



City of Manchester Archives
One City Hall Plaza
Manchester, NH 03101

603.624.6455 – mintranuovo@manchesternh.gov
www.manchesternh.gov/archives

Collection Summary

Repository: Manchester City Archives. Office of the City Clerk. City of Manchester, NH.

Creator: Office of the City Clerk. City of Manchester, NH.

Title: Records of Corporations and Articles of Agreement

Collection Number: 0300.001

Accession Number: 2008.2

Dates: 1838-1980

Volume: 8 volumes; 1 linear foot

Languages: Collection materials are in English.

Related Collections: Annual Return of Corporations, 1897-1898 (Accession 2006.17); Record group 0300 (Office of the City Clerk).

Access: Access to collection is open to the public. Please contact the archives for an appointment to view materials. Cite the collection number, box and folder numbers when making an appointment. Materials may be accessible online; please reference the digital note below.

Digital Note: Records from 1838-1874 have been digitized, and are accessible via links in the inventory section of this finding aid.

Conservation Notes: Volumes 1 and 2 were restored, microfilmed, and digitized through a grant received from the New Hampshire State Library's "Moose Plate" fund.

Finding Aid Prepared by: Sally Fellows, 2008; Mike Intranuovo, 2015.

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Historical Note

The City Clerk is nominated and appointed by the Board of Aldermen as prescribed by state law. Some of the responsibilities of the City Clerk are to preserve the official public documents and records of the City of Manchester; conduct and preserve the integrity of elections; provide administrative and support services to the Legislative body; and meet other regulatory requirements established by law.

Collection Description

Records of Corporation were created by the Office of the City Clerk and its predecessor, the Office of the Town Clerk. These records registered corporations and businesses residing in Manchester. A wide range of businesses are included, such as manufacturing facilities, grocery stores, tailors, carpenters, fish and provision stores, furniture stores, printing and bookbinding services, and others.

The records show that many early stockholders, especially those who owned shares of textile mills, resided in Boston, MA. Later records show a more diversified pool of stockholders in various businesses, with more Manchester residents and New Hampshire citizens owning shares in comparison to earlier years. The increase in New Hampshire stockholders seems especially true for banks.

The collection documents what businesses existed in Manchester during a specific time, and what individuals owned stock or shares in those businesses. Records up to 1971 are arranged chronologically in volumes. Volumes 1-5 contain an index. Records from August 1971 to February 1980 are arranged chronologically in folders.

The first three volumes list stockholders' names and other information such as the stockholder's residence, number of shares owned, value of shares, etc. Lists of stockholders are not as common in records after 1893. The date a business is incorporated is also listed in earlier records, if available. Early businesses (pre-1900) listed in these records include, but are not limited to: (in Volume 1) Stark Mills; Amoskeag Falls Bridge Corporation; Manchester Mills; Manchester Bank; Manchester Gas Company; Manchester and Lawrence Railroad; Manchester Print Works; Manchester Iron Company; Blodget Paper Company; Merrimack Mills; Amoskeag Bank; New Hampshire Central Railroad Company; and Manchester Gas Light Company; (in Volume 2) Amoskeag Bank, Blodget Paper Company, Blodget Edge Tool Company, City Bank, Derry Mills, Langdon Manufacturing Company, Merrimack River Bank, Manchester Iron Company, Manchester Locomotive Works, Manchester Show and Leather Company, and the Suncook Valley Railroad; (in Volume 3) Electric Power and Motor Company of New England, Evans Artificial Leather Company, Florida Investment Company, Granite State Telephone Company, Idaho Mining and Developing Company, Langdon Manufacturing Company, Locke Cattle Company, Manchester Broom Company, Manchester Driving Park Company, Manchester Steam Heating Company, Manchester Opera House Association, New Hampshire Brewing Company, and Union Publishing Company.

Inventory

Title	Box Number	Folder Number
Volume 1: 1838-1855 (with index)	--	--
Volume 2: 1855-1874 (with index)	--	--
Volume 3: 1875-1893 (with index)	--	--
Volume 4: 1889-1906 (with index)	--	--
Volume 5: 1906-1932 (with index)	--	--
Volume 6: 1950-1959 (without index)	--	--
Volume 7: 1960-1968 (without index)	--	--
Volume 8: 1968-1971 (without index)	--	--
1971-1980	01	--