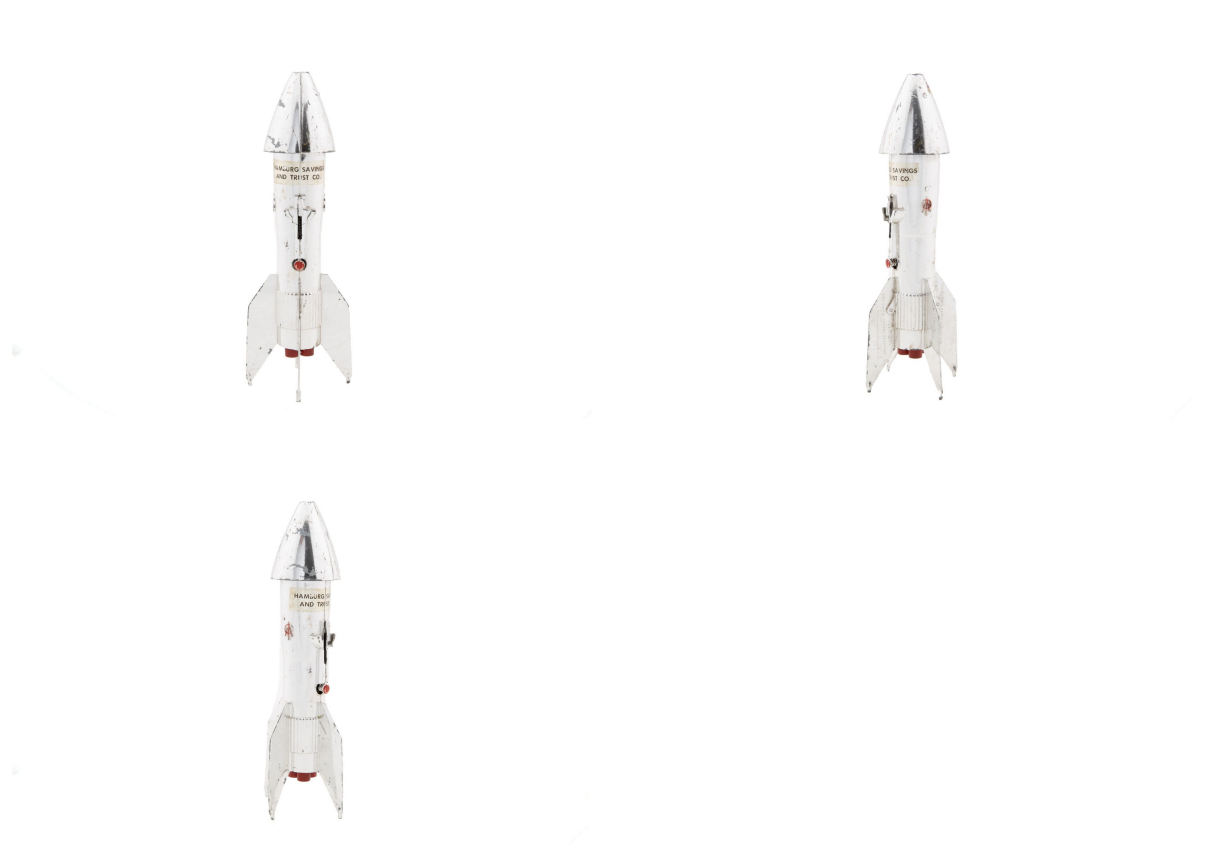


Piggy bank space

<https://collections.pacmusee.qc.ca/en/objects/piggy-bank-2020-002-0500/>

Collections / piggy bank



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Rocket-shaped space piggy bank from US financial institution Hamburg Savings and Trust Co. The chrome-plated case features a spring mechanism that can eject a coin. A slot is located on the front of the piggy bank.

Accession Number 2020.02.500

Fabricant / Éditeur Astro Manufacturing

Date 1957 c

Materials metal

Measurements 28 x 9,9 cm

Historical context

This piggy bank evokes the space race of the mid-20th century. It was the first model from Astro Manufacturing, a company founded by two brothers who had left Duro Manufacturing, another piggy bank manufacturer. The yellow label indicates that the rocket is connected to the American financial institution Hamburg Savings and Trust Co. While the first generations of piggy banks were generally metal, rectangular in shape and with a handle, manufacturers were quick to offer increasingly original models, often corresponding to cultural fashions or political movements. Similar standards were applied, however, including a number and a secure key kept by the banking institution. From the 1950s onwards, these principles were less respected, as financial institutions had to free themselves from management constraints and costs.

American financial institutions were early adopters of the piggy bank system for promoting savings, developed in 1890 by the American Charles Owen Burns. The boxes remain the property of the bank and

are leased to depositors so that they can fill them up and deposit their savings in the bank.

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Photo by Louis-Etienne Dore

On display