

Barre History Collection

**Calder & Richardson
Records, 1892-1987
BHC 39T, 530F; Size B, C**

Volume: 1.5 linear feet
Inclusive Dates: 1892-1987
Record Types: correspondence, financial records, photographs, price lists, newspaper clippings, writings, blueprints, charts, certificates, legal documents, scrapbook

Introduction

This collection contains the records of Calder and Richardson – a fuel Company in Barre, Vermont, and spans from 1892-1987. The collection consumes 1.5 linear feet of shelf space.

Custodial Note and Arrangement History

The collection is part of the Barre History Collection acquired by the Vermont Historical Society from the Aldrich Public Library in November 2014. This collection was originally contained with the records of the Barre Trout club, where Horace A. Richardson sat on the board of directors.

Administrative History

William W. Calder (1858-1936) and Victor Richardson established the fuel company, “Calder & Richardson,” in 1900, in Barre, Vermont. William W. Calder had started work as a harness maker. Horace A. Richardson (1870-1938) bought the company in 1917. The company dealt in coal and firewood; fuel oil was added to the company in 1927. The company offices were located at 12 Depot Square in Barre, Vermont. The firewood sheds were located at Burnham’s Meadows; and the coal yards were situated on Horace Lane off North Main Street. Later, the oil tanks were established on Mill Street in Barre, Vermont.

William W. Calder left the company in the 1920s and Horace A. Richardson passed away in 1938. Stephen J. Dineen and Stanley J. Tassie – long-time company workers – bought the company in 1939. The coal yards suffered damages due to a fire in 1943. In 1970, the company’s control passed to Leonel Gregoire and Allan Merrill. In the 1980s Calder & Richardson relocated from 324 N. Main Street to 164 South Main Street. The company also relocated its head office to Bennington, Vermont. The name of the company became “Calder & Richardson, Inc.” The company was in operation until 2014 when it closed down.

Scope and Content

This collection spans from 1892-1987. The bulk of the collection contains records of customers’ yearly fuel usage and price lists of coal and firewood, mostly from 1927-1959. The collection tallies the fuel usage for both individuals and companies within Barre, Vermont. The

collection also includes blueprints sheds and equipment as well as loose photographs and album photographs documenting the work of drivers and employees at the company headquarters and its surrounding yards and sheds.

The collection also contains a small amount of Horace A. Richardson's legal and financial records, including stocks in Vermont companies and estate documents for his wife, Hester Richardson.

Related Collections

See Barre Trout Club Records found in BHC 531.

Inventory

- BHC 39T:01 Business Correspondence, 1934-1988
Includes: price estimates for coal to customers
- :02 Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1981, ?
Includes:
 thank you card from Aldrich Public Library, 1986
 thank you card from Barre Ethnic Heritage Festival, 1981
- :03 Form Letters to Customers, 1929-1935
- :04 Business Letterhead, n.d.
- :05 Fuel Consumption by Customers, 1928-1936
- :06 Fuel Costs for City Buildings; Barre, Vt.; 1927-1929
- :07 _____ for Spaulding High School, 1925-1936
- :08 Firewood Price lists, 1942
- Size C: Fuel Consumption Totals, 1927-1935 (originally contained in scrapbook)
- :09 Fuel Price lists, 1929-1939
- :10 _____, 1940-1949
- :11 _____, 1950-1959
- :12 Accounts
Includes: account book, and receipts
- Size B: Blueprints: Equipment, 1929-1943
Includes:
 shed for retail coal yards and shed for under coal pile, 1931
 gate for shed under coal pile, 1933
 ground storage bins, 1939/1943
 layout ground storage plant, 1939/1943
 ground storage plant general plan 1943
 3 ft. waterfall chute, 1933
 track hopper with belt conveyor, 1929
 2 identical plans: feed hopper for waterfall chute, 1937, n.d.
 direct loading hopper for trestle yards, 1941
- :13 Fuel Tank Capacities and Sizes, 1957, n.d.

- :14 Heating and Calibration Charts, 1953, n.d.
- :15 Degree Days Records, 1948-1953
- :16 Newsclippings: Articles, 1935-1970
- :17 _____: Advertisements and Notices, 1926-1989
- :18 _____: Weather; 1934, n.d.
- :19 _____: Other Fuel Companies, 1937-1987
- :20 _____: Miscellaneous, 1933-1979
- :21 Writings, "...National Retail Coal Merchants Association..." 1933
- :22 Miscellaneous Printed Materials, n.d.
Includes:
Range, Stove Furnace and Boiler Repairs Catalogue Number 5
Barre Free Enterprise Committee political poster
- :23 H. A. Richardson, Vermont Stocks, 1896-1932
- :24 _____, Legal Documents, 1928
Includes:
affidavit for stock in Barre Airport, 1928
articles of association for Barre Airport, 1928
certificate Barre Airport, 1928
- :25 _____, Legal Documents, 1913-1914
Includes:
estate documents, "Hester A. Richardson," 1913-1914
cemetery trust fund for "Hester A. Richardson," 1914
- :26 _____, Legal Documents, 1897-1931
Includes:
probate court notes, "Horace Fifield," 1897
settlement notice, 1897
wills, probate court notes, and inheritance tax, "Ella Fifield Hosmer;" 1930, 1931
- :27 _____, Accounts, 1892-1914
- :28 Photographs, 1928-1947
Includes:
3 photographs of Calder and Richardson Santa Claus parade float
3 photographs of Depot Square; 1928, 1932, 1936
2 photographs of fuel tanks/yard, 1947
- BHC 503F:01 Scrapbook, 1918-1934
Includes:
photographs: Depot Square, exterior and interior; coal yards; teams of horses; workers
fuel pricelists, 1918-1934
- :02 Stock Certificates in the Barre Airport Inc., 1928

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Calder&Richardson.docx

