

THE BUTTONHOOK SOCIETY

BOOK & COMPENDIUM LIST 2021

BOOK LIST & REVIEW

American Buttonhooks by Paul Moorehead

It has 187 pages liberally illustrated and draws together all that we know about the American buttonhook. With original research it also draws upon past Newsletters, the Compendiums and Dorothy Rainwaters Encyclopedia of American Silversmiths all slotted into key points of American History.

BUTTONHOOKS – An Historical Perspective by Paul Moorehead

One of the aspects of buttonhook collecting which has always intrigued me was the context in which they were used. The fact that a man in the eighteenth century could set out with a multum in parvo in his pocket, confident that he could tackle any job that was asked of him, is quite intriguing. When I began collecting in 1968, the books on costume then were full of quite definite assertions; 'buttonhooks were invented for gentlemen's button boots that suddenly arrived in 1837 ... and ladies' dressing table sets appeared in 1885 when ladies suddenly began to wear buttoned boots.' However the more I researched the more I realised that history is far messier than that; the trail going off on different tangents and down highways and byways. There are no absolutes and no full stops in history.

I do not pretend that this is any kind of history book. Whilst its contents are accurate, for brevities sake they are rather selective, intending to give a flavour of the historical periods rather than an in depth analysis. I hope that you enjoy this brief romp through history

An Introduction to Gorham for Buttonhook & Silver Collectors by Ian Wood

The Gorham Manufacturing Company was a major American producer of high quality silverware. By the 1880s Gorham had become the largest manufacturer of sterling silver and silver-plated ware in the world. This booklet outlines the history of the company, has summary descriptions of some of the most important silver items made and includes examples of their button hooks. It describes the Gorham product identification system

and is illustrated with numerous pictures. The booklet also contains some original research of Gorham's factory in England. The booklet measures 25 x 17.5 cm and has 68 pages

Gorham Button Hooks – A Listing by Ian Wood
[New publication 2021]

The booklet is a companion to 'An Introduction to Gorham', already published by the Society. It is effectively an extension of the listing of Gorham button hooks, issued as an electronic file by the Society a few years ago. However, the listing has been updated, a number of errors have been corrected and in some areas, descriptions have been clarified. Additional material has been included and the number of buttonhook entries has increased to 327. For each button and glove hook, the size, weight and factory markings are shown, with additional descriptive comments for some items. The booklet measures 25 x 17.5 cm and has 75 pages.

Buttonhooks To Trade, To Treasure by Bertha Betensley 1958,
reprinted 1992

First published in the USA and republished by The Buttonhook Society, this is the first known book on buttonhooks. There are nine chapters with black & white plates concentrating on the following types of handle:- Ivory, Metal, Advertising, Wooden, Pyrolin plastics and silver, plus further chapters on closed end buttoners and twisting & pen knife types of hook. All hooks are described along with recollections.

Antique Buttonhooks for Shoes, Gloves and Clothing by Bertha Betensley

First published in the USA and republished by The Buttonhook Society, this book contains photos and illustrations of over 300 hooks. It begins with a short introduction on the need and uses of buttonhooks. There follows 7 chapters concentrating on the following types of handle:- Wooden, Metal, Gold & Silver, Plastic Ivory, Glass & Porcelain. Plus a chapter on Patents and some detailed information.

Specialties and Novelties in Shoe Store Supplies

Over 150 buttonhooks illustrated in this facsimile reprint of a 1926 US Shoe Trade Catalogue. (Now includes copy of price list as described below). Reproduced by The Buttonhook Society, this catalogue of the J L Sumner Manufacturing Company, based in the USA, features the everyday buttonhooks & accessories they produced. There is an emphasis on advertising hooks. Many metal and wooden hooks have very good

descriptions including price and size. This Company produced many of the advertising hooks which are found in collections worldwide.

Copy of recently obtained 1926 Price List for Specialties & Novelties Catalogue

Buttonhooks, A Guide For The Collector by Jackie Booker

First published in 1982 but has been out of print for some years, now re-printed by The Buttonhook Society. Probably the earliest publication on buttonhooks in the UK and contains over 250 photographs and descriptions of buttonhooks.

Buttonhooks & Shoehorns by Sue Brandon

Most new members find us through this Shire Book No 122. An informative book containing many black & white photos of buttonhooks and associated items such as shoehorns button boots, etc. Full descriptions of all photos are given. Chapters include:-
A brief history of buttonhooks, shoehorns. Descriptions of who might have used different types of hook. Advertising & Patents. Buttonhooks & Shoehorns in modern use today.

An Illustrated A-Z of Glovehooks by Paul Moorehead

The first book to include colour pictures of over 300 glovehooks, and exclusive to members of The Society, it begins with a short history of the glove. There then follows an A-Z of glovehook descriptions from Acanthus to Zylonite! There are 16 clear colour plates showing a wide range of glovehooks and all are described. Also there are 14 black & white plates, again with full descriptions. **OUT OF PRINT**

British and North American Silversmiths' Marks as found on 19th & 20th century buttonhooks.

Compiled by The Buttonhook Society 2005. This is a completely revised and updated Marks booklet, now containing also North American Makers' marks as well as introductions to both UK and US/Canadian makers.

Pocket Guide to Marks on Silver

A BHS publication in A6 format containing well known UK & US makers, Assay Office and Reg. Design Marks

All Prices include post & packing and *This price list supersedes all others.*

BOOK LIST

American Buttonhooks by Paul Moorehead
£13.95 (£17.95 or €20 Europe or £20/\$34 outside UK.....)

BUTTONHOOKS – An Historical Perspective by Paul Moorehead
£15.95 (£19.70 or €23 Europe or £23.25/US\$39.00 outside
UK.....**SOLD OUT**.....)

An Introduction to Gorham for Buttonhook & Silver Collectors by
Ian Wood
£14.25 (£15.75 or €20 Europe or £17.25/US\$29.00 outside
UK.....)

Gorham Button Hooks – A Listing by Ian Wood
£9.50 (\$24.00 for US, enquire for other countries).....

Buttonhooks To Trade, To Treasure by Bertha Betensley 1958,
reprinted 1992
£4.25 (£5.50 or US\$10.00 or €7.00 outside UK.....)

Antique Buttonhooks for Shoes, Gloves and Clothing by Bertha
Betensley
£9.25 (£11.25 or US\$19.00 or €14.50 outside UK.....)

Specialties and Novelties in Shoe Store Supplies over 150
buttonhooks illustrated in this facsimile reprint of a 1926 US Shoe Trade
Catalogue. (Now includes copy of price list as described below)
£9.75 (£11.50 or US\$20.00 or €15.00 outside UK.....)

**Copy of recently obtained 1926 Price List for Specialties and
Novelties** catalogue
£1.00 (£1.25 or US\$2.50 or €1.75 outside UK.....)

Buttonhooks and Shoehorns by Sue Brandon
£2.75 (£3.75 or US\$6.50 or €5.00 outside UK.....)

An Illustrated A-Z of Glovehooks by Paul Moorehead, (see *Boutonneur*
No. 88)
SOLD OUT

Buttonhooks, A Guide for the Collector by Jackie Booker
£6.25 (£7.25 or US\$12.00 or 9.50 Euros outside UK).....

**British and North American Silversmiths Marks as found on 19th &
20th century buttonhooks** Compiled by The Buttonhook Society 2005

£7.00 (£8.00 or US\$14.00 or €10.00 outside UK..out of print, please check current status.....

This is a completely revised and updated Marks booklet, now containing also North American Makers marks as well as introductions to both the UK and US and Canadian makers.

Pocket Guide to Marks on Silver

£1.25 (£1.50 or US\$2.50 or €2.00 outside UK)

A Compendium of Information on Buttonhooks and Associated Items

Note: some image samples are available. The size in kb is denoted after each example. Some images are quite large and might take a while to download on a slower internet connection.

Some Compendium sold out – please check current status

Part 1 & 2 (revised and combined, January 2000) **Officers of the Society and Past Exhibitions and Organisers.**

The **Glossary of Terms; Dating Charts for American Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, and British Registered Numbers; Care of Buttonhooks - Cleaning Hints;** Introduction to **British Buttonhook Makers' Silvermarks** and **details of marks A-G inclusive.** Begins **19th century British Patents.** Gives the **Classification** of Buttonhook handles, and the **Allocation** of prefix numbers for these classifications. Classification **JET**, with over 40 different jet-handled buttonhooks illustrated.

Prices **Parts 1&2 (combined)** UK £12.00 Cont. Europe £14/€20.00 Rest of World £15/US\$30

Part 3, June 1997, **British Makers' Silvermarks G-P.** Introduction to **US Makers' Silvermarks** and table showing the marks found on buttonhooks. Details and illustrations of **19th century US Patents relating to Buttonhooks.** The Classifications **MOTHER-OF-PEARL & MOSAIC** (including two full colour pages).

Prices **Part 3** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.0/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24
[Mosaic example page](#)

Part 4. June 1998, **completes British Makers' Silvermarks P-Z.** Begins **British Registered Design Numbers,** (dating tables and illustrations of buttonhooks with Rd Nos.) **Classification Groups** with notes and illustrations (some in colour) to begin **GOLD, BRASS** (bullets & badges), and **STEEL** (folding) hooks

Prices **Part 4** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.00/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24
[Gold example page](#) [Military example page](#)

Part 5, June 1999, continues **US Patents** and begins **French Registered Designs**. Describes the **Production Processes** for silver buttonhooks. **Classification Groups** (some in colour) **GOLD** (cont.), **STEEL** folding, (cont.) **SILVER** introduction: examples from US maker, **George W Shiebler & Co**, and starts the UK maker, **Adie & Lovekin Ltd**
Prices **Part 5** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.00/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24

Part 6, June 2000, **Birmingham Silversmiths**, researching & illustrating their marks. **Classifications: SILVER**: completes **Adie & Lovekin** (rigid): **BRASS**: with inset stone/glass, (mainly figural glovehooks): continues **STEEL** (folding): multum in parvo, & US souvenir shields. **STEEL** (advertising): Introduction and examples with looped handles.
Prices **Part 6** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.00/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24 [Silver example page](#) [Brass example page](#)

Part 7, June 2001, **SILVER: Adie & Lovekin** (penknives & folding). Notes and illustrations for UK maker, **Levi & Salaman**, and US maker, **Gorham Manufacturing Co**, plus illustrated update on US maker **Shiebler**. Introduction and colour pages of **ENAMEL**-crested souvenir buttonhooks (mainly from Canada) History and construction of **STANHOPES**, illustrated examples in various materials: list of recorded views
Prices **Part 7** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.00/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24 [Enamel example page](#) [Levi & Salaman example page](#)

Part 8, June 2002, **SILVER: William Comyns & Sons**. Historical notes and many illustrated examples of the buttonhooks produced by this important London silversmith. **PLASTIC** (figurals): informative notes on identification and care of plastics. Interesting examples from the UK and USA, illustrated (many in colour) Begins early US Design Patents, plus revised and updated table of **US & Canadian silvermakers' marks**.
Prices **Part 8** UK £9.00 Cont. Europe £11.00/€15 Rest of World £12/US\$24 [Plastic example page](#)

Part 9, May 2004, **SILVER: Crisford & Norris Ltd**: prolific UK buttonhook maker. Includes many figural handles, some with stones inset (completed in 9b, May 2004). **Corozo** (and other **carved palm nuts**); six colour pages of **Corozo Nut** buttonhook handles. Introduction & Historical Notes to this section, **BOG OAK** and its use from the late 19th century for carved souvenir buttonhooks and shoelifts.
Prices **Part 9** UK £10.00 Cont. Europe £13/€18 Rest of World £14/US\$28 [Silver example page](#) [Corozo example page](#) [Bog Oak example page](#)

Part 10 June 2006 **BRASS**, Souvenir, Fireside Companion, people, (poets, authors, ladies), arms, churches & castles, animals & birds. **SILVER: Charles Horner, ORIENTAL SILVER** - Combined all-silver buttonhook with shoelift. Rigid buttonhooks 100 examples. **PLASTIC**,

defined, celluloid (A), **Photographic Images.** (B) **Promotional Pinbacks.** Introductions & historical notes for all new topics.
Prices **Part 10** UK £12.00 Cont. Europe £14.00/€19 Rest of World £15/US\$30 [Brass fireside companion example page](#) [Silver Charles Horner example page](#) [Silver Oriental example page](#)

Part 11 June 2008 **SILVER: Edward Souter Barnsley Ltd,** over 50 buttonhooks, mostly pre 1900 including 2m ivory handled buttonhooks, with historical notes. **NEVADA SILVER:** 9 colour pages with introduction. Update on **MOTHER-of-PEARL** buttonhooks with a new section on **folding** (penknife action) type, with up to 1 other implement (knife/corkscrew etc) **BRASS.** Completion of **Souvenir/Fireside Companion** buttonhooks (places, fictional people, witches, pixies etc)
Prices **Part 11** UK £10.00 Cont. Europe £13.00/€18 Rest of World £14/US\$28. [Brass fireside example page](#) [Mother of pearl example page](#) [Silver Barnsley example page](#) [Nevada Silver example page](#).

Part 12 June 2009 **SILVER: Saunders & Shepherd Ltd.** Over 60 buttonhooks many pre 1900 with historical notes.
ENAMEL: 13 colour pages showing Piqué a Jour USA, French, German, Austrian & Scandinavian buttonhooks, as well as Cloisonné & Champlévé examples. An introduction on the manufacture and types of **enamels.**
TORTOISESHELL PIQUE. 10 black & white pages with illustrations of 84 Tortoiseshell pique buttonhooks & unusual designs. **An introduction on the manufacture of tortoiseshell buttonhooks.**
Prices **Part 12** UK £9.00 Cont Europe £11.00/€14 Rest of World £13/US\$23

Part 13 June 2011 **SILVER: Boots Pure Drug Co** Over 30 examples with historical notes. **Frank Whiting Co & The Whiting Mfg Co** over 70 examples, with an introduction. **Enamel:** Over 18 colour pages of different hooks mainly by different manufacturers including many cross references for the same shape. **Hoof, Paw, Foot, Horn, Antler and actual body parts.** Many illustrations (some in colour) of these types of buttonhooks with an introduction.
Prices **Part 13** UK £9.00 Cont Europe £11.00/€14 Rest of World £13/US\$23

Part 14 June 2013 **UK SILVER: Henry Matthews. US SILVER: Unger Bros.** plus an update on **George W Shiebler & Co.** with over 60 new illustrations. All makers include appropriate historical notes. **Ivory** over 150 hooks some combined with shoelift with 4 colour pages and historical notes. **WASHER** 6 sides of colour illustrations.
Prices **Part 14** UK £9.00 Cont Europe £11.00/€14 Rest of World £13/US\$23

Part 15 June 2014 **SILVER: Gorham Manufacturing Company** 59 pages of Gorham buttonhooks with an introduction. See also a 2016 update to Gorham Manufacturing. http://www.thebuttonhooksociety.com/Gorham_Report_Listing-2019-10-04.pdf

J Cook & Sons examples in colour with an introduction. **George Unite** examples with an introduction. **JR/SJ (Judah Rosenthal/Samuel Jacob)** examples with an introduction. **Horton & Allday** examples with an introduction. **Green & Cadbury Ltd** examples with an introduction. **Washers** a continuation with sides of colour illustrations. Prices Part 15 UK £9.00 Cont Europe £11.00/€14 Rest of World £13.00/\$23

THE BUTTONHOOK SOCIETY ORDER FORM	
PRINT THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR PAYMENT	
Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Other	Membership Number if Applicable
First Name(s)	Surname
Address	
Post/zip code	Email address
Date	
Telephone	Fax
Please use the reference numbers when ordering and photocopy this form for future orders.	
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	

- Payment to THE BUTTONHOOK SOCIETY must be in sterling bank notes or sterling cheques payable at a UK Bank or in US\$ cheques. Payment in US bills must be rounded up to the nearest full Dollar. Continental European members may make payment in £'s or by Euro cheque.
- Please do not send any other foreign currency as Bank conversion rates are very high.
- Send your order with payment to :-
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MAIDSTONE,
KENT. ME14 9BA,
ENGLAND.

