



OBJECT ID	2003.3.1
OBJECT NAME	Box, Tobacco
ALTERNATIVE NAME	Cigar Box

MEASUREMENTS 6.6675 cm. H x 21.2725 cm. W x 14.19352 cm. L, Item (Overall)

MATERIAL Paper

OBJECT ENTITIES Mezilson, James (is related to)
Gatsis, Mary (is related to)

RELATED ITEMS Box, Candy, 2003.3.2

ACCESS POINTS Perfecto Garcia & Brothers
Perfecto Garcia and Brothers
Queens
Tampa, Florida

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Perfecto Garcia & Bros cigar box in candy store. The box is an orange-ish wood color with a golden, green, and black border that says "Perfecto Garcia & Brothers" in white writing in the big black parts, and "Havana Cigars" in the smaller black ribbon parts. The top of the box has an oval that has the company name and "Tampa, Fla." Down the right side of the box, there is a white sticker that goes down the side with a guarantee by Perfecto Garcia. On the front of the box, there is half of a sticker that reads "Havana Cigars" on a yellow background. Below the sticker, there is a golden box with red details and a yellow center that reads "Perfecto Garcia Queens." The right side of the box has a pink oval on a yellow background with the company name in gold, as well as a red rectangle below the yellow which repeats the company name. The back of the box has a picture of a red factory building with palm trees in front and the name of the company both above the building in red, as well as on the side of the building. The left side of the box has a white and red sticker with the name of the company and "Extra Claro Queens" printed in it. The bottom has the Tampa seal and says "Class G." The inside of the box on the lid says "25 c Queens" along with the company name on a pink oval in the center. Below this seal, it reads "Guaranteed of the Finest Habana Tobacco" and has the name of the company on the body of the box. The bottom of the box has a return address sticker for Mary G. Gatsis.

ORIGIN

There is a return address sticker in the bottom of the box for Mary G. Gatsis. It appears that Mary Gatsis loaned the object to this museum on September 12, 1993 for an upcoming exhibit, along with ice cream parlor chairs and two other cigar chests. However, there isn't a record of the donation of this item. There also wasn't an accession file for 2003.3 or for James M. Mezilson (though that has since been updated).

James M. Mezilson was born in 1919 and died in 2013. He wrote columns about Greek American life in the newspaper and was a founding member of the National Hellenic Museum.

Perfecto Garcia and Brothers was founded in 1905 in the neighborhood of Ybor City in Tampa, Florida. They used Cuban tobacco from their family farms and rolled the tobacco in Ybor City.

CITATION

Box, Tobacco, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/29/26.