

Rachel Carson

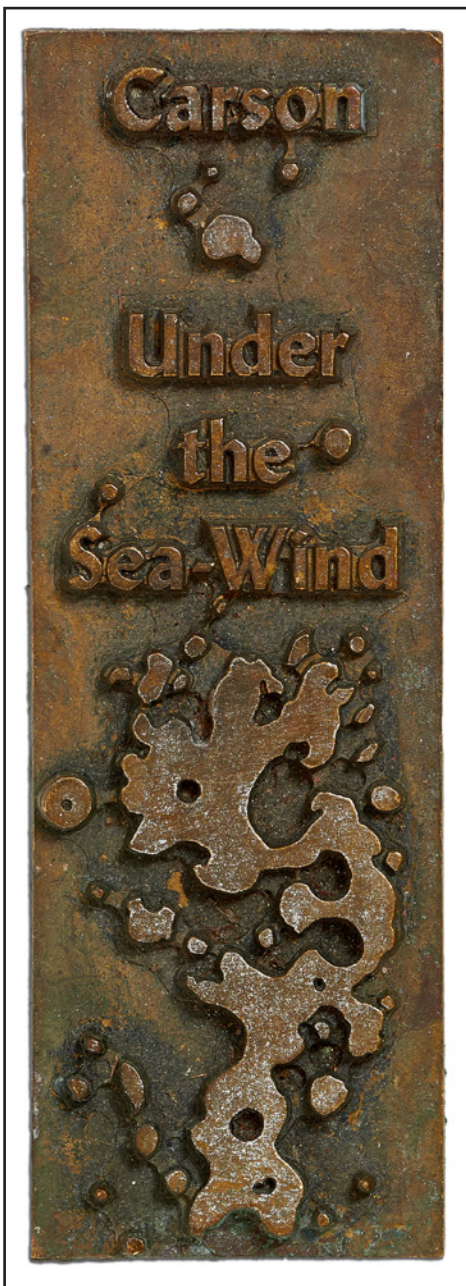
[Brass die-stamp for the front board of]: Under The Sea-Wind: A Naturalist's Picture of Ocean Life

New York: Oxford University Press 1952

\$1250



Two brass die-stamps. Front board stamp Irregularly shaped, roughly 4" x 2¼". Spine stamp is rectangular and 1¼" x 3½". Original patina, else about fine. The binder's stamp for the front board of the first "corrected" edition, and the first Oxford University Press edition of Rachel Carson's first published book. The book was originally published during the War in 1941 by Simon and Schuster. The die reads: "Under/ the / Sea-Wind / Carson" in reverse. Although published by Oxford University Press, the book was designed and printed in the U.S. by their New York office.



[Reversed]



The provenance presents a mildly interesting story: a local colleague was buying books out of the trunk of a gentleman's car and came across a bag of brass die-stamps from the Oxford University Press, when much of their printing was being done in the U.S. during the War and in the years following (presumably due to paper shortages in the U.K). My colleague inquired and the gentleman revealed that his next stop was the scrap yard where he was going to sell the dies to be melted down for the brass. My colleague paid him double the scrap price for them. We paid a bit more. A unique artifact from the influential environmentalist author's first book.
[\[BTC#403262\]](#)