

Oneida Limited

The company arose out of the utopian Oneida Community, which was established in Oneida, NY in 1848. The group was founded by a small group of Christian Perfectionists. In 1880, after more than 30 year's operating as a commune, the Oneida Community voted to transfer much of the common property to a join-stock company to be known as Oneida Community Ltd.

Oneida Community Ltd. was one of the earliest joint-stock companies in the United States. The company started production of silver-plated flatware and hollow-ware in 1899 using the "Community Plate" mark. Oneida purchased the Wm A. Rogers and 1881 Rogers companies and started producing a somewhat lower-quality line of products using those companies' marks. In 1935, Oneida Community changed its names to Oneida Ltd.

In 1961 the company transitioned to the manufacture of stainless steel flatware.

By the 1980's, Oneida made at least half of all flatware purchased in the United States. In 1983 the company acquired Rena-Ware, a kitchenware manufacturer with a majority of international operations.

At the end of the 1990's the company tried to hold on to its mantle as the last remaining US based manufacturer of flatware however in November 2003 Oneida sold its 100 year old Buffalo china plant and four overseas factories in Mexico, China and Italy. Eventually, the manufacturing facilities in Sherrill, New York were sold to Sherrill Manufacturing on March 22, 2005. The company was taken private in 2006.