

Businesses Ephemera Subject Files
1856-1987
(bulk 1945-1970)

Collection Summary

Creator: Intentionally assembled by Nashville Room staff, beginning at an unknown date, probably in the late 1960s, and collected on an ongoing basis.

Title: Businesses Ephemera Subject Files

Inclusive Dates: 1856-1987 (bulk 1945-1970)

Summary/Abstract: Includes a wide variety of materials by and about Nashville area businesses.

Physical Description/Extent: 1 cu. ft.

Language: In English.

Stack Location: Closed stacks workroom

Repository: Nashville Room, Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St., Nashville, TN 37219

Scope and Contents of the Collection

Includes company histories; company publications and newsletters; annual reports; brochures; catalogs; advertisements; speeches; correspondence; biographies of local business leaders; and related materials. Emphasis is upon businesses in Nashville and nearby areas. Quantity of materials ranges from a single item to several folders.

Several posters featuring photographs of the Marathon automobile, produced in Nashville, are part of the collection. Materials concerning the National Life and Accident Insurance Company include a variety of company publications issued from 1926-1979 (bulk 1955-1970). The Nashville Bridge Company materials include pamphlets from 1943-1978, blueprints from 1944-1952, and numerous scattered issues of the company newsletter, Na-Bri-Co News, 1942-1952.

A single item from the Conner Producing Co. reveals an early movie-making operation in Nashville, which produced the five-reel film, "Sam Davis: The Hero of Tennessee" around 1915. Their brochure is illustrated with photographs from the film.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Alphabetical by business name.

Personal names used as corporate names are filed in direct order (e.g. Percy Cohen Furniture Showrooms filed under P; Thomas Nelson Publishing filed under T).

Personal names used by individuals in small shops and trades are filed under surnames (e.g. A. Setliff, bookseller filed under S; W.G. Thuss, photographer, filed under T).

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: In library use only. Available by appointment.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction: Some items may be restricted by copyright law or donor restriction.

Index Terms

Corporate Names/Organizations:

Conner Producing Company
Marathon Motor Works
Maxwell House Coffee Company
Nashville Bridge Company
National Life and Accident Insurance Company, inc. Nashville
Southern Motor Works

Subjects:

Advertising – Motion pictures
Business enterprises – Tennessee – Nashville

Places:

Nashville (Tenn.) – History – Sources
Nashville (Tenn.) - Commerce

Genre/Document Types:

Newsletters
Pamphlets
Manuscripts
Advertisements

Titles:

The Na-Bri-Co News
Sam Davis The Hero of Tennessee (Motion picture : 1915)

Separated Material

Some items may have been separated for storage to an oversize box, drawer, or the Nashville Room Photographs Collection. Separation notices have been used to indicate such removals.

The following materials were removed from the Businesses Ephemera Subject Files during reprocessing in 2005 and form their own collections, cataloged and accessed separately:

Nashville Banner. Business Manager. Advertising Correspondence. 1891-1915
Nathaniel Baxter Jr. Papers, 1881-1911
H.A. French Music Catalogs, circa 1885-1889

Administrative Information

Copyright: This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code)

Preferred Citation: [business name, folder title, or item description], Businesses Ephemera Subject Files, Ephemera Collections, Nashville Room, Nashville Public Library.

Processing Information: Weeded by staff members Linda Barnickel and Carol Kaplan, 2003. Rehoused and reprocessed by staff member Linda Barnickel, 2005. All actions part of overall ephemera subject files reprocessing project.

Accruals: Additional accruals are expected.

Detailed Description of the Collection

In general, 1930

American Bread Company, c. 1952

Avco Corporation, 1979

Buck, Baker & Johnston, Druggists, 1856

Buford Brothers, Inc.

Cain-Sloan Co. Department Store

Castle Recording Laboratory Studio, c. 1983

Castner-Knott – 1 oversize item only:

OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 2:

Castner-Knott 100th anniversary poster, 1998

Chronologies

Conner Producing Co., c.1915

Cramer Dry Plate Co., c. 1914

Crescent Amusement Co., 1957

General Shoe Company, 1947

Herbert Materials, 1967

Ingram Book Co.

J. Alexander's restaurant – 1 oversize item only:

OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 2:

Menu, 2006

Kimbrough Phillips Co.

Life & Casualty Insurance Co. of Tennessee 1953, 1978

Loveman, Berger & Teitlebaum Dept. Store, 1923

Marathon Motor Works (Southern Motor Works), 1992

OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 12:

10 posters, incl. photographs

Marshall & Bruce Printing Co., 1907

Maxwell House Coffee, 1921-1931

Nashville Bridge Co.

OVERSIZE DRAWER 1, FOLDERS 4-6:

Plans for boats, c. 1944-1952. Detailed list in folder 1, below.

1. Pamphlets & brochures, 1943-1978

OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 3:

Na-Bri-Co News, v.1 no. 1 (Dec. 1942)

2. Na-Bri-Co News 1945

3. Na-Bri-Co News 1946, 1948

4. Na-Bri-Co News 1949

5. Na-Bri-Co News 1950

6. Na-Bri-Co News 1951

5. Na-Bri-Co News 1952
Nashville Coal Co., 1941
Nashville Electric Service, 1973
Nashville Gas Co., 1921-1951
National Life & Accident Insurance Co.
 1. Shielders All (employee handbook), c.1955
 2. From Acorn to Oak – Quarter Century of Achievement 1902-1926
 3. Diamond Jubilee Celebration, 1977
 4. Annual report, 1955
 5. Old Guard Dinner, 1956, 1958
 6. Correspondence, 1963
 7. The Friendly Counter (newsletter), Fall 1953
OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 3:
 Home Office Shield – Dec. 1955
8. Home Office Shield, 1964, 1968-69
9. Home Office Shield 1970, 1971
10. Our Shield, 1930-1968
OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 3:
 The Shield News –
 v. 1 no. 34 (Nov. 1, 1965)
 v. 16 no. 11 (Mar. 12, 1979)
Nissan (Smyrna), 1986
Old Hickory Powder Plant, 1918
Otey's Corner – 1 oversize item only:
 OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 2:
 Calendar (with photos), 1964
Percy Cohen Furniture Showrooms, Inc., 1980
Phillips & Buttorff, 1918
Riddle, W. S., Notions & Clothing, 1892
Setliff, A., Wholesale Bookseller & Stationer
Shockley Research, Inc., 1979
Southern Bell Telephone Co., 1951-1973
Southern Motor Works – *see Marathon Motor Works*
Stockell, George W. – 1 oversize item only:
 OVERSIZE BOX 1, FOLDER 2:
 General Southern Agent, Nashville, Tenn. for Fearless Railway Threshing
 Machine, - catalog, c. 1878
Thomas Nelson Publishing Co., 1981
Thuss, W. G., Photographer, 1925, 1932