

Denver Dry Goods Company

Mss.02636

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Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Administrative Information</u>	4
<u>Related Materials</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5
<u>Accession Number</u>	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	7

Summary Information

Repository	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
Title	Denver Dry Goods Company
Date	1896-1989, 1913-1914
Extent	1.0 Flat box(s)
Language	English
Abstract	This collection contains one catalog of men's, women's, junior's, and children's apparel and accessories and a ledger book detailing finances of the Denver Dry Goods Company from 1895-1898.

Preferred Citation note

Cite as: Denver Dry Goods Company Collection, Mss.02636, History Colorado

Historical note

In 1877, M.J. McNamara opened the Drew & McNamara Dry Goods Company at the corner of Larimer and 16th Streets in Denver. In 1880, McNamara bought out his partner and changed the company's name to the McNamara Dry Goods Company. By 1889, the business had grown and McNamara built a larger building at 16th and California Streets. After suffering financial loss, McNamara sold his business to in 1984 Dennis Sheedy, who changed the name to the Denver Dry Goods Company. By 1907, the company had purchased the remainder of the block and erected a new six story building, the largest store in the city.

The Denver Dry Goods Company, also known as The Denver, became part of Associated Dry Goods (ADG) in 1966. In the 1970s and early 1980s it was considered one of ADG's most profitable operating units, just behind Lord and Taylor. ADG invested in renovating The Denver and expanding with suburban stores in the greater Denver market and with stores in regional locales such as Billings, Montana. Many Colorado residents fondly recall the store's motto, "Where Colorado Shops With Confidence."

When the Denver Dry Goods Company was acquired by May Company as part of Associated Dry Goods Corp. in 1986, 9 of the 12 locations were shut down and sold. The three remaining units were converted to May-Daniels & Fisher stores in 1987. The original downtown store that was built in 1889 and expanded in 1898, 1906, and 1924, was converted to apartments in 1994.

Scope and Contents note

This collection contains a catalog of clothing and accessories for men, women, juniors, and children. Also included is a ledger book detailing profits and losses, bills payable, sales, and accounts relating to horses and wagons, improvements, merchandise, salesman travel expenses, and the soda fountain.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Provenance

Donated by Rebecca Allen in 2014. Allen was the last financial officer for the Denver Dry Goods Company.

Processing Information note

Processed by Haley Suby, February 2015.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

See also Denver Dry Goods, Incorporated, Mss.01272. This collection contains minutes, financial and stock reports, catalogs, direct mail flyers and booklets, and floor procedures.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Denver Dry Goods Co.

Genre(s)

- Catalogs
- Financial records.
- Ledgers (Accounting)
- Sales catalogue

Geographic Name(s)

- Denver (Colo.)

Personal Name(s)

- Allen, Rebecca

Subject(s)

- Dry-goods

Accession Number

2014.144

Collection Inventory

General Ledger 1895-1898

Catalog, Fall and Winter 1913-1914