

Guide to the Carpenter Collection – 2015.36

Reference code US CoGrCGM 2015.36
Title: Carpenter Collection
Processed by Patsy White

Finding aid prepared by Patsy White

Name and location of repository Hazel E Johnson Research Center
Greeley History Museum
714 8th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
Phone: (970)351-9219
Email: museums@greeleygov.com
URL: <http://greeleymuseums.com/>

Collection Summary

Dates 1864-1923
Bulk dates 1864-1936
Level of description Collection
Extent .5 cubic feet
Creator(s) Ward Carpenter

Administrative/Biographical History

Brief History of Nathaniel Cook Meeker (July 12, 1817 – September 30, 1879)

Nathan Meeker was born in Euclid, Ohio on July 12, 1817 to Enoch and Lurana Meeker. He was a writer and submitted articles to area publications when he was a boy. He left home at 17 for New Orleans, where he worked as a copy boy for the New Orleans Picayune. Later in the 1830s he returned to Ohio where he attended and graduated from Oberlin College.

Meeker worked as a school teacher in Cleveland and Philadelphia. He moved to New York and became a contributor to the Mirror, owned by N. P. Willis. Unable to support himself, he moved back to Euclid where he was a teacher, historian, auditor, librarian, secretary and poet laureate. He wrote articles, often about sociology, that were published by the Cleveland Plaindealer and reprinted by Horace Greeley in the New York Tribune.

Meeker became a war correspondent for Greeley in his Cairo, Illinois office during the Civil War. He was the only journalist who was at and reported on the battle at Fort Donelson. He

was made an agricultural journalist and editor at the end of the war for the New York Tribune. He went to the Rocky Mountains for the Tribune in 1869 and was inspired to live there.

Meeker was interested in communal and cooperative farms and created a vision of a utopian community based upon Christianity and communal economic enterprise. With the backing of his editor Horace Greeley, Meeker organized the Union Colony (later the town of Greeley) to be settled in the Colorado Territory. He advertised to applicants to move to the South Platte River basin, in what was intended as a cooperative venture for people of “high moral standards”. He accepted about 700 of the 3,000 replies he received and those 700 purchased shares. With the capital from the shares, in 1870 Meeker purchased 2,000 acres, primarily from the Native Americans, at the confluence of the South Platte and the Cache La Poudre (Powder Bag) River near present-day Greeley. Meeker also founded the Greeley Tribune in 1870.

The settlers brought irrigation techniques to northwestern Colorado and helped attract additional agricultural settlement in the region. The community failed on a couple of counts. It was not financially successful and community members had not adopted the Christian values that Meeker espoused.

In 1878, Meeker was appointed United States (U.S.) Indian agent at the White River Ute Indian Reservation on the western side of the Continental Divide. Meeker tried to extend his policy of religious and farming reforms. He was warned that the Utes resented his reforms and attempts at conversion, but he ignored these reports. He ordered a horse-racing track be plowed under to convert the track and horses’ pasturage to farmland. The Ute considered the order an affront because they held their horses as a chief source of status and wealth. When he persisted in having the track plowed, Meeker had a tense conversation with an irate Ute chief. He wired for military assistance, but before the troops arrived, a Ute group attacked the Indian agency, killing Meeker and his 10 male employees. They took women and children hostage and held them for 23 days to secure their own safety. Meeker is buried in Linn Grove Cemetery in Greeley, CO.

Brief History of the Meeker Memorial Museum

As the century that witnessed the founding of Union Colon and the tragic death of its founder, Nathan Meeker, came to a close, the citizens of Greeley felt that a memorial to Meeker should find expression in some enduring manner.

Early in the new century this thought took form when a group of women came together on May 8, 1900 and formed an organization that incorporated under the name of the Meeker Memorial Library Association. The incorporators included Susan G. Adams, Emily H. Jones, Alice M. Johnson, Elizabeth Haynes, Josephine A. Cheeseman, Elizabeth Clark and Sarah Carr Hogarty.

It was decided that the memorial should take the form of a library and to this end the cooperation of Women’s Clubs was invited. Rummage sales, fairs, teas and socials and even a minstrel show contributed and the fund grew rapidly.

At the same time this project was coming to fruition, J. Max Clark had also been successful in raising a fund for a public library, and the two projects reached an understanding whereby the Association was to furnish a room in the new library building according to its own ideas.

This was done, but after a time, the thought of the Association began to grow away from the library idea and toward the wider idea of a museum. There were so many pioneer relics that ought to be preserved and there was not sufficient room in the library. The original Meeker home was empty, so it was felt it would serve as a perfect setting for the museum. The property was purchased by the City of Greeley. On October 1, 1929, the Meeker Memorial Museum was opened with impressive ceremonies and continues to the present time as a memorial to Nathan Meeker.

Brief History of George A. Hodgson

George A. Hodgson was raised on the farm homesteaded by his father, David Hodgson, near Platteville, CO. He attended public schools in Platteville and completed two years of school in Boulder. He devoted two years to government survey work and then made his way to the North Park District to raise cattle. He remained there for 10 years, He returned to Platteville and purchased his father's farm and some adjoining land, where he raised cattle. He was a county commissioner for Weld County and also served as mayor of Platteville for two terms. He was a deputy county surveyor for Larimer County. He served on the Weld County Board and was instrumental in securing one of the best courthouses in the county. He was also Colorado state inspector of bridges.

At his own request, he was named the curator of the Meeker Memorial Museum in Greeley, CO in 1936.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of shareholder receipts for the Union Colony from 1871; receipts to County School Superintendents and boundaries of districts; original deeds for Union Colony land from 1871; Certificate of Election to Accept Colorado Nonprofit Corporation Act for Union Colony; correspondence to the Greeley Pioneer Society (including the letter from George A. Hodgson requesting his appointment as the curator of the Meeker Memorial Museum); Union Colony Office of Treasury and Office of Secretary documents 1864-1873; handwritten list of deaths in Greeley for 1922 and 1923; bylaws of Meeker Memorial Association; Treasurer's Book of the Progress Club for 1894; ledger with the listing of Union Colony members who received deeds; Greeley Book of Frontier Quotations compiled by the Ladies of Unity Circle in Greeley, CO and published in 1899; ledger of names of Meeker Memorial Library Association and advertisement for Elkhorn House (fishing and hunting lodge near Livermore, CO); membership book of Meeker Memorial Association for 1935; Meeker Memorial Library Association record book May 8, 1900 – February 4, 1929; record of proceedings of Union Colony Association, New York City, 12/24/1869 by Ralph Meeker, Secretary; articles of Incorporation of the Union Colony Company of Colorado; First Annual Report of the Union Colony of Colorado; booklet called The Greeley District: Garden Spot of the Golden West.

System of arrangement	As no original order could be established, materials from this collection have been interfiled in an imposed order.
Conditions governing access	There are no restrictions on the access of this collection.
Conditions governing reproduction and use	There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.
Languages and scripts of the materials	English
Custodial history	The materials in this collection were created and assembled by various sources.
Immediate source of acquisition	The collection was donated by Ward Carpenter.
Related archival materials	2015.36
Notes	Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museum's Permanent Collection, #2015.36
Names	Abbey, R. P. Abbott, Emily Wright Abbott, T. H. Adams, G. H. Adams, Gale Adams, John B. Adams, Susan G Allen, Grace M. Allen, Mame C. Anderson, John C. Arnberg, Charles Atkinson, Sharon, 1839-1923 Babcock, Frank Baker, Edwin E. Barker, A. H. Bascombe, R. Bassett, Lucetta Wood

Bauer, Lois Wright
Baxter, Alfred
Bell, David
Bennett, C. A.
Benson, Thomas
Bingham, D. L.
Bird, George
Bird, Laura Hoyt, 1888-1984
Bosworth, Mattie
Boyd, Psyche
Boyd, Sarah M.
Bradford, C. M.
Briggs, Glen
Bristow, Thomas
Brockway, W. H. (William Henry), 1836-1900
Brown, John L.
Brown, Peter
Buckingham, Emerson W.
Buckley, J. D.
Buell, J. D.
Bullard, Scott
Bunker, Martin Augustus
Burbridge, Charles W.
Burchill, Amanda
Burgess, John
Cage, G. A., 1819-1905
Caldwell, Ida
Callahan, Theophilus
Cameron, Robert Alexander, 1828-1894
Camfield, Ira
Camfield, Isaac
Camp, Archibald Lacy, 1823-1908
Camp, Charles, 1860-1929
Camp, James L., 1882-1925
Cannon, A. B.
Carpenter, Donald A., 1907-1993
Carpenter, LeRoy
Carpenter, Martha B.
Carpenter, Mary
Carpenter, Ward
Carver, J.
Cheesman, Josephine
Childs, Francis L, d. 1898
Churchill, H. E.
Clark, Arthur
Clark, Claude Harold, 1867-1952

Clark, Elizabeth Baker
Clark, Horace G.
Clark, James Maxwell, 1840-1928
Copeland, A. B. (Asa Byron), 1849-1936
Copeland, Mary Elizabeth Camfield, 1888-1969
Couzens, Bertha Rea
Craig, Alexander
Craig, Walter
Cranford, J. P.
Crodle, Frank
Cushing, R. J.
Dailey, Elizabeth Moss
Davis, Ella R.
Davis, Joel E.
Decker, Asa
DeLee, J. E.
Devotee, Henry
Dickerson, R. E.
Dresser, George T.
Eaton, A.J.
Eaton, J. B.
Eddy, Sarah Ellis
Edmonds, H. A.
Elliott, John
Emerson, Charles
English, Clarence, 1882-1966
Evans, Lydia Ann
Farris, Samuel
Fashbaugh, William N.
Ferguson, William W.
Fezer, Ella
Flint, E. G.
Foote, William
Francisco, E. L.
Freeman, James M.
Fuller, Samuel
Gale, Jesse Stearns
Gehrke, Ruth
Gibson, Mabel Baxter
Gibson, Sarah A.
Gill, Florence Estella
Gill, William H., 1860-1938
Gipson, W. E.
Gladstone, Jennie
Godding, T. F.
Graham, Robert

Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872
Green, Franklin Joseph, 1867-1963
Green, George N.
Green, Mary E. Heath, 1877-1969
Grove, Mary Moss
Hall, Eli
Hall, Robert L., 1851-1926
Hammett, W. C.
Hanna, Katherine Esther
Hanna, Levi
Hanna, Robert
Hanna, Robert E., 1875-1969
Harper, Brainard D.
Harris, James F.
Hart, Ellen
Hart, Harry
Haynes, Elizabeth Plumb
Hays, James H.
Hazen, Norman
Heaton, Chas.
Helton, Ralph
Henderson, Grace
Henderson, John W., 1892-1989
Hertig, Joseph
Hilton, Benjamin
Hilton, Ralph, 1828-1914
Hodgson, David
Hodgson, George Albert, 1860-1946
Hogarty, M. J.
Hogarty, Sarah
Hotchkiss, Arthur
Hotchkiss, George B.
Hotchkiss, Jane
Howard, A. A.
Howard, C.
Howard, Lydia
Howard, Sarah Elizabeth, 1846-1924
Howland, Charles
Howland, Mary Jane
Hughes, Eva P.
Johnson, Alice M.
Johnson, B. J.
Johnson, Bruce F., 1834-1930
Jones, Albert Wren
Jones, Eli W.
Jones, Emily Mindwell Hall

Jones, James Hall, 1867-1932
Joyce, Mary Ann
Kauffman, David J.
Kelly, R. D.
Kennedy, S. S.
Kern, Peter
Kinnison, R. L.
Knowles, M. B. (Myron Bartney)
Koogle, A.
LaGrange, B.S.
Law, Leonida F.
Law, Mary
Lovell, Delia
Lyons, Agnes
Main, L. B.
Mansfield, E. L.
Mansfield, L. Ray
Marsh, Abraham
Marsh, Charles O., 1821-1900
Marshall, Mary
Martin, Henry V.
Mason, C.F.
Matteson, C. M.
McAllister, W. M.
McElroy, Katherine Story, 1869-1950
McKnight, Henderson
McWhitt, A. P.
Meeker, Enoch
Meeker, Laurana
Meeker, Lida A. Baker
Meeker, Maud Muller
Meeker, Nathan Cook, 1817-1879
Meeker, Ralph, 1845-1921
Merrimack, Thomas
Miller, Sadie
Milliken, Carl S.
Monk, E.C., 1828-1898
Moore, Joseph, 1820-1902
Moore, Thomas
Mosher, Cora Marsh
Moss, Joseph
Moss, L. G.
Moyer, F. E.
Nettleton, E. S.
Nichols, Francis Ruth Werkheiser, 1893-1963
Nickerson, May J.

Ohs, Hiram
Pabor, William E. "Paddy"
Paine, Ellen A.
Patterson, Richard
Pinkerton, J. H.
Pitts, Mary J.
Pollock, F.B.
Pollock, Harvey
Pollock, Margaret P.
Price, Edmund J.
Race, John
Randolph, Calvin, 1836-1921
Randolph, Esther
Rea, C. H.
Reed, Hanford
Robinson, Henry
Rogers, J. A.
Rogers, P. J.
Root, D. W. C.
Rothschild, Cora
Rous, J.
Russell, George W.
Sanborn, C. W.
Sanborn, John W.
Schenck, Martha V.
Schenck, W. L.
Schulz, Charles
Scott, James C., 1834-1923
Scott, John
Seeley, Joseph
Seely, Charles E.
Shattuck, Joseph Cummings, 1835-1921
Sheldon, Lewis
Shepard, G. L. (George L.), 1828-1910
Smith, Catherine
Smith, Frank E.
Smith, Jesse W., 1888-1943
Smith, John A.
Smith, Mary Eaton, 1837-1921
Snyder, Z.X. (Zachariah Xenophon), 1850-1915
Spencer, J. V. R.
Springer, Susan
Sterling, Anna Loustalet
Stimson, Thomas
Taylor, Christine
Thayer, E. R.

Thomas, Calvin Henry, 1844-1921
Thomas, Sophia Pauline Nickum, 1846-1930
Thompson, John R.
Thompson, Kate
Thompson, Mercy S.
Thompson, Thomas F.
Thompson, William J.
Todd, C.D.
Tracy, G. J.
Tuckerman, James
Vincent, B. T.
Von Gohren, Ludwig
Vose, M. J.
Waddington, Grace
Wadlin, J.M.G
Wadlin, Jeremiah
Walker, Ellen Bachus
Waring, Ann
Washburne, S. B.
Watson, Henry C.
Webster, Kimball
West, Edna W., 1873-1964
West, Henry J.
Wheeler, Charles H., d. 1921
White, Charles Augustine
Whitting, Lillian
Wilber, Alvin J., 1843-1928
Wilcox, W. W.
Williams, Eugene, 1863-1940
Williams, M. B.
Wills, Joan
Wilson, Arthur J.
Wilson, William Cunningham, 1860-1927
Winne, Peter
Wood, Arthur
Woodbury, A. A. (Albert Augustus), 1858-1938
Woodbury, J. W.
Woodbury, Rebecca
Woolf, Amelia Rothschild
Wyatt, D.B.
Wyman, May
Youngs, M. A.

Places

Greeley (Colo.)

Subjects Museums
 Pioneers

Document forms Books
 Booklets
 Bylaws
 Certificates
 Correspondence
 Death Listings
 Deeds
 Documents
 Receipts

Contents

Series I: Receipts

This series contains the shareholder receipts for Union Colony from 1871 and receipts to County School Superintendents and description of boundaries of school districts.

Series II: Deeds

This series consists of original deeds for Union Colony land in 1871.

Series III: Certificate

This series consists of the Certificate of Election to Accept Colorado Nonprofit Corporation Act submitted by the Union Colony.

Series IV: Correspondence

This series contains correspondence to the Greeley Pioneer Society. One notable letter is the letter sent by George A. Hodgson in 1936 asking that he be considered for the position of curator of the Meeker Memorial Museum.

Series V: Documents

This series contains documents from the Union Colony Office of Treasury and Office of Secretary from 1864-1873.

Series VI: Death Listings

This series contains handwritten listings of deaths in Greeley for 1922 and 1923.

Series VII: Bylaws

This series contains the Bylaws for the Meeker Memorial Association.

Series VIII: Books

This series contains the Treasurer's Book of the Progress Club for 1894; a ledger with listing of Union Colony members who received deeds; The Greeley Book of Frontier Quotations compiled

by the Ladies of Unity Circle in Greeley, Colorado and published in 1899; a ledger of names of Meeker Memorial Library Association and advertisement for Elkhorn House (fishing and hunting lodge near Livermore, Colorado); membership book of Meeker Memorial Association for 1935; Meeker Memorial Library Association record book from May 8, 1900 – February 4, 1929; proceedings of the Union Colony Association, New York City, 12/24/1869 by Ralph Meeker, Secretary.

Series IX: Booklets

This series contains the Articles of Incorporation of the Union Colony Company of Colorado; First Annual report of the Union Colony of Colorado; booklet called The Greeley District: The Garden Sport of the Golden West.

Series X: Objects

This series contains a steel box that has chipped black paint. The lid has a small red border, a wide gold border and a small gold border. The name David Bell is painted in gold on the right panel. David Bell was a member of the Union Colony Pioneers.

Container List

Series I: Receipts

Box	Folder(s)
1	1-2

Series II: Deeds

Box	Folder(s)
1	3

Series III: Certificate

Box	Folder(s)
1	4

Series IV: Correspondence

Box	Folder(s)
1	5-6

Series V: Documents

Box	Folder(s)
1	7-8

Series VI: Death Listings

Box	Folder(s)
1	9

Series VII: Bylaws

Box	Folder(s)
1	10

Series VIII: Books

Box	Folder(s)
1	11-17

Series IX: Booklets

Box	Folder(s)
1	18

Series X: Objects

Housed separately with "Objects"