

**Nathaniel P. and Crawford Hill
Accounting Books Collection
Mss.02646**

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Summary Information

Repository	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
Title	Nathaniel P. and Crawford Hill Accounting Books Collection
Date	1871-1942
Extent	1.5 Linear feet + 1 flat box
Language	English
Archival Material [Box]	1.5 lf + 1 flat box
Abstract	<p>Nathaniel P. Hill served as Mayor of Black Hawk (1872-1873) and was elected to the United States Senate (1879-1885). Hill researched methods for milling metals in Europe and began living permanently in Colorado in 1876. After working in the Senate, Hill became president of the Colorado Smelting and Refining Company, Denargo Land Company, and owner of the <i>Denver Republican</i>. Hill's son, Crawford (1832-1922), followed in his father's footsteps, serving as president for the Denargo Land Market, the Hill Land and Investment Company, the Republican Publishing Company, and the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company. Included in this collection are account books containing brief entries of money spent and received regarding utilities, insurance, land, and individual or estate property owned. Cash books generally include information about individual and personal accounts. Also included are complete stockholder records.</p>

Preferred Citation note

Cite as: Nathaniel P. and Crawford Hill Accounting Books Collection, Mss.02646 (accession 2015.18)
History Colorado

Biographical note

Nathaniel P. Hill (1832-1900), often known as the founder of Colorado's smelting industry, was born in New York, graduated from Brown University in 1857, and from 1859 to 1864 was Professor of Chemistry at Brown University. In 1864, capitalists from Boston and Providence sponsored Hill for a trip to Colorado territory to evaluate mineral resources. In Denver, Hill met former Governor William Gilpin and became a member of an expedition to check mineral deposits on Gilpin's newly purchased land in Gilpin County. Hill returned to Colorado twice in 1865 and once in 1866. During this time, he also traveled to Europe to evaluate new methods of milling metals. Hill permanently moved to Colorado in 1876, when the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company began work in Black Hawk, Colorado.

In 1871 Hill was elected Mayor of Black Hawk and served as a member of the Territorial Council during the 1872-1873 term. Hill was elected to the United States Senate in 1879 and remained in the Senate until 1885. In 1891, he was appointed as a member of the United States delegation to the International Monetary Commission. Hill was president of the Colorado Smelting and Refining Company and the Denargo Land Company, as well as owner of the *Denver Republican*.

Nathaniel Hill's son Crawford (1862-1922) graduated from Brown University in 1885 and returned to Denver, where he worked for the *Denver Republican*. He subsequently served as president of the Denargo Land Market, the Hill Land and Investment Company, the Republican Publishing Company, and the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company.

The Boston and Colorado Smelting Company, organized by Nathaniel P. Hill and eastern capitalists in 1867, was the principal source of the Hill family wealth. The enterprise suspended operations in 1909, and was liquidated over a period of a year. The company was formally dissolved in 1950.

Scope and Contents note

Included in this collection are account books containing brief entries of money spent and received regarding utilities, insurance, land, and individual or estate property owned. Cash books generally include information about individual and personal accounts. Also included are complete stockholder records.

The ledgers are significant for the connection to the Hill family and Denver history. They also provide documentation of daily life and business from the Hill family and their holdings.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

Provenance

Donated by Eron Johnson Antiques, which purchased the ledgers at an estate sale in 2014.

Processing Information note

Processed by Haley Suby, April 2015.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

History Colorado holds Hill family collections, including the Nathaniel P. Hill Collection (Mss.00310) and the Crawford and Louise S. Hill Collection (Mss.00309). While Mss.00310 contains early correspondence of Nathaniel, much of the material in the collection pertains to Hill's wife. The Crawford and Louise Hill Collection details much of Crawford's business dealings. However, the collection does not include the early records that are included in this donation. The Hill family is also represented in the Artifact and Photography collections.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Bend & White Syndicate.
- Hill Securities Land and Development Company.
- The Boston and Colorado Smelting Company.

Genre(s)

- Ledgers (Accounting)

Personal Name(s)

- Hill, Crawford, 1862-1922
- Hill, Nathaniel P., 1832-1900
- Johnson, Eron, 1952-

Accession number

2015.18

Collection Inventory

FF1 Cash Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1871-1872

FF2 Cash Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1873-1875

FF3 Account Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1873-Jan. 1890

FF4 Cash Book 1876-1882

FF5 Cash Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1883-1885

FF6 Cash Book, Bend and White Land, Nathaniel P. Hill, trustee 1885-1888

FF7 Cash Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1886-1889

FF8 Loose Papers, Copy of Cash Book of Bend and White Syndicate March 1, 1887-Jan. 10, 1888

FF9 Cash Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1890-1897

FF10 Account Book, Nathaniel P. Hill 1890-1903

FF11 Account Book 1891

FF12 Account Book June 1891-1897

FF13 "The Unlimited Coinage of Gold and Silver," address delivered by Hon. N.P. Hill Sept. 12, 1893

FF14 *The Use of Silver As a Money Metal by The Unites States* by Hon. N.P. Hill 1893

FF15 Ledger book, Stockholders Records, The Boston and Colorado Smelting Company 1893-1909

FF16 Account Book, Crawford Hill 1895

FF17 Cash Book, Crawford Hill 1895

FF18 Cash Book 1898-1927

FF19 Stock Ledger, Hill Securities Land and Development Company 1926-1942