

INVENTORY AND GUIDE
TO THE
PAPERS OF
HARRY M. BOOTH
COLLECTION NO. 73
COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Processed by Tom Otto
from the History/Archives Program
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Harry M. Booth Collection

INTRODUCTION

This collection was found in the 3100 block of Humboldt St. in the City of Denver, Colorado under a floor, where it had lain for about thirty-five years. It was brought to the Colorado State Historical Society by Mr. D.L. Clow.

The collection spans a period from 1896 to the latter part of 1900. It deals primarily with the undertakings of the Trout Falls and Improvement Company.

An effort has been made to link Harry M. Booth to the Levi Booth Family of Four Mile House. Family History of Levi and Millie Booth and their descendants, by Gertrude Working, No. 668, Box 111, FF 227 at the Colorado State Historical Society reveals no such association. Further investigation at the Genealogy Department of the Denver Public Library indicates no such person or any information concerning Harry M. Booth. Information has been sought regarding the Trout Falls Land and Improvement Company and the Colorado Brokerage and Mining Company at the Western History Department of the Denver Public Library. Searches of the Colorado Business Directories from 1896 to 1900 and the 1895 edition of the Colorado Mining Stock Exchange Manual have revealed nothing.

A visit to the Colorado State Archives in Denver revealed the following information: Trout Falls Land and Improvement Company was organized on Feb 13 1897, with a capital of \$200.00. The purpose of the company was to:

“...acquire real estate, hold, use, improve and dispose of any timber thereon... to plat and lay out said real estate into lots.... plats.... avenues....to erect buildings... and to use and dispose of power and light...” in Douglas County, Colorado. Also, “...to obtain, hold, work and operate mines of precious materials...” The Colorado Brokerage and Mining Company was formed in 1895 in Denver, Colorado, with capital of \$50,000. The purpose of this firm was: :Owning or leasing, working, buying or selling mines and mining properties; buying and selling other stocks....”

In 1912, the legislature of the State of Colorado passed a statute requiring all firms doing business within the state to file for incorporation by September 3 1913 or be declared defunct. Neither of the aforementioned companies filed and thus became defunct.

SIGNIFICANCE

While having no apparent affiliation with the Levi Booth family, the Harry M. Booth Collection offers a documented example of one of the many Colorado mining ventures that ultimately failed. It appears that the entire venture lasted about four years before it collapsed. In a receipt dated 1/12/1900, Ralph Pierce, who was on the Board of Directors of the Trout Falls Land and Improvement Company and Secretary of the Colorado Brokerage and Mining Company, made

reference to the “Colorado Broke Mining Company” on a statement for taxes due on property owned by Trout Falls Land and Improvement Company.

HARRY M. BOOTH COLLECTION, Box 1

- FF 1 Correspondence, Jan 11 1898 to June 23 1899
- FF 2 Correspondence, July 1899 to Oct 26 1899
- FF 3 Correspondence, Nov 14 1899 to Dec 34 [?] 1899
- FF 4 Correspondence, Jan 9 1900 to Jan 19 1900
- FF 5 Correspondence, Jan 21 1900 to March 13 1900
- FF 6 Correspondence, Apr 7 1900 to June 9 1900
- FF 7 Correspondence, June 20 1900 to Aug 10 1900
- FF 8 Correspondence, no dates
- FF 9 Receipt and Disbursement Book, 1893
- FF 10 Receipts and Disbursements, Jan 1896 and July 1897
- FF 11 Receipts, Feb 18 1898 to Dec 15 1898
- FF 12 Receipts, Mar 9 1899 to Mar 10 1899
- FF 13 Receipts, Apr 24 1899 to July 31 1891
- FF 14 Receipts, Jan 24 1900 to Apr 21 1900
- FF 15 Receipts, May 29 1900 to Aug 1900

- FF 16 Receipts, no dates
- FF 17 Assay Certificates & Reports, Mar 25 1898 to July 24 1899
- FF 18 Prospectus (2 of same), Claim Report (2 of same, n.d.),
Location Certificates, 1898 to 1899
- FF 19 Road Book 1897, Mines Claim Handbook, n.d.
- FF 20 Mining & Plat Maps, n.d.
- FF 21 Mining & Plat Maps, n.d.
- FF 22 Corporate Claim Reports
- FF 23 Mining Process Booklets & Catalog
- FF 24 Newspaper clippings, Dec 22 1898 to Mar 11 1899 and n.d.
- FF 25 Business Cards, Fraternal Beneficiary Booklet, Pressed Flowers and
Leaves
- FF 26 Photographs: 1 (one) Plate type, assorted black and white, n.d.