacquard Loom

Paterson's silk industry began in 1839, when the first silk was spun onto bobbins. However, it was looms like this one which allowed for figurative patterns. Patented in 1804, the first jacquard looms in Paterson were used in Pelgram and Meyer in 1873. This machine, and most of our other textile machinery came to the museum in the early 1990s, as many of the old weaving firms closed their doors permanently.

## Chop Tickets

The only part of the silk manufacturing process that never took place in Paterson was the harvesting of raw silk. Patersonian mills always purchased their silk from abroad, and most of it came from Asia. These chop tickets were once attached to the bundles of raw silk that came to Paterson, a tangible link to that international business connection.

# #56



# #57

## Royle Hole Punch and Jacquard Card



This hole punch is not just your average office tool. This punch, made by Royle & Sons, was used in the creation of jacquard cards. Sometimes when cards were run through the punch machine there would be a missed hole or one that was not fully cut. With this small tool, errors could be manually corrected. Why is this so important? The placement of the holes on the cards is what directs the machines to create the patterns in the fabric.

## Silk Ribbon

In 1884, the country came together in New Orleans for the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition. Among those exhibiting in the Machinery Department were Phoenix Manufacturing Company. As they demonstrated their looms to the public, they produced a series of silk bookmarks, which they then sold to visitors as souvenirs of the exposition.

# #58



# #59

## Jacquard Design

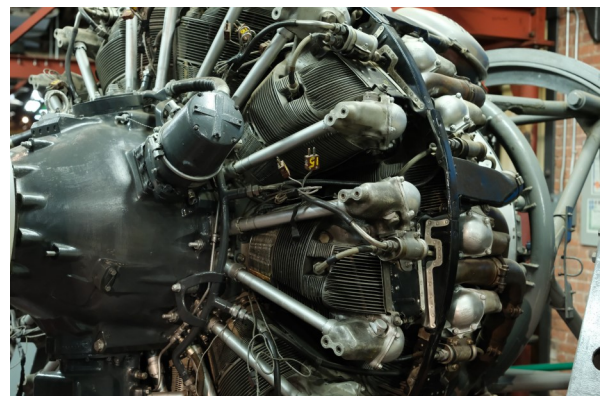


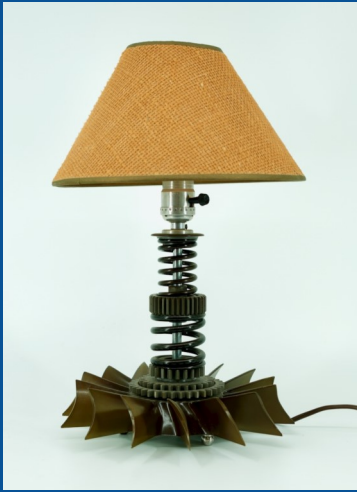
Every pattern woven on silk here in Paterson began as a design on paper. Once a design was approved, it was then transferred to point paper, and jacquard cards were created. Many of the larger firms had a designer or design department. Other companies contracted independent designers. These designs represent the connection between fine arts and industry here in Silk City. This design was created by Jerry Valenta & Sons.

## Wright R-3350

Wright R-3350 Turbo Compound Cyclone Engines such as this were produced by Wright Aeronautical in the 1950s. These engines were manufactured following the company's move to Wood-Ridge. However, many of the Patersonians who worked for the company in Paterson continued to commute to the Wood-Ridge facility and built these engines.

# #60





#61

## Wright Aero Lamp

Wright Aeronautical Corporation was very serious about quality control when it came to their engine components. Over 50,000 tests were conducted per engine during the course of manufacture. Ever wonder what happened to the parts that did not pass inspection? Employees often used them to create souvenirs. Many pistons became bookends or ashtrays. We highlighted this lamp because it is one of the more unique souvenirs in our collection.

## Liberty Island Cable Sample

In 1986, a two year project to restore the Statue of Liberty was completed. This section of submarine cable was produced by The Okonite Company to power Liberty Island. Okonite is one of the few industrial companies left in Paterson today. The company celebrated the centennial of its Paterson plant in 2024.

#62



## Holland Silk Panel

We are very proud to have this artifact on permanent display after over 75 years in storage. Starting in 2021, the Museum staff prioritized putting the tapestry on display, as part of a larger effort to show more of the museum's extensive collection of artifacts. In October 2023, we were finally able to unveil it to the public and tell another part of John Holland's amazing story.



#63

## Holland I

The Holland I is the world's first modern submarine, meaning it is the first successful submarine to be run by a motor. The submarine came to the Museum in 1927, only two years after our founding, and has been a major feature of our exhibitions ever since. This makes it one of our earliest Paterson history artifacts. The conning tower, diving planes and propeller were restored in 2000.

#64



# #65

## Holland II

The Holland II, also known as the Fenian Ram, is a significant artifact in maritime history. However, the Holland II made this list for a different reason. This vessel was here in the Roger's building before the Museum was! When restoration of the Rogers building began in 1978, it was specified that a cultural center needed to be housed on the ground floor. At the same time, it was determined that the Holland II, at that time on display in Westside Park, needed to be moved indoors to protect it from the elements. The Holland II moved in to its current location in 1980. The Paterson Museum followed in 1982.

## Yellow Fly Swatter

Promotional gimmicks and gifts are a big part of marketing. We selected this fly swatter to represent the hundreds of promotional items that we hold in our collection. Sometimes these silly little giveaways are the only items we have to represent many of the businesses that are no longer exist.

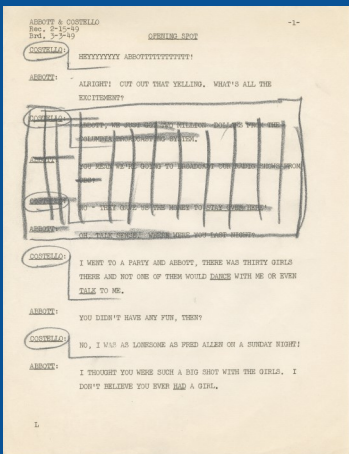
# #66



# #67

## Abbott and Costello Show Radio Script

When people think about Abbott and Costello, they usually think of their movies. However, in addition to their career on the big screen, Abbott and Costello had a radio show. Broadcast from 1940-1949, *The Abbott and Costello Show* brought the comedic duo into the homes of millions of Americans. Always proud of his New Jersey roots, Costello would end every broadcast with, "Goodnight to Everyone in Paterson."

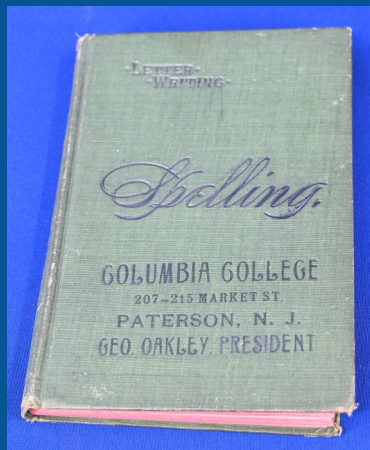


## White Comb

This comb is just another example of the strong connection between the Great Falls and Paterson. Our falls have attracted tourists throughout recorded history, with the first known description dating to 1680. We do not know the exact origin of this comb, but it is just one of hundreds of Paterson souvenirs sporting the Great Falls.

# #68





# #69

## Book- Columbia College, Paterson NJ

The Columbia Business College was founded by George Oakley in 1889. Located on Market Street, the college offered both day and night classes in a variety of skills including bookkeeping, shorthand, rapid calculation and Spanish. The college catered to both men and women looking to advance their careers.

## Victor Cruz's Gloves

In 2012, the New York Giants won Super Bowl XLVI. At the time, Paterson native Victor Cruz served as wide receiver. Following this historic win, Cruz was interviewed by BR Sports in the Museum, next to the Wrights engines. After speaking to the Director, Cruz generously donated this pair of game gloves for our permanent collection.



# #70

## Rev. Rowe Election Observer Armband

# #71



While the Paterson Museum's focus is on the history of Paterson that does not mean that we are indifferent to world events. However, we preserve national and international events through a local lens. This armband was worn by Reverend Doctor Albert P. Rowe of Paterson when he participated in the South African election of 1994, significantly the first universal suffrage election in South African history. A Civil Rights activist in the United States, Rowe's involvement in this historic election is no surprise.

## The Happenings Scrapbook

A new acquisition for the Museum, this scrapbook contains memorabilia related to The Happenings, a pop music band formed in 1961 by four Patersonians: Bob Miranda, David Libert, Tom Giuliano and Ralph DiVito. The collector, Bernie LaPorta joined the band in 1968. Known for their unique covers, The Happenings had nine billboard hot 100 singles.

# #72



## Silk City Diner Lighter



#73

Paterson's industries were nothing if not diverse. In 1926, the Paterson Vehicle Company created the Silk City Diner division, which focused on the commercial manufacture of diners. All diners came fully equipped with grills, coffee urns, and refrigerators, as well as dishes and utensils. During its peak, the Paterson Vehicle Company's Silk City Diner division shipped their pre-fabricated diners all over the Northeast.

## Falls View Grill Cup

Sometimes the best artifacts from the past are those that usually would not have been saved. The Paterson Museum was recently gifted a set of five paper cups from Falls View Grill, a restaurant once located across the street from the Museum. Falls View was in operation on Spruce street from 1945 until 1987, serving Hot Texas Weiners, burgers and other hearty foods popular among the factory workers who stopped in on their lunch break.

#74



## Broadway Bank Coin Bank



#75

As a city focused on business, banking and banks were always a large part of Paterson's downtown. Today fewer and fewer of us carry cash. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, change banks like this one were common promotion items for banking institutions to give away. The Broadway National Bank was founded in 1925.

## Craig Redmond's Drum Sticks

Throughout its history, Paterson has been home to many artists, including many professional musicians. Craig Redmond is a drummer who not only performs with his band C-Dreams but also serves as a Band Director in the Paterson Public Schools. Since 2010, the Museum has hosted Redmond's Annual Drum Clinic and Workshop, a free program aimed at interesting Paterson's youth in presuming music. These drumsticks were donated to the Museum to commemorate his endorsement by Collision Drumsticks.

#76



## Concert Trophy

While not very significant or exciting on their own, trophies like this one hold a key to important moments in Paterson. This trophy was awarded to the Gloria Concert Band by the New York Journal, at their music festival in 1935. The band, which formed in 1921 under a different name, existed until the late 1980s. Although attributed to Paterson, the band consisted of members for many of the surrounding towns and they played concerts around Northern New Jersey, as well as New York State.



#77

## Fetty Wap Rap Snack Wrapper

To most of us, once the chips were gone, this package would have been trash. However, the Museum acquired three examples of this snack packaging because it prominently features Patersonian rapper, Fetty Wap. This wrapper demonstrates Fetty Wap's rise to the national music stage. And before you ask, no we didn't eat the chips. They were gone before we were given the bags- we swear.

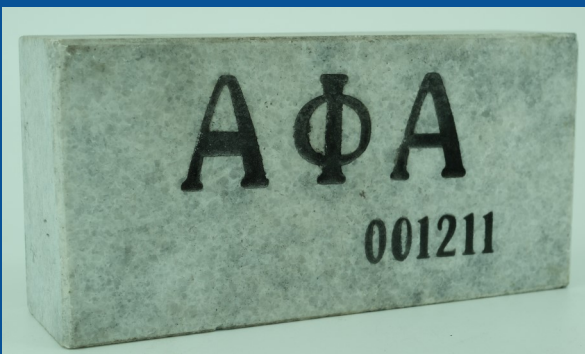
#78



#79

## Alpha Phi Alpha MLK Brick

The Paterson Museum enjoys many community partnerships. This brick represents our unique relationship with the alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Delta Mu Lambda. In 2022, representatives of the chapter approached the museum about the development of a permanent archive. This partnership has grown to include public programming and exhibitions. This brick, denoting contributions to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. memorial in Washington D.C., is one of several artifacts entrusted to the Museum.



## Potash Brothers Jug

Our collection is filled with wonderful artifacts that we are still learning about. Many relate to businesses in Paterson. This piece offers a glimpse into the rich network of businesses that existed in Paterson at the turn of the last century. Potash Bros. liquor distributors opened in 1907, at 41 Main Street. They relocated several times before settling at 18 Bank Street by the early 1920s.

#80





# #81

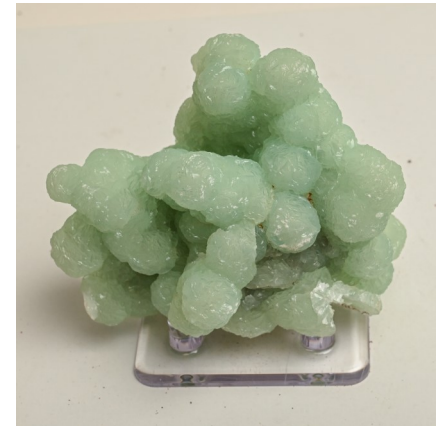
## Paterson Pearls

These freshwater pearls were recovered during the Paterson Pearl Mania of 1857. The first gem rush in United States history, thousands of people flocked to the Notch Brook between February and July. The resulting enthusiasm produced many freshwater pearls, including the Queen pearl, which went on to international fame. Most of the pearls harvested during this period were not particularly valuable.

## Prehnite

Over 45 minerals form naturally in the basalt here in Paterson. One of the most common is Prehnite. Although Prehnite can be used to make jewelry, there were never any efforts made to extract these beautiful green rocks. Instead, their recovery was simply the byproduct of creating gravel from the basalt in which they form.

# #82



# #83

## Cavansite

Our mineral collection not only includes locally found specimens, but also examples of minerals from around the world. Since its foundation, the Paterson Museum has had an extensive mineral collection. In our former location on Summer Street, the second floor was dedicated to displaying the minerals. Many Patersonians remember visiting the "Rock Museum" in their childhood. Prior to 1989, most of the museums curators and directors had backgrounds in geology, not history.

## Gooseneck Pumper Fire Engine

We believe this fire engine is the oldest fire engine in New Jersey. Originally used by the Paterson volunteer fire company, Passaic Engine Company No. 1 in 1821, this artifact was in the collection of the Exempt Firemen's Association. Of course, it has had a few paint jobs since then! They would often bring it out for parades and on special occasions.

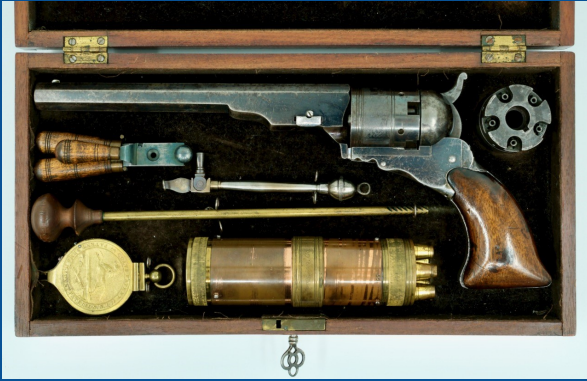
# #84





# #85

## Colt Model No. 5 Case and Accessories



Many different products have been manufacture in Paterson since the city was founded in 1792. Many of those businesses failed to succeed. Our most famous failure remains Samuel Colt's Patented Arms Manufacturing Company. The company was located in Paterson between 1836 and 1842, after which time the business failed. Samuel Colt regained control of his original patents and moved to Hartford CT. Due to the short amount of time he was manufacturing in Paterson, Paterson Colts are among the more rare examples of his work. We are very proud to have one of the largest collections on the East Coast, with most models represented.

## St. John School Baseball Club Bat Bag

While the Museum's collections contain a lot of material related to Paterson's many industries and products, we have less material that reflects daily life for the children that lived here. This bat bag was used by St. John's School's under 16s baseball team. While we don't know how long the team was in existence, the newspaper articles we did find indicate that in the early 1900s they were pretty good.

# #86



# #87

## Kennedy High Cheerleader Uniform

When Central High School closed its doors in 1965, the newly opened John F. Kennedy High School stepped into the void. This included picking up the rivalry with the Eastside Ghosts and playing in the annual Thanksgiving Day Football game. This tradition of friendly competition between these two high schools was commemorated this past November with the 100<sup>th</sup> game played between these two teams.

## Eastside Cheerleader Megaphone

The City of Paterson had one high school, known as Paterson High School until 1925 when Eastside High School opened its doors. In the same year, Paterson High School became Central High School. From that moment on, the two schools adopted a friendly, competitive rivalry. While the rivalry took many forms, the annual Thanksgiving Day football game is the one best remembered. The cheerleaders featured almost as prominently as the players at these games, rallying the gathered crowds.

# #88



# #89



## Central High School Football

Built in 1909, and originally known as Paterson High School, Central High School holds a special place in the hearts of many Patersonians. The last class to graduate was 1965, after which the building ceased to serve as a high school.

# #90

## Chuck Jamieson Uniform

When talking about professional baseball stars from Paterson, many people know about Larry Doby. Fewer are familiar with Charles "Chuck" Jamieson. Jameison played in the Major Leagues between 1915-1932. Fun fact, both times the Cleveland Indians won the World Series, 1920 and 1948, they did it with a Patersonian in the outfield.



# #91

## Paterson General Teapot and Creamer



At first glance, these two items do not seem like they would be significant. However, they made the list because they provide a perfect example of how something that looks ordinary and unimportant at first glance, can be just as significant as a flashy artifact. When you turn them over, there is a piece of Paterson history, just waiting to be uncovered. Both are stamped "Paterson General Hospital."

## Cash Register

This cash register was once used at Pellett's Pharmacy in Paterson. It was gifted to the Museum by the Passaic County Pharmacists Association in 2006 and put on display following an intensive cleaning. The topper, which reads "E. B. Pellett" was given by the family, who had removed it from the cash register on the day the pharmacy closed. Fun fact about the cash register, the highest amount it can ring up is \$99.99.

# #92



# #93

## Great Falls Festival Hat



The Paterson Great Falls has been a focal point for entertainment in Paterson for over two hundred years. The first fireworks show at the waterfall took place in 1829. The first Great Falls Festival was held September 1st- 5th, 1971. The event has been held annually ever since. This hat was worn to celebrate the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Festival in 1997.

## Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park Passport Stamp

Many people are familiar with the National Park Service's passport stamp program. Did you know, before the Park opened its visitor center in 2015, the Paterson Museum hosted the passport stamp for our park? This stamp has been included in our lineup, as it symbolizes the strong partnership we have had with the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park from its inception.

# #94



# #95

## Great Falls Tea Set



The pieces of this tea set are decorated with lithographic decals, commonly used in the United States between 1900-1950. The image depicts the fourth bridge over the chasm, which was in place between 1868-1888. This bridge, unlike the previous three structures, accommodated tourists by providing an open view of the waterfall as pedestrians crossed, making this the first bridge to provide opportunities to view the falls while crossing.

## Save Your Child Poster

This poster was developed by Frank Pinchak in 1954. The Smithsonian recognized it as the first poster of its kind, focusing on child safety with medicines. Frank worked in the family business, Pinchak Pharmacy, located on the corner of Knickerbocker and Main. Frank continued to educate the public regarding pharmaceutical safety through Professional Advancement Plan, which delivered signage to participating pharmacies every three months.

# #96



## Costello Trophy



#97

This trophy was presented by the Paterson War Savings Committee to native son Lou Costello to honor the work he and his comedy partner Budd Abbott were doing to raise money for the war effort. We just love the story of how this trophy found its way back to Paterson. Discovered in a garage in California where it was being used to clean dirty paintbrushes, this trophy made its way into the possession of the Parrish family, who cleaned it up and displayed it proudly in their trophy shop in Wisconsin for many years. Upon their retirement, the couple reached out to the Museum, seeking to return the trophy to its place of origin.

## Lou Costello Life Mask

Despite his strong, life-long connection to his home city, the Paterson Museum does not have many artifacts directly connected with comedian Lou Costello. This life mask is one of the few. Presented by Lou's daughter, Chris, the likeness was used by Hollywood makeup artists to create prosthetics for Lou to wear on set.

#98



#99

## Doby and Robinson Figures

We selected this artifact because to our knowledge, it is one of the few times that the achievements of Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby have been acknowledged together. They broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball in 1947, and faced the same discrimination and hardships.

## Locomotive # 299

One of a hundred locomotives manufactured at the ALCO- Cooke Works and sold to the Isthmian Canal Commission in 1906. This engine helped to excavate the Panama Canal. The 299 is best remembered for its triumphant return to Paterson in 1979, under the administration of Mayor Kramer.

#100

