An inventory of the papers of

The Colorado Yule Marble Co.

Collection No. 159

a holding of
the Library of the Colorado Historical Society
Denver, Colorado 80203
and the Marble Historical Society
Marble, Colorado 81623

processed by
Edward J. Larsen

December 1988
Morse Bros. Machinery & Supply Co. (Denver, Colo.)

Records, 1877-1940.

48,000 items.

Distributors of mining machinery and related items; founded ca. 189 
Correspondence (1900-1938), together with booklets, bulletins, cata
s, and circulars from more than 1000 manufacturers and distributors o
ining machinery and related items (1877-1940).


Finding aid in the repository.

Catalogs.

Mining machinery industry; Colorado.

Mining machinery; Catalogs.

Colorado; Business, industries, and trades; Mining machinery.

Denver (Colo.); Business, industries, and trades; Mining machinery.

Colorado Historical Society Library; (Denver).
GENERAL HISTORY

The Colorado Yule Marble Company, located at Marble (Gunnison County), was a major supplier of very high quality marble from 1905 to 1941. During this time it provided the material for hundreds of buildings and monuments including the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Although the history of marble production in the Crystal River valley begins much earlier, the Colorado Yule Marble Company came into being in 1905. It was originally organized by a brilliant businessman named Channing Frank Meek. Under his direction a daring trolley system and railroad spur to the nearest mainline were built and the mountain-high quarries were finally linked to the market. Until his death in 1912 the company grew to become the third largest marble producer in the country and boasted the world’s largest and best equipped finishing mill. Although prosperity would continue for a few more years the tragic death of Mr. Meek in 1912 was a harbinger of the trouble to come.

James Forrest Manning became the new president of the company which soon was ranked as the second largest marble concern in the world. This title did not last for long, however. Heavily in debt, the company was forced into receivership in July of 1916.

By 1917 a world war, declining market demand and financial problems caused the quarries and mill to be closed. The original Colorado Yule Marble Company ceased to exist in July of 1919 when a Denver Judicial Court issued a final decree of foreclosure and sale.
Marble production at the site did not begin again until about 1922 when a pair of companies (Yule Marble Company of Colorado and the Carrara Yule Marble Company) coordinated their activities in order to fill new orders for marble. Eventually these two companies merged into the Consolidated Yule Marble Company.

The name changed again in 1925 when the Tennessee-Colorado Marble Company was incorporated after a Tennessee company leased the properties from Consolidated. The lease was not renewed and by the end of 1925 the operation was once again known as the Consolidated Yule Marble Company. Moderate production continued sporadically until 1929 when the property was once again sold--this time to the Vermont Marble Company which called its newly formed subsidiary the Yule-Colorado Company.

The Yule-Colorado Company was never the full-scale producer that its original predecessor had been but it did manage to secure the last and perhaps the most prestigious marble contract in the history of the Yule creek operations. The largest piece of marble ever quarried was installed at Arlington National Cemetery in 1932 as a monument to the Unknown Soldier.

Meager production continued at the Yule-Colorado Company until 1941 when all operations were ordered to a halt by the parent company, Vermont Marble. Shortly thereafter, all of the equipment was dismantled and sold and the mill was torn down. An era had most certainly ended.

Although the Vermont Marble Company investigated the reopening of the
quarries in the early 1960's nothing has come to pass and as of this writing no more marble has been removed from the Yule Creek site.

In recent history another concern has secured a lease of the quarry property and a new Colorado Yule Marble Company is being born. Perhaps another fine era is about to dawn but for now the great mill is gone and the quarries are cold and silent. Only the spirits of the pioneering companies and their hard working people continue to endure, locked in the translucent beauty of the pure white stone.

The history of marble quarrying in Colorado and in particular the story of the Colorado Yule Marble Company is important in many ways. It provides a vivid example of how people, businesses and towns are always at the mercy of seemingly uncontrollable influences. Was Channing Meek perhaps a little too aggressive in his pursuit of corporate expansion? The answer to this pertinent question can most likely be found in the historical collection.

This finding aid includes the collections at the Colorado Historical Society and the Marble Historical Society. Information on the collection at the Marble Historical Society was graciously provided by Oscar McCullom, society president. Collections also exist at the Denver Public Library Western History Department, the Western State College Library of Gunnison Colorado, and the Vermont Marble Company at Proctor, Vermont.
CHRONOLOGY

1873
Geologist Sylvester Richardson discovers the marble deposits while prospecting along Rock Creek.

1874
George Yule "rediscover" the marble deposits along the creek that now bears his name.

1885
Perry, McKay and Griffith stake the New Discovery and London marble claims on the Yule Creek site.

1886
John C. Osgood provides funds for the development of the quarries.

1887
Tests in London on a sample of Yule Creek marble indicate that it is harder than any marble on record.

1893
Osgood sends a large block of marble to the Columbian Exhibition in Chicago; it stimulates much interest.

1895
Yule marble is selected as the material for the interior of the capitol building in Denver.

1905
Channing F. Meek organizes the Colorado Yule Marble Company.

1906
First train arrives at Marble on the new extension from Placita - the Crystal River & San Juan Railroad.

1910
The electric tram from the quarry to the mill is completed.

1912
Colonel Meek dies from injuries suffered when he jumped from a runaway tram.

1913
Provided tribute slab for Washington Monument.

1914
Awarded contract for Lincoln Memorial.

1916
Placed in receivership under J. F. Manning.

1917
All production operations are halted.

1919
All company assets are liquidated by public sale.

1922
Yule Marble Company of Colorado and the Carrara Yule Marble Company reopen the quarry and mill.

1924
Operations are joined to form the Consolidated Yule Marble Company.

1925
Property is leased and does business as the Tennessee-Colorado Marble Company.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Lease is terminated and the name returns to Consolidated Yule Marble Company.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Jacob Smith purchases Consolidated and reorganizes as the Yule-Colorado Company.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>All properties are acquired from Smith by the Vermont Marble Company.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Awarded contract for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>All operations are halted; the mill and all equipment and properties are either sold or torn down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Vermont Marble investigates reopening the quarries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Vermont Marble is purchased by a Swiss corporation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>A Denver business concern leases the quarry site for possible operation in 1989.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION

The collection at the Colorado Historical Museum consists of numbered file folders (FF) and four oversize business ledger books. These items are located together on a shelf and known as collection number 159. The contents of the file folders are primarily business documents: vouchers; payroll ledgers; bills; correspondences. All of the file folders are arranged chronologically, from the earliest company name to the latest. The ledger books contain entries for sales, expenses, payroll, etc. and can be cross referenced to much of the documents in the file folders. The photographs have been transferred to the photography department.

FF-1 Yule, George

Yule Creek White Marble Company

FF-2 Incorporation Documents 1904

Colorado Yule Marble Company

FF-3 Incorporation Documents 1905-1913
FF-4 Annual Reports 1908, 1912-1917
FF-5 Manning, James Forrest
FF-6 Manning, James Forrest Jr.
FF-7 Meek, Channing Frank
FF-8 Correspondence 1913, December - 1918, April
FF-9 Correspondence 1918
FF-10  Book  "Receivable"  
1913, October - 1919, December

FF-11  Book  "Notes and Bills Payable"  
1913, 1914, 1915, 1916

FF-12  Notes Payable

FF-13  Bankers Trust Co vs CYMC, 1916

FF-14  Payroll  
1917, May - 1919, May

FF-15  Vouchers  
#31191 - #32190, bills  
1917, January

FF-16  Vouchers  
#31413 - #32211, bills  
1917, February

FF-17  Vouchers  
#31614 - #31802, bills  
1917, March

FF-18  Vouchers  
#31820 - #32004, bills  
1917, April

FF-19  Vouchers  
#32043 - #32095, bills  
1917, May, June, July

FF-20  Vouchers  
#32098 - #32123, bills  
1917, August, September

FF-21  Vouchers  
#32125 - #32152, bills  
1917, October

FF-22  Vouchers  
#32158 - #32185, bills  
1917, November, December

FF-23  Vouchers  
32232 - #32313, bills  
1918, January - 1918, December

FF-24  Vouchers  
not numbered, bills  
1919, January - 1919, June
FF-25  Miscellaneous  
       Notes not identified  

FF-26  Report  
       1914  

FF-27  Lincoln Memorial  

FF-28  Clippings  
       Pre 1900  

FF-29  Clippings  
       1910 - 1914  

FF-30  Clippings  
       1915 - 1920  

FF-31  Pamphlets  

Oversize Book  
"General Ledger"  
1916, July - 1919, May  

Oversize Book  
"Cash Book"  
1915, December - 1919, August  

Oversize Book  
"Sales Ledger"  
1916, July - 1918, February  

Oversize Book  
"Journal"  
1913, September - 1919, May  

Yule Marble Company of Colorado  

FF-32  Incorporation Documents  

FF-33  Annual Reports  
       1922 - 1941  

Carrara Yule Marble Company  

FF-34  Incorporation Documents  
       1921, 1922, 1925  

FF-35  Annual Reports  
       1923, 1924  

Page 8
Colorado Consolidated Yule Marble Company

FF-36 Incorporation Documents
1924, 1930
FF-37 Annual Reports
1925 - 1930

Tennessee-Colorado Marble Company

FF-38 Incorporation Documents
1924 - 1927

Colorado Yule Marble Company 5/17/1924 - 10/12/1931

FF-39 Incorporation Documents
1924
FF-40 Annual Reports
1925 - 1929

Yule-Colorado Marble Company

FF-41 Annual Reports
1929 - 1975
FF-42 Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
FF-43 Mutti, Orfeo P.
Master Carver
FF-44 Clippings
FF-45 Marble Historical Society Museum
FF-46 Marble Chips
1977 - MHS Newsletter
FF-47 Oral Histories
FF-48 Book
Marble, Colorado: City of Stone
FF-49 Mill Site, Nomination, National Register
1978
FF-50 Quarry Pamphlets

Page 9
FF-51  Clippings
       Undated

Colorado Yule Marble Company  1988 -

FF-52  Incorporation Documents
       1988

FF-53  Dunn, Stacy,  Developer

FF-54  Photographs
       1988 -

FF-55  Clippings
       1988 -
MARBLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION

The Marble Historical Society is located in Marble, Colorado. It holds a large and interesting collection of articles pertinent to both the town and the industry. The society maintains a museum in the old Marble High School building. The following is a list of the items in the collection that pertain specifically to the marble operations in the Yule Creek area.

Pamphlet
1906, July
CYM Quarry
Form CY-178

Letter
1907, February
To Charles Austin Bates
CYM Letterhead
Signed by Mr. C. F. Meek
4 Pages

Brochure
1908, September
"To stockholders of CYM Co ..."
4 Pages

Brochure
1908, September
Minutes of informal stockholders meeting at Waldorf Astoria hotel
16 Pages

Booklet
1909, November
"Pictures Made at Marble"
By Charles Austin Bates
Photographs and article from Denver Daily News
16 Pages

Brochure
1910
"Facts About the CYM Co"
Form 59
8 Pages
Clipping
1910
New York Times
"Want 50 percent a year ..."
Regarding a letter from Charles Austin Bates

Pamphlet
1910, Fall
Testimonials
Form 50
8 Pages

Bulletin
1911, September
"To stockholders of the CYM Co ..."
Reference visit by Meek to New York
Reference Charles Austin Bates

Clipping
1912, September
American Stone Trade
"Col. Meek meets accidental death" - page 47
"Monument dealers visit Marble Colorado" - page 48

Clipping
1913, January
New York Curb issue 36 page 2
"Government investigating California Yule Marble Co."

Clipping
1913, January
Rutland Daily Herald 1/22/13
"News of the city: Colorado Yule in bad shape"

Prospectus
1914, May 5
Printed on newsprint
Reference officers, directors, property,
business on hand, marble market, quality
of CYM marble, history, profits
Financial statement ending 12/31/1913
8 Pages

Price List
1915
"CYM Co price list"
Terms, descriptions, catalog references
28 Pages

Catalog
1923
"Design Catalog A"
92 Pages
Blueprint
1924, July
Colorado Consolidated Yule Marble Company
Ownership of land

Letter
1925, February
To "My dear niece"
From H. L. (Henry L. Johnson - photographer)
Colorado White Marble Co letterhead

Report
1929, February
"History of Yule Colorado Marble Company's
Properties at Marble Colorado"
By Edward C. Hanley
7 Pages

Brochure
1931, April
Memory Stone Vol 6 #5
8 Pages

Blueprint
1932, November
Yule Colorado Quarry
Yule 5-5

Map
1932, December
"Yule Colorado .. (unreadable) .. Dec 1932"
Shows quarry 1 and 2, aerial cable line

Blueprint
1933, November
Yule Colorado Quarry #4
Yule 5-6

Blueprint
1934, July
Yule Quarry #4
"Vert. and Horz. channel cuts"

Blueprint
1934, December
Yule Quarry #4
"Possible channel cuts"

Blueprint
1935, August
Colorado Quarry
"Vert. and Horz. channel cuts"
Blueprint
1935, December
Colorado Quarry
Yule 5-8

Blueprint
1936, December
Colorado Quarry
Yule 5-9

Set of Maps
1934 - 1940
"Yule Colorado - Quarry No. 4"
Floor levels and dimensions on 8 different dates
8 maps

Report
1941, October
"Yule Colorado Marble Company"
Description of deposits and some structures

Report
1952, April
"Abandon Quarry Report"
By Herbert W. Johnson
Includes quarry production 1930 - 1941
2 Pages

Clipping
1980, September
Valley Journal
"Swiss firm sends reps to study possible ..."

Blueprint
1985, December
Cite and location map
Yule Marble Quarry
New fences at quarry
6 Sheets

Undated Material

Map
"Yule Colorado Marble Deposit, Yule Creek,
Marble, Colorado"
Shows area from Osgood quarry to tunnel no. 5

Map
"Ownership of Land"
"Colorado Consolidated Y. M. Co."
By A. J. Mitchel, C. E. and E. M.
Map
From Crystal River to quarry
Electric lines, rotary station, trolley line

Map
Colorado Yule Marble
Scale: 1" = 50'
"Change of pipeline .. substitute tunnel for dam."
8" x 12" blueline copy

Circular
Colorado Yule Marble Company
References to newspaper articles
Form 65
8 Pages

Clipping
Rocky Mountain News
"Colo. deposit of statuary marble equal largest in world"

Pamphlet
"The CYM views of Quarry and Mill"
Pictorial of quarry and buildings
18 Pages

Book
Monumental Design
Published by Williamson - Hafner Co, Denver
Headstone monuments
Pictures of mill and quarry
350 Pages

Letter
Pledges to assist a fellow employee
10 Signatures
1 Page

Blueprint
"Ownership of Land"
References to A. J. Mitchell and W. W. Wood

Blueprint
"Sketch #1"
"Property of Yule Creek White Marble Company"

Blueprint
"Yule-Colorado Marble Company"
"Plan of quarries and profile of cableway"