

14. Rubber Rubber Positive

In the Great Exhibition of 1851, twelve exhibitors showed India Rubber, one of whom was Charles Macintosh, the inventor of the macintosh waterproof coat. This rubber mat is one of the first pressings from its metal mould, and was exhibited at the Great Exhibition.

Date: 1851

Source: BTR Industries Ltd

Inv. No. 1988-662

15. Rubber Rubber Seeds

Rubber is a natural polymer, which has evidently been harvested from a tropical tree species since the 16th century when its use to make balls was recorded in Central America. These 14 rubber seeds were part of a batch of 70,000 brought to England from the valley of the Amazon by Sir Henry Wickham in 1876. This batch formed the basis of the Malaya Rubber Plantations.

Collected by: Sir Henry Wickham

Date: 1876

Source: F Jones

Inv. No. 1934-678

16. Phenol-Formaldehyde Pin Tray

Made in the shape of the Bakelite Company's trefoil logo, this phenolic pin tray dates from the 1950s, when it was manufactured as a promotional gift.

Made by: Bakelite Limited

Date: 1950s

Source: BXL Plastics

Inv. No. 1984-1747

17. Composite Plastic British Telecom Phonecard

This card was made for the Plastics Historical Society in 1985.

Made by: British Telecom for Plastics Historical Society

Date: 1985

Source: Plastics Historical Society

Inv. No. 1985-228