Denver City Town Company Record Book

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Gold mining prospectors and speculators officially formed the Denver City Town Company on November 17, 1858, setting in motion the beginnings of the largest city in Colorado. Although not the first settlers to establish a town company at the confluence of Cherry Creek and the South Platte River, these men staked out territory that more than 18 months later incorporated all the early settlements. The Town Company of Auraria was the first to organize, on November 1, 1858. Auraria, named after a town by that name in Georgia, formed on the west side of Cherry Creek and Denver on the east side. Auraria and Denver combined in April, 1860, when it became clear their interests would be better served as one community. The group of men who formed the Denver Town Company adopted a constitution on November 22, 1858. The first officers were, E. P. Stout, William Larimer, Jr., H.P.A. Smith, and P.T. Bassett. General Larimer became the recording secretary, a position later given to Richard E. Whitsitt. Found in this record book are the board meeting minutes, the names of board members, lot assignments and the recordings of lots purchased.

**Preferred Citation note**

Cite as: Denver City Town Company Record Book, Mss.01813 (accession 99.225), History Colorado.
Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers without restrictions.

Provenance

This record book was donated by Emma Whitsitt Slayden, most likely around 1895. Emma was the wife of Denver City Town Company secretary Richard E. Whitsitt.

Processing Information note

Reprocessed by Leigh Jeremias, April 2013.

Related Materials

Related Materials note

See also archival and artifact collections: Larimer Family Collection, Mss.01690; Auraria Town Company Collection, Mss.00023; and H.5402.1

Indexing Terms

Subjects - Corporate Bodies

• Denver City Town Company (Colo.).

Genres and Forms of Materials

• Journals.
• Minutes.

Subjects - Places

• Denver City (Colo.)

Subjects - People

• Bassett, P. T.
• Blake, Charles H.
• Curtis, Samuel S.
• Larimer, William, 1809-1875
• Lawrence, Charles A.
• McGaa, William W., 1822-1867
• Slayden, Emma C. Whitsitt, d. 1912
• Steck, Amos, 1822-1908
• Stout, E. P.
• Whitsitt, Richard E., (Richard Edward), 1830-1881

Subjects - Topics
• Denver (Colo.)--History.

General note

Original accession number is unknown. The item was accessioned as 99.225 in 1999.