

**Dan Corson Thesis and Research
Material: Dana Crawford
Mss.02633**

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Summary Information

Repository	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
Creator	Corson, Dan
Title	Dan Corson Thesis and Research Material: Dana Crawford
Date	1989-1998
Extent	0.25 Linear feet
Language	English
Collection [Linear-Feet]	0.25
Abstract	Dana Crawford has been influential in the redevelopment and preservation of Denver, Colorado. Her first major project in Denver was Larimer Square beginning in 1963. This collection includes a thesis by Dan Corson about Dana Crawford's involvement in historic Denver and research material related to the thesis.

Biographical note

Dana Crawford initiated the preservation and redevelopment of Larimer Square in downtown Denver, Colorado, in 1965. In 1963, the Denver Urban Renewal Authority planned demolition of the 1400 block of Larimer Square as part of an effort to build a more impressive Denver skyline. Dana developed Larimer Square into a shopping area that became Denver's first historic district in 1971. Her belief that old cities can be livable has proven instrumental in her mission of preservation in Colorado for a career that has spanned over four decades. In 1995, Dana Crawford was awarded the National Trust for Historic Preservation award. In 2011, The Crawford Hotel in Denver's newly redeveloped Union Station was named in her honor.

Historical note

William H. Larimer, Jr. came to Colorado in search of gold. Larimer and his party staked a claim at the location of present day Denver, naming it after Governor James Denver of Kansas. They named one of Denver's main streets Larimer. William Larimer and his son built a cabin on Larimer Street, which was replaced in 1861 by stores and the Granite Building in 1882. Larimer Street had the first bank, bookstore, photography studio, post office, theater, and dry goods store of Denver.

Scope and Contents note

Dan Corson's thesis highlights the work of Dana Crawford in Denver, Colorado. Her work began in 1963 with Larimer Square. Dana Crawford formed Larimer Square Associates, making Larimer Square the first historic district of Denver in 1971. Dana Crawford has been influential in Denver in her work to make historic places livable.

This collection highlights Dana's achievements of 20 years of preservation in Denver in a thesis by Dan Corson and his research, including newspaper clippings and interviews.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Provenance

Donated in 2014 by Dan Corson, student at the University of Colorado at Denver and author of the thesis in collection.

Processing Information note

Processed by Haley Suby, February 2015.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

See also History Colorado collection Mss.01741, Larimer Square Associates.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Interviews.
- Newspaper clippings.
- Thesis

Geographic Name(s)

- Denver (Colo.)
- Larimer Street (Denver, Colo.)

Occupation(s)

- Architect

Subject(s)

- National Register of Historic Places

Accession number

2014.26

Collection Inventory

FF1 *Dana Crawford: From Larimer Square to LoDo, Historic Preservation in Denver* by Dan Corson 1998

FF2 Research interviews by Dan Corson Sept.-Dec. 1997

FF3 Research interviews by Dan Corson Jan. 1998

FF4 Research interviews by Dan Corson Feb.-April 1998

FF5 Newspaper Articles 1981-1983, 1989-1998, Undated

FF6 Dan Corson Research Notes [1997-1998]