

Manufacturing Category

Champion Chemical Collection 0001.129  
Clark County Historical Society

Processed by Jamie Goodemote (2005) and Pat Baker (2011)

## **Introduction**

The Champion Chemical Company donated the Champion Chemical Collection to the Clark County Historical Society.

The collection consists of photographs, blueprints, product information, catalogs, internal and external communications, scrapbooks and ledgers. Also included are historical documents such as the US Patent for metal burial vaults, dated January 26, 1932.

In the collection there are nine document size boxes and three oversize boxes. The collection is arranged into nine series as follows:

Series I: History

Series II: Correspondence/Communications Series III:

Employees

Series IV: Product Blueprints & Specifications Series V: Catalogs and  
Flyers

Series VI: Company Procedures-Sales & Lab Work Series VII:  
Photographs/Art Photos

Series VIII: Scrapbooks

Series IX: Ledgers

## Scope and Content

This collection demonstrates the growth of the Champion Chemical Company from its birth in 1878 with the production of embalming fluids to the 21st century manufacture of a wide range of mortuary supplies and equipment. Financial records from 1891 to 1904 are included as well as office communications and sales procedures manuals. A large collection of photographs are filed. These include factory and laboratory shots, as well as many employees. Catalogs and sales flyers from 1896 to the 21st century are in the collection, as well as catalogs from competitors. An assortment of blueprints and specifications for products and parts is most interesting.

Series I consists of several written histories of the Champion Chemical Company and newspaper articles printed over the years. Included in this series is a US bank note dated December 15, 1840 and the patent for metal burial vaults dated January 26, 1932. There are five files in this series.

Series II consists of correspondence and communications from 1890's to 1964. There are procedures memos, company newsletters, sales reports, production reports and office memos. 12 files.

Series III gives us biographical sketches of the founder of the company, other executives and a 100th anniversary list of employees. 8 files.

Series IV consists of 28 files of blueprints and specifications for products and parts. Trailers, autopsy tables, church trucks, flo-rators, placel or lowering devices and military missile containers are included.

Series V has 42 files of catalogs and sales flyers. The earliest being 1890. Most catalogs are numbered and some are dated. Also included are competitors' catalogs, such as the Perfection Burial Vault Co., Zinkote Burial Vault Co., Clark Vault Co. and Galion Metallic Vault Co.

Series VI has selling methods and presentations, office procedures and a textbook on embalming dated 1942. There are 9 files.

Series VII consists of 32 files of photographs of everything from products, disinterred vaults, convention shots from 1929 and a class picture of the Champion College of Embalming dated 1898. There are three boxes of art photos made for catalog illustrations. There is one oversize box of art photos and catalog proofs.

Series VIII is a collection of scrapbooks. Three are about the Champion Co. in the 1930's and 1950's. One is about the Sozonian Co.

Series IX consists of two oversize boxes of ledgers, dated from 1892 to 1904.

**MANUFACTURING CATEGORY**  
**CHAMPION CHEMICAL CO. COLLECTION**

Box

List

**Series I**

**Histor**

**y**

- File 1 Champion Company Histories
- 2 US Patent for Metal Burial Vault - Jan. 26, 1932
- 3 US Bank Note - Dec. 15, 1840
- 4 Newspaper Articles - 1978 & 1985
- 5 100 Years of Service Publication

**Series II**

**Correspondence/Communications (External/Internal)**

- File 1 Financial Records 1891-93
- 2 Correspondence of Assoc. of American Cemetery Superintendents 1938-40
- 3 Correspondence to Salesman 1890's
- 4 Office Procedures & Plant Memos
- 5 Production Reports 1955-61
- 6 Standard Procedures Memos 1956
- 7 Champion Vault Messenger 1952-53
- 8 Sozonian Vault Co. Sales Reports 1946-47
- 9 Miscellaneous Correspondence 1956-57
- 10 Sales of Vibrators 1955-59
- 11 Sale of Trucks 1955-64
- 12 Sale of Aspirators 1964

**Series III**

**Employees**

- File 1 Tribute to Dr. A.A. Baker
- 2 Tribute to Paul Pence
- 3 Bio Sketch of Scipio Eugene Baker
- 4 Bio Sketch of Dr. Eliab Myers
- 5 Oldest Employee William Blackburn
- 6 Lee Rendon
- 7 E.F. Hill
- 8 100th Anniversary Family of Employees

**Series IV**

**Product Blueprints & Specifications**

- File 1&2 3 cu.yd. Trailers
- 3 Autopsy Tables & Refrigerated Cabinets
- 4 Embalming Machines & Repair Parts
- 5 Church Trucks

- 6 C G Mortuary Equipment Co.- Church Trucks
- 7 General Pressed Metal Co. - Church Trucks & Casket Placer 8-12 Doo-All Trailers
- 13-15 Flo-rator
- 16 Flo-rator New Elctro-Injector
- 17 Flo-rator Repair & Conversion
- 18 Flo-rator Repair & Overhaul
- 19 Electro-Aspirator/Flo-Rator Parts 20&21 Placelor Lowering Devices
- 22 Placelor Gears & Parts
- 23 Vault Display Rack
- 24 Military Specifications
- 25 Special Hitch for Trailers
- 26 Operating Table
- 27&28 Operating Table Repairs

### Series V Catalogs and Flyers

- File 1 1896 Catalog
- 2 1920 Catalog #12
- 3 1925 Catalogs #21&21A
- 4 1928 Catalog #22
- 5 Undated Catalog
- 6 1932 Catalog #23
- 7 1934 Catalog #24
- 8 1938 Catalog/60th Anniversary
- 9 1938 Catalog
- 10 Junior Catalogs 1937-41
- 11 1940 Catalog #26
- 12 Products for Preparation Room
- 13 Cemetery Items
- 14 Embalming Fluids
- 15 Trailers
- 16 Vaults
- 17 Champion Vault Price Lists 1941-81
- 18 Catalog #676/Sundry Products
- 19 1957 Catalog #857
- 20 Catalog #859
- 21 1961 Catalog #161
- 22 1965 Catalog #1161
- 23 1968 Catalog
- 24 Undated Catalogs by Champion
- 25 1970 Ambulance Equipment
- 26 1971 Sundry Products by Champion
- 27 Catalog #2860
- 28 Unnumbered Sundry Catalog
- 29 Catalog #4810
- 30 Catalog #6880
- 31 Catalog #6880
- 32 Catalog #8830

- 33 Champion Source Book 1991-92
- 34 Products for 21st Century
- 35 Springfield Metallic Casket Co.
- 36 Sozonian Vault Co./Price Lists 1947-85
- 37 Sozonian Vault Co.
- 38 National Vault Co.
- 39 Galion Metallic Vault Co.
- 40 Clark Metal Vault Co.
- 41 Zinkote Burial Vault Co.
- 42 Perfection Burial Vault Co.

### Series VI

#### **Company Procedures - Sales & Lab Work**

- File 1 Champion Vault Sales Helps
- 2 Cemetery Equipment Salesman's Copy 1948
- 3 Sales Presentations
- 4 Graveside Equipment Sales Folder 1938
- 5 Sales and Office Procedures - Sozonian Vault Co.
- 6 Discussion of Selling Methods
- 7 Textbook on Embalming 1942
- 8 The Art and Science of Embalming 1942
- 9 Sanitation and Embalming Information Folders

### Series VII

#### **Photographs/Art Photos**

- File 1 Trailers
- 2 Tables
- 3 Laboratory Equipment
- 4 Lowering Devices
- 5 Body Removal Units
- 6 Customized Vault Symbols
- 7 Electro-Aspirator
- 8 Containers
- 9 Embalming Fluids
- 10 Production of Fluids
- 11 Vault Production
- 12 Vault Display Rooms
- 13 Factory/Machines
- 14 Delivery Trucks
- 15 Laboratory
- 16 Main Office Construction 1934-35
- 17 Employees
- 18 Employees' Portraits (names on back of photographs)
- 19 Old Office Scenes
- 20 Conventions 1929-30's

- 21 Preparation Rooms
- 22 Disinternments
- 23 Disinterred Vaults
- 24 Disinterred VAults
- 25 World's First Airplane Funeral
- 26 Champion Vaults
- 27 National Grave Co. VAults
- 28 National Grave Co. Vaults
- 29 Sozonian Vaults
- 30 Champion College of Embalming 1898
- 31 Cincinnati School of Embalming
- 32 Negatives

### Art Photos

- Box 1 Containers
- Box 2 Containers(cont.)  
Interior FactoryPhotos Exterior  
Factory Photos Weld-O-Van & Fold-  
O-Van
- Box 3 Vaults  
Trailers  
SpecialProducts  
Embalming Equipment & Chemicals  
Funeral Products

#### Oversize Box - Art Photos and Catalog Proofs

- File 1 Catalog Pages and Graphics File
- 2 Fluids and Lab Photos
- 3 Equipment

- 4 Military Products
- 5 Personnel Photographs
- 6 Vaults

### Series VIII

#### Scrapbooks

- Book 1-Sozonian Vault Co. Book 2-Champion VaultCo.(1930's)
- Book 3-Champion VAult Co.(1950-53) Book 4-Champion Vo.(1953-56)

### Series IX

#### Ledgers

- Box 1 1892-1895  
1896-1901
- Box 2 Nov. 1897 - June 1902  
May 1901 - April 1904